

Reformation Lutheran Church

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 2, 2026
7:00 PM

Our Affirmation of Welcome

Reformation, a congregation of Christ's Church, welcomes everyone to join with us in a journey of faith. We are committed to providing worship, programs, ministries and pastoral care to all, regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, religious background, color, economic status, or national origin. Everyone is welcome in this place, where the love of God is the foundation of all that we say and do.

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus – Galatians 3:28

We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Welcome to worship—we're glad that you are here!

With nightfall our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to begin the Three Days during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death to life. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

HOLY COMMUNION

The red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP service book and hymnal is used for the liturgy.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The presiding minister invites the assembly into the confession, using these or similar words.

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.

Following the invitation, all kneel or sit and keep silence for reflection and self-examination.

The presiding minister leads the assembly in the confession.

Confession and Forgiveness

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 † 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.

The assembly stands.

PEACE

In Christ's forgiveness may peace be with you always.

And also with you.

In obedience with Christ's forgiveness peace.

Amen.

HYMN

ELW#614

There Is a Balm in Gilead



There is a balm in Gil-e - ad to make the wound - ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
- 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

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.

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.

The assembly is seated.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: EXODUS 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

A reading from Exodus.

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: FIRST CORINTHIANS 11:23–26

A reading from First Corinthians.

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.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL: JOHN 13:1-18, 24, 26-35

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.'

²⁴Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking.

²⁶Jesus 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. ²⁷After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." ²⁸Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹Some 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. ³⁰So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By 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.

The assembly is seated.

HOMILY

Pastor Steven

The assembly stands to sing.

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Are One in the Spirit

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Peter Scholtes (1938-2009)

1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord.
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand.
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side.
4. All ___ praise to the Fa - ther, from ___ whom all things come,

We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord.
We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand.
We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side.
And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His ___ on - ly ___ Son,

And we pray that all un - i - ty may one day be re - stored:
And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save ___ each one's pride:
And all praise to the Spir - it who makes ___ us ___ one:

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

FOOTWASHING

Come forward, as you feel led to do so, and be seated. One who is kneeling at the bowl will wash your feet. After your feet have been washed, you may kneel and wash the feet of the next person.

On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

PRAYER AFTER FOOTWASHING (John 13: 1-20)

O Jesus, in this Holy Week you prayed that we would love one another as you have loved us. Tonight, we have tried to practice what you have taught us! Let the love, joy and humility we have known here with our families continue to bless us and let us share that blessing with the world you love and gave your life for. May the peace we feel together in this place Point us toward the hope of Easter. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

You knew your hour had come.

You knew your betrayer.

You knew your enemies.

You knew that the straw vote would not be in your favor.

But you loved unto the end.

Thank you for loving us, even unto death.

Teach us to love like you love.

**Teach us to love each other, to love even our enemies,
like you loved us.**

You took on the form of a servant,
washing the feet of those whom you disciplined.

You defined humility and servanthood.

You are he who was surely sent from God.

Thank you for serving for us.

**Teach us to be servants without fail;
to make humility our constant companion
and to seek no glory for ourselves.**

Remind us when we forget.

On that solemn evening,
you surrounded yourself with friends and enemies,
persons of faith and persons of ill-will.

**Help us to be able to always emulate you
when we are surrounded by our friends
and especially when we are surrounded by our enemies.**

You have established a “new commandment;”
help us to live it out in every moment,
in every aspect of our lives,
in our families, in our churches, in our communities,
and throughout the world.

**On this Holy Day, we gather to remember again
the miracle that you performed in our lives.**

You have brought us into the marvelous light.

**At great cost to you,
you have given us new life and life eternal. Amen.**

— written by Nolan Williams, Jr., and posted on [The African American Lectionary](#) website.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, and other gifts may be brought forward.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "In Remembrance of Me," by Ragan Courtney

