

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024
Pastor Kim Swenson



The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING

Worship Volunteers
Assisting Minister: Kay Zastrow
Reader: Cindy Michalski
Altar Guild: Debbie Kasulke
Communion Assistant: Dar Schuurmans
Ushers: Sue & Todd Keckhaver and Michael Zastrow
Video Tech: Rick Johnson

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

In the glowing darkness we gather.
Our Lenten journey has brought us here.
Jesus, our Teacher and Lord, sets before us:
a towel,
a bowl,
bread,
a cup.

**He gives us an example
and a commandment ever-new;
To love one another as he has loved us.
This is how everyone will know
we are his disciples,
when we love one another.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn *In This Room, a Towel and Basin*

In this room, a towel and basin
Stand as gifts we don't deserve.
Christ, you humbly knelt to use them;
Showing us the way to serve.

On a table, set for dinner
Are your gifts of wine and bread.
Christ, you give to every sinner
Food and love, till all are fed.

From you, Lord, we hear a teaching:
"Now I give a new command.
Love as I have loved, out-reaching!
Then the world will understand!"

Basin, supper, word and witness —
Then a cross — revealed your Way.
May we put our faith in practice,
Humbly serving you each day.

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Prayer of Confession

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.

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.**

Individuals may come forward for the laying on of hands.

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.
Amen

Hymn*Where Charity and Love Prevail***Cranberry 359**

- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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Assurance of Forgiveness

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.**

Choir*And When It Was Evening*

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

WORD

Gospel: John 13:1-20

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.' ¹⁹I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he. ²⁰Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection on Water

Handwashing

On this night we hear our Lord's commandment to love one another as God 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 hands, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

At this time, all are invited to come forward to the handwashing stations. Water will be poured over your hands and then they will be dried. Then you are invited to pick up a towel and dry the next person's hands.

Handwashing Hymn *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* **Cranberry #659**



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



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



let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard

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Reflection