

Resurrection Lutheran Church

To Live & Share the Love of Christ

Melissa Pagel, Vicar

Thursday March 28th 2024, Maundy Thursday

(Congregational responses are printed in **Bold** type.)

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- **Note: Disposable communion with both elements is available in the narthex for those choosing not to come forward.**

INTRODUCTION

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight, we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Siblings in Christ, I invite you to wiggle your toes. Gently roll your ankles, and let the tension go.

And if you do have dust on your feet, shake it off, for here you are clean.

And now, brothers and sisters, I invite you to flex your legs.

I invite you to touch your kneecap, wiggle, and stretch. Recollect any times

you stood on holy ground,
or moments when you stood for one who needed you around.
Now, brothers and sisters, I invite you to open your hands. Stretch your
fingers wide and close them again.
Notice that there are no holes in your palms,
and remember that, ultimately, love has won.
And now, brothers and sisters, take a deep breath.
For we are in sacred space—here we are kept.
You belong to me, and I belong to you.
So let us prepare our hearts for remembrance and truth.
(*Let us pray*)

OPENING PRAYER

God, we lay you down, and you rise again.
We pack you up, but you don't stay within.
We walk away, and you trail our heels.
We lock up our hearts, try to force you to steal.
We put you in our pockets, but you radiate peace. We bury our hearts, but
you continue to beat.
We hold our breath, but you make us breathe. We try to sleep, but you find
our dreams.
We deny your name, and still you're there.
We paid them in silver, and still you care.
We turn our backs, but you don't go anywhere.
We throw stones, and you whisper a prayer.
God, we have pushed you out in every way,
again and again, countless times per day.
And you still say our names like lines from a love song, refusing to deny that
we belong.
So forgive us, we pray,
because tomorrow will be the same.
**We will lay you down, and you will rise again. We will pack you up;
please don't stay within. Amen**

Hymn *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters* *ELW 445 v.1*

READING: JOHN 13:1-11

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The devil had already decided^[a] that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,^[b] but is entirely clean. And you^[c] are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

POETIC REFLECTION ON WATER

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

(Please stand as you are able.)

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he
descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into
heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to
judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting.**

AFFIRMATION

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in
the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the
Lord's supper to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and
deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for
justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your
life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters ELW 445 V.3

READING: MATTHEW 26: 17-30

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”¹⁸ He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’”¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰ When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples,^[a]²¹ and while they were eating he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”²² And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?”²³ He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.”²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it^[b] he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you,²⁸ for this is my blood of the^[c] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”²⁹ I tell you; I will never again drink of this

fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

POETIC REFLECTION ON BREAD

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy

ELW 144

Words of Institution

On the night in which he was betrayed Which is to say, on the night *before* he was sentenced to death by those who would plot against him for challenging their power and disturbing their comfortable life, Which is to say, on the night *before* he was subjected to a mockery of a trial, tortured and humiliated, On *that* night, with the heart of God on full display, as feet were washed, a meal was shared and commands to love one another were

given, *On that night*, Jesus took bread and gave thanks. He broke it and shared it among them saying:

Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Do this and remember me.

In the same way after supper, In the *same way*, which is to say, with those same *incredibly imperfect and fallible people* there, His closest friends, the ones who knew him the best, the ones who had watched him heal, heard him teach and yet would doubt, deny and betray him,
In the *same way*, among people just like us, among people *flawed and forgiven*, In the *same way*, after supper, Jesus took the cup and he gave thanks. He gave it to his friends, (his deeply loved, fully human friends), each of them in turn, saying:

Drink. This cup is poured out for you and for all people. It is the promise of God. Drink it and remember me.

We remember Jesus' death and resurrection, our hope and our life. We break the bread and share the one cup.
Thanks be to God.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever
and ever. Amen**

Invitation to Communion

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Communion Hymn *We Come to the Hungry Feast* ELW 479

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Prayer after Communion

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

READING: John 13:21-30

²¹ After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, "Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. ²³ One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining close to his heart;^[a] ²⁴ Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵ So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish."