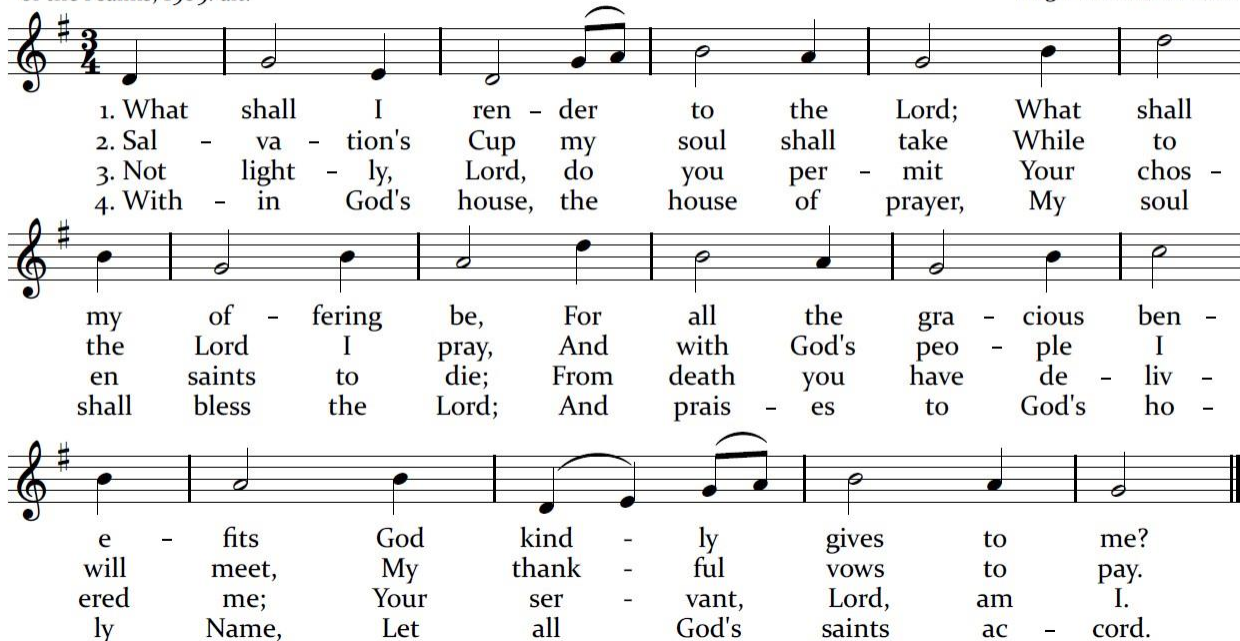
OFFERTORY HYMN

What Shall I Render to the Lord

The New Metrical Version
of the Psalms, 1909. alt.

Psalm 116

Hugh Wilson, ca. 1800



1. What shall I ren - der to the Lord; What shall
2. Sal - va - tion's Cup my soul shall take While to
3. Not light - ly, Lord, do you per - mit Your chos -
4. With - in God's house, the house of prayer, My soul

my of - fering be, For all the gra - cious ben -
the Lord I pray, And with God's peo - ple I
en saints to die; From death you have de - liv -
shall bless the Lord; And prais - es to God's ho -

e - fits God kind - ly gives to me?
will meet, My thank - ful vows to pay.
ered me; Your ser - vant, Lord, am I.
ly Name, Let all God's saints ac - cord.

OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WE SHARE THE MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE AND SANCTUS

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. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,', 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes', and 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.'

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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. 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith,

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

THE COMMUNION OF THE BELOVED

This is a table of new expectations. This is a table where everyone can come to receive. This is a table for those who haven't met Jesus before. This is a table with the Lord of the harvest and catch. This is a table where we are reconciled. This is a table where there is safety and acceptance. This is a table which welcomes, invites, provides, unites. This is a table where strength is restored. This is a table; this is our community. Come to the table and experience the genuine love of God. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR WORSHIP IS THIS SHARED MEAL, a profound remembrance that Jesus introduced to his disciples at the Last Supper, before his crucifixion. All are welcome to join us as members of God's family, brothers and sisters in Christ, as we share in this powerful gift of God's love and grace for the human family. We gather around the altar, kneeling or standing wherever there is a place. You may eat the bread separately then drink from the cup, dip your bread into the wine—a practice called intinction, or partake of the bread alone. The church affirms our Lord's presence in, with, and under each element alone. We offer gluten free bread for communion at all worship services. Grape juice is available for those who do not drink wine. Please alert the presiding minister at the time you are offered the bread.

THE TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen!

POST COMMUNION ANTHEM "In Remembrance of Me," by Ragan Courtney

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assembly stands. An assisting minister prays the prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

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.**

The assembly is seated.

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

All are invited to come forward and assist with the stripping of the altar.

READING

PSALM 22

- ¹ 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 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.

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 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 me.

²² I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
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
but heard when I 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 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.
- ²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
- ²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.
- ³⁰ Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord
- ³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

All depart in silence.

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Worship Opportunities

Good Friday Worship - April 3 - 7:00PM

(Hear the gospel reading of the death of Jesus)

In the evening, we gather in the dimly lit church with the cross draped in black. It is a somber time and reminds us of the severity of Jesus' death.

Easter Vigil – Saturday, April 4

Join us for a meaningful evening of scripture, prayer, and light as we prepare our hearts for Easter and celebrate the hope of the resurrection.

Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 5 – 10:00 AM (Resurrection of Our Lord)

Celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord with us on this most joyful day of the Christian year. Experience the beauty of Easter through uplifting music, Word, and Sacrament as we rejoice in the Risen Christ. All are welcome at Christ's table! The sanctuary will be adorned with lilies, and the celebration will include special music and a message of hope.

After Worship

Easter Potluck Brunch – Bring something to share!!!

Easter Egg Hunt for Children – Children are invited and welcome!!