MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169 • 803.796.5948

7:00 PM — April 1, 2021
Maundy Thursday Worship Service
ELW Setting One—Holy Communion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

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 neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

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 + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GATHERING SONG  “Great God, Your Love Has Called Us” Hymn 358

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
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 on 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.
FIRST READING  
Exodus 12:1-14
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.

1The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3Tell 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. 4If 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. 5Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11This 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. 12For 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. 13The 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. 14This 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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND 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.

23For 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, 24and when he had given thanks, he broke it and
said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 25In 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.” 26For 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.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 151

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.


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.

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?” 7Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” 8Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” 9Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” 10Jesus 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.” 11For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” 12After 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? 13You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16Very truly, I tell you, servants
are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

31 Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 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.’ 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 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

Vicar Gayle Nelson

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

Hymn 659

CREED

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

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.

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

…Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

OFFERING

ANTHEM

“In Remembrance”

Red/Larson
OFFERTORY HYMN  “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”  Hymn 885

OFFERING PRAYER
Let us pray.
Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HYMN  “Stay with Me”  Hymn 348

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE  p. 108
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

HYMN  “Stay with Me”  Hymn 348

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.

HYMN  “Stay with Me”  Hymn 348

LORD’S PRAYER
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
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
Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG  p. 112
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Lord Jesus, in this 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 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
The ancient ceremony of stripping the altar marks the transition from the Eucharistic celebration to that of Jesus’ crucifixion and death. It is symbolic of Jesus’ deep humiliation. As the linens, paraments, ornaments, and candles are removed from the altar and chancel, the congregation meditates in silence.

PSALM  Psalm 22

TOLLING OF THE BELLS

DEPART IN SILENCE

Altar Dogwoods. The dogwoods on the altar are given to the glory of God by Janice West in honor of all the members of Mt. Tabor.
Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for love were made.
2 We come with self-inflicted pains of broken trust and chosen wrong, half-free, half-bound by inner chains,
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then receive us as your own, not through some merit, right, or claim,
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and humble us, and call us friends, suffer and serve till all are fed,
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your joy to share. Give us your Spirit's liberty though marred, dishonored, disobeyed. We come, with all our by social forces swept along, by pow'rs and systems but by your gracious love alone. We strain to glimpse your and show how grandly love intends to work till all create to turn from guilt and dull despair, and offer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
close confined, yet seeking hope for human kind.
mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet.
action sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
faith can do while love is making all things new.
Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as
2 We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travellers
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time
4 I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each other
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you, I will share your joy and sorrow
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my servant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this journey through.
let you be my servant, too.
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Stay with Me

Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray.
Watch and pray.
Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor
Mrs. Elise Helms, Interim Choir Director
Mrs. Jenny Wright, Guest Musician

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation
Vicar Gayle Nelson, Intern