So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot.^[c] ²⁷ After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." ²⁸ Now no one knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the festival," or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰ So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

POETIC REFLECTION ON SILVER

The Offering

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Hymn O Sacred Head, Now Wounded ELW 351

Tenebrae Service

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night but find no rest.
³ Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
⁴ In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
⁵ To you they cried and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
⁶ But I am a worm and not human,
scorned by others and despised by the people.
⁷ All who see me mock me;
they sneer at me; they shake their heads;
⁸ “Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”
⁹ Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.
¹⁰ On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
¹¹ Do not be far from me,

for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.
¹² Many bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
¹³ they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵ my mouth^[a] is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
¹⁶ For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they bound my hands and feet.^[b]
¹⁷ I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸ they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life^[c] from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued^[d] me.
²² I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;^[e]
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me^[f]
but heard when I^[g] cried to him.

- 25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
- 26 The poor^[h] shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.^[i]
- 28 For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
- 29 To him,^[i] indeed, shall all who sleep in^[k] the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.^[l]
- 30 Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord
- 31 and^[m] proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

Following our communal prayers of confession, the church will enter a state of darkness. At the end of worship, the space will be stripped of all hopeful reminders of Jesus' light to help move us from the comfort of the Last Supper to the pain of the garden and the cross. Once the sanctuary has been stripped, please depart in silence.

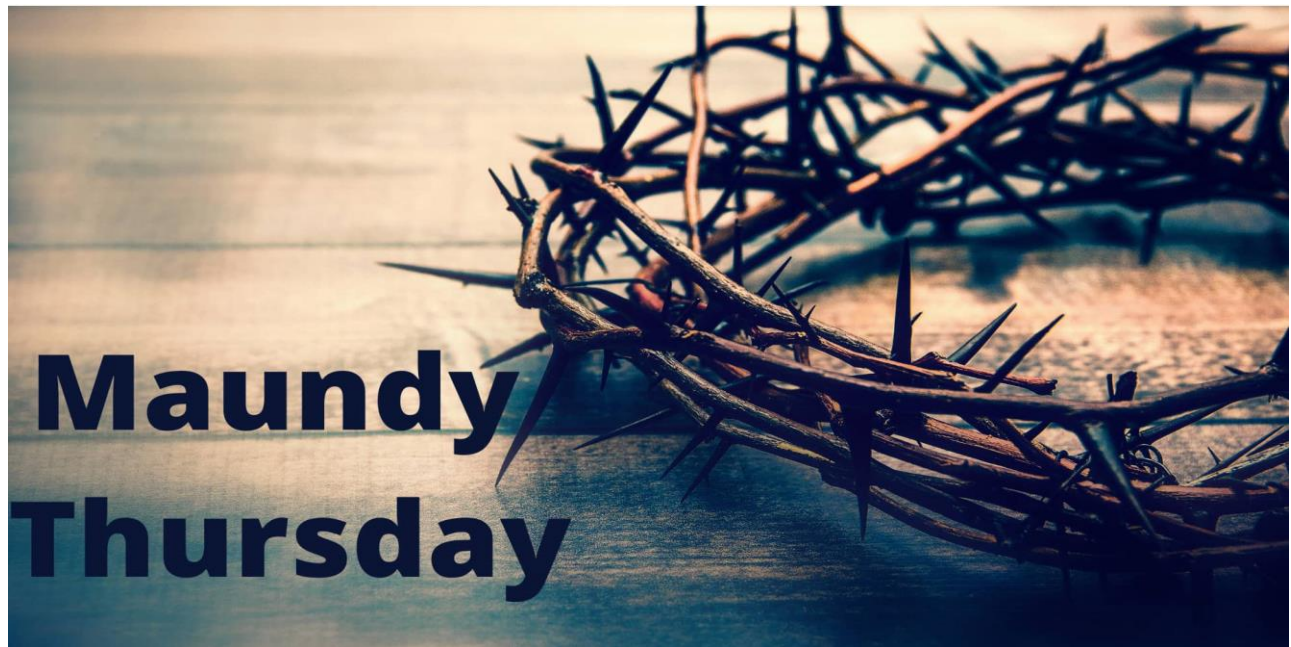
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Lector

John Koch

Altar Assist

Debbie LaPlante, Carol Borremans, Jodi Koch



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