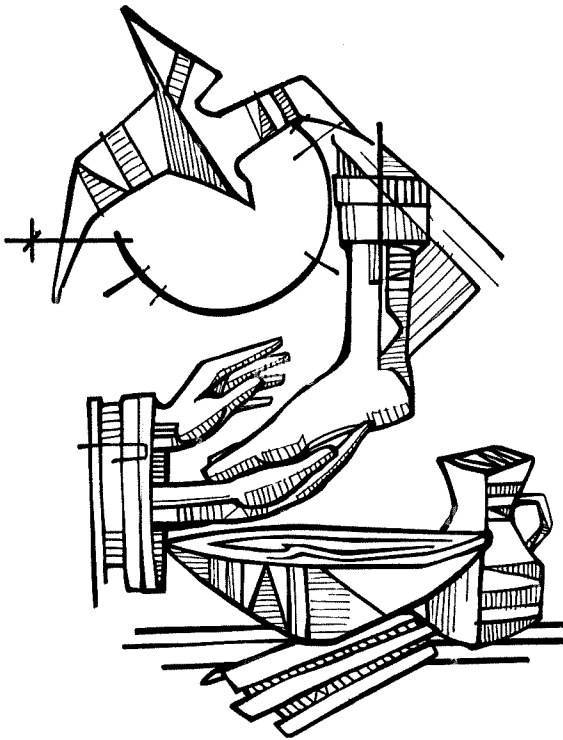


# + Maundy Thursday +

April 2nd, 2026 ~ 7pm



Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church  
2451 Saucon Valley Road  
Center Valley, PA 18034

Prelude

Welcome

P: May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, with all whom you love, and all for whom you pray, here in the quietness of this holy night.

**Please stand as you are comfortable and able.**

**\*Call to Worship**

P: On this sacred night, we remember the table where Jesus gathered with His friends.

**C: A place of bread, a cup, and a new commandment.**

P: Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment: Love one another."

**C: Just as Christ has loved us, we are called to love one another.**

P: Not with words alone, but with humble service, grace, and compassion.

**C: We come to learn again the way of love.**

P: Tonight we remember the One who knelt to wash feet and gave Himself for the world.

**C: Teach us, Lord, to love as You love.**

P: Let us worship the God whose loves is made known in Jesus Christ.

**C: With grateful hearts, we come to worship.**

**\*Opening Hymn #358**

**"Great God, Your Love ..."**

## Prayer of the Day

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Let us pray. ~ Holy God, source of all love, on the night of His betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as He loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as He was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The 1st Reading ~ Exodus 12: 1-14

Diane Ernst

*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but

roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## The 2nd Reading ~ 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves His body given for us and the new covenant in His blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until He comes in the future.*

<sup>23</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>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." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

\*The Holy Gospel ~ John 13: 1-17; 31b-35

## The Holy Gospel according to the 13th chapter of St. John.

### Glory to You, O Lord.

*The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of His disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup>After Jesus 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. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Lisa Borrell

\*Hymn (see insert)

“A New Commandment”

\*Prayers of Intercession (Hear us, O God ... **Your mercy is great.**)

Anthem

“Because He Broke the Bread”

Blessing of the Communion Elements

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life.

In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His



P: disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)

+ The Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: God of Love, You feed us with your very body; You entered into the world through Jesus Christ; You walk with us every minute of every day. For all these things we thank You. Send us out into the world, nourished by your love, empowered by your grace, mindful of your suffering with us, and hopeful in your resurrection. **Amen.**

The Stripping of the Altar

The Reading of Psalm 22

After the lights have come up, worshippers are asked to leave in silence preserving the solemnity of this holy night.



The Good Friday service will be held at 7pm at

New Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

3233 Apples Church Rd., Bethlehem

~ All are welcome ~