# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**Sunday Worship Service Bulletin** 



Thursday, March 28, 2024 Maundy Thursday, Year B

### 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.

Sound Check and Welcome Prelude: Lamb of God - Bizet

### Sign of the Cross:

Please stand in body or spirit.

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have prayed for the grace to open our hearts and experience a renewed and deepened relationship with God. We have been fed and nourished at Christ's table, and reminded of the gift of baptism, which continually affirms that we at once forgiven and called to struggle against sin and all that keeps us from loving God and our neighbor.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us open our hearts and in honesty, faith, and trust, confess our sin against God and our neighbor and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

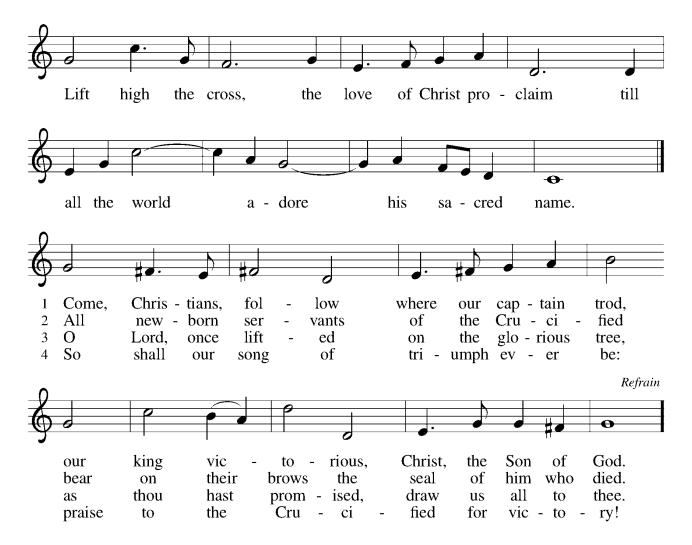
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of  $\pm$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.** 

### Gathering Hymn: Lift High the Cross ELW 660



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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## **Prayer of the Day**

Eternal God,

### all recite together

in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### First Reading: Exodus 12:1-42

### A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7 They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10 You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. 11 This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord.



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I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

# Free Us, O Lord!



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"This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses, for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day shall be cut off from Israel. On the first day you shall hold a solemn assembly and on the seventh day a solemn assembly; no work shall be done on those days; only what everyone must eat, that alone may be prepared by you. You shall observe the Festival of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your companies out of the land of Egypt: you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a perpetual ordinance. In the first month, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day, you shall eat unleavened bread. For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, for whoever eats what is leavened shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether an alien or a native of the land. You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your settlements you shall eat unleavened bread."

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin. None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning. For the Lord will pass through to strike down the Egyptians; when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down. You shall observe this as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. When you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. And when your children ask you, 'What does this observance mean to you?' you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.' "And the people bowed down and worshiped.

The Israelites went and did just as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron; so they did.

At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the prisoner who was in the dungeon and all the firstborn of the livestock. Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his officials and all the Egyptians, and there was a loud cry in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead. Then he summoned Moses and Aaron in the night and said, "Rise up, go away from my people, both you and the Israelites! Go, serve the Lord, as you said. Take your flocks and your herds, as you said, and be gone. And ask a blessing for me, too!"

The Egyptians urged the people to hasten their departure from the land, for they said, "We shall all be dead." So the people took their dough before it was leavened, with their kneading bowls wrapped up in their cloaks on their shoulders. The Israelites had acted according to the word of Moses; they had asked the Egyptians for jewelry of silver and gold and for clothing, and the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. And so they plundered the Egyptians.

The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides little ones. A mixed crowd also went up with them and livestock in great numbers, both flocks and herds. They baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt; it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.

The time that the Israelites had lived in Egypt was four hundred thirty years. At the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the companies of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. That was for the Lord a night of vigil, to bring them out of the land of Egypt. That same night is a vigil to be kept for the Lord by all the Israelites throughout their generations.

The Word of the Lord **ALL: Thanks be to God** 

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Cantor: I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,

and listened to my | supplication,

ALL: for the Lord has given | ear to me

when<u>ev</u>- | **er** | called.

Cantor: How shall I re- pay the Lord

for all the good things God has I done for me?

ALL: I will lift the cup | of salvation

and call on the name | of the Lord. R

Cantor: I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord

in the presence of | all God's people.

ALL: Precious in your | sight, O Lord,

is the <u>death</u> | **of** your servants.

Cantor: O Lord, truly | | am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;

you have freed me | from my bonds.

ALL: I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving

and call upon the <u>name</u> | **of** the Lord.

Cantor: I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord

in the presence of | all God's people,

ALL: in the courts of I the Lord's house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God



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Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John

¹Now 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. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ¬Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ፆPeter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ¬Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¬Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¬¬For he knew who was to betray him;

for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup>After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

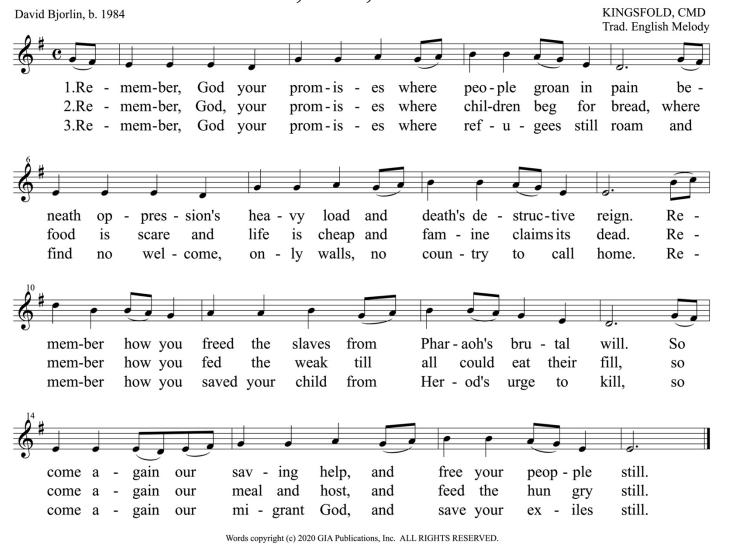
<sup>31b</sup>"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ

Sermon: Pr. Pam Wellons

# Remember, God, Your Promises



### **Prayers of Intercession**

Please respond: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

### A Sign of Peace and Reconciliation

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

Let us offer each other a sign of God's reconciling love.

