

**MAUNDY THURSDAY  
THURSDAY APRIL 1, 2021 7PM**

***A small table with 12 candles (represent the 12 disciples) and one large candle in the middle to represent Jesus.***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*[Members of the congregation bring forward a towel, a bowl of water, a loaf of bread, and a cup of wine.]*

In the growing darkness we gather. Our Lenten journey has brought us here.

Jesus, our Teacher and Lord, sets before us      John 13:13  
a towel, a bowl, bread, a cup.

He gives us an example and a commandment ever new:      John 13:34–35  
to love one another as he has loved us.

This is how everyone will know we are his disciples, when we love each other.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism. Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbour and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of

the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore, declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\dagger$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.**

### **Word**

#### **FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

A reading from Exodus.

<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>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.**

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

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.

<sup>2</sup> **Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.**

<sup>12</sup> What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants.**

<sup>16</sup> Truly I am your servant, LORD; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.

<sup>17</sup> **I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the house of the LORD—in your midst, Jerusalem.**

**Praise the LORD.**<sup>[a]</sup>

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<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.**

## **Gospel Acclamation WOV 664- “A New Commandment”**

### **John 13:7-17, 31b-35**

#### **GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

The holy gospel according to John.

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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 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. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Message**

Grace and peace from God our Father and from Jesus Christ who came to take away the sin of the world!

Jesus calls us to serve. And we have all responded to this call!

In many and various ways, you as individuals and this congregation as a community, have been serving this area and the world for decades, more than a century. It is frequently a challenge. It takes time, and effort, and finances, and coordination, and a whole bunch of willing hands to serve in meaningful and good ways. This is what God has called us to do in his mission in the world. We witnessed the call to serve this winter in our

Pembroke community where over 85000 dollars was raised for the Grind with coldest night of the year event. And where this church the volunteers and participants in the walk raised over 4000 dollars. Time, energy and money. We are called to serve, most recently to assist in booking appointments for vaccines and give someone a ride and help them through the quagmire of paper work and line ups to be vaccinated, and move towards a time without COVID 19 looming over our every move.

We are called to serve and it's what we do. Because Jesus has called us to do it. And we continue to serve. Even during this year of the pandemic, this year of isolation and restrictions, even right now. By coming to worship, safe distancing, wearing our masks, disinfecting our hands regularly, or at home when watching church services, (or wherever you are!), and by praying this service in our separate homes, we are serving our neighbours and our world. And we are doing it together. In a very real way, we have lived a year of fasting. We have given things up, important things, for a bigger purpose. We are fasting from coming together for celebrations and community meals, we fasted many times over the past year from gathering for worship and fasting from Communion. We are fasting from eating together in restaurants. We are fasting from parties, and sporting events, and concerts, and quilting bees. Some of us, or some of our neighbours, are even having to fast from work. For a bigger purpose. A holy purpose. We have been fasting to serve our neighbours. We have been fasting to serve our world. We are fasting to keep people healthy. This has been a very complex and challenging year, for all of us. This year contained challenges which none of us have ever faced before. We still do not know how long it will continue, or who will be affected, or what the results will be. But let's be honest with ourselves - We have never known these things! A life of service is always ambiguous, always a challenge. So tonight, as our journey to the cross is drawing to a close, we take a breath. We remember that Jesus served his disciples. We remember that Jesus serves us. We remember that Jesus calls *us* to serve. We remember that everything we are doing right now is for the sake of our neighbours and our world; neighbours and a world which are all loved by God. As Jesus tells his disciples and tells each one of us, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, *if you... have... love....*" Amen *Pastor Leena*

**Hymn of the Day** ELW 708 Jesu, Jesu Fill us with your Love

**Prayers of the People** – P: Hear us, O God. C: **Your mercy is great.**

Let us pray for new life in the church, new hope for the world, and God's love for all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

You call your people to hand on what we receive from you. Form all the baptized into teachers of faith. From one generation to the next, give your church hunger for your promises in the sacraments and joy in receiving and sharing your word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your creation provides all that we need. Cleanse and protect the water you have given for washing and drinking, water on which all life depends. Sustain crops and herds that provide food; teach us how to live so that there is enough for all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You redeemed your people from slavery. Preserve people throughout the world who flee violence and oppression (the people of Myanmar, Syria, China, and the Asian people and those of Asian descent that are experiencing a by a wave of racist attacks in the United States and elsewhere. Establish just leadership in place of tyranny and peace in place of war. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Jesus loved his followers to the end. Grant assurance of that love to all who need it: those living with guilt, those struggling to forgive, those who are lonely or overlooked. We pray for Florence, Jason, Richard, Heather, Sheila, Albert, Addrienne, Robert, Dorian. Heal the sick and embrace the dying. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed him. Inspire this congregation's ministries of service (The Grind, The Food Bank, CLWR, The Robbie Dean Centre), that we love as Jesus loved us. Give us renewed courage to serve. Bless the ministry of deacons throughout the church. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your glory shone in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We thank you for generations of the faithful who have proclaimed our Lord's death. Unite us with them in hope until he comes again. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

Lord's Prayer

*Extinguish one of the disciples candles, Pastor says:*

**Judas who betrayed Jesus, left for the dark night in the middle of a meal.**

**We're going to put out Judas' candle now.**

*Communion is distributed, Please remain in your seats.*

**Communion hymns:** 1. Lamb of God

2.. ELW 502 The King Of Love My Shepherd Is (vs. 1-4)

## **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

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.**

*When Jesus had been imprisoned, all the disciples fled and left him alone.*

*We extinguish the other candles for disciples.*

*Leave the Christ candle to burn until the very end after all have left.*

## **Stripping of the Altar**

The stripping of the altar symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. May your reflection be of this time in the life of Jesus and the sacrifice that was made for our eternal life.

***Place the five roses on the altar. Each rose represents the wounds of Jesus on the Cross.***

**Depart the service and building in silence.**