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please be seated.

### **OFFERING**

All that we have, physically and spiritually comes from God.
Our offering, of time, talent and treasure is a response to our awareness that God is the creator of all things and that we are redeemed through life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Your support of this ministry and the faith life of this community is appreciated.

### Setting the Table: Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now - ACS 930



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt. Text © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### **Offering Prayer**

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

ALL: Amen.

### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

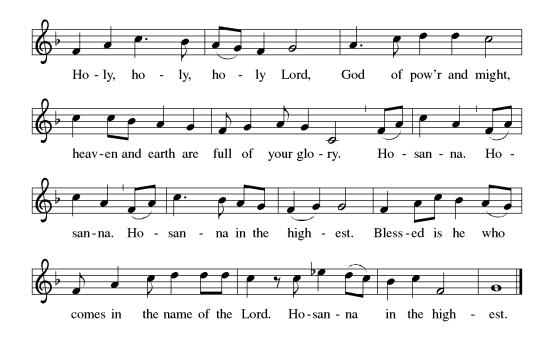
R/. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right to give our thanks and praise.







### 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**

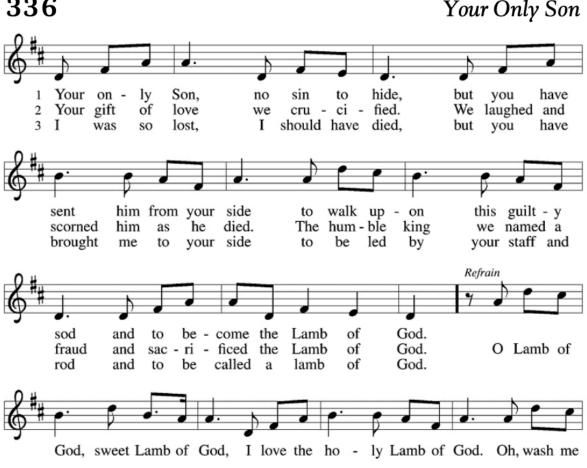
We believe that Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus. In this sacrament we are invited to have a person experience of Christ's presence. This is the Lord's table. All who desire to be in relationship with Christ are welcome to receive.

We receive communion using bread and wine. If you need to receive a gluten free host, please ask the communion minister. They are in a separate plastic wrap marked "gluten free." For those who prefer to receive grape juice rather than wine you will find white grape juice in the center of the trays as communion is given. If you have a question, please ask the minister as you receive. The bread and wine should be consumed here in the church before you return to your seat. If for some reason, you are unable to consume either the bread or wine please bring what was not consumed to the ushers or the pastor as soon as the service is completed.

# Lamb of God

# 336

# Your Only Son



### Come to the Table - ELW 481



Come to the ta-ble of mer-cy, pre-pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun-gry and thirst-y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re-ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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### **Bread of Life from Heaven - ELW 474**



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, BREAK NOW THE BREAD; Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas Text and music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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### TABLE BLESSING

+ May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ heal you, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection.

May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

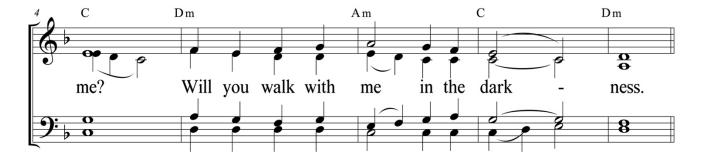
Amen.

### STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

On Holy Thursday the altar is formally and reverently stripped signifying that Christ's passion has begun. Each item on the altar, used for worship, is removed, and will be handed down the aisle. All of you are invited to stand in the aisle facing each other as we did on Palm Sunday. When you are given an item from the altar slowly, and reverently hand it on to the person next to you. After the ministers leave, all will depart in silence.

### Psalm 88:

# Will You Walk With Me C Dm A Harman Will you walk with me? Will you walk with



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# Easter Sunday – March 31:

10:00 Worship (in person and on ZOOM) Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the promise of new life by God's redeeming love.

*Easter Lunch:* We will share a potluck meal immediately after worship. Bring a dish to share and a little extra so we can invite our visitors to join us!

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

# A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

407 S. Saturn Avenue, Clearwater, FL 33755 727- 446-7718

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation, embodies God's love, and promise of salvation through faith in Christ by extending inclusion and welcome to all.

We welcome the full, active participation of all who worship and minister with us. If you are interested in learning more about Jesus, God's life and action in the world and our lives, the Lutheran faith, or this congregation and how you can be more involved, please reach out to Pastor Anne.

St. Paul's Email: office@stpaulsclearwater.org

St. Paul's Website: <a href="https://www.stpaulsclearwater.org">https://www.stpaulsclearwater.org</a>

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/st.paulslutheranchurch.clearwater.fl">https://www.facebook.com/st.paulslutheranchurch.clearwater.fl</a>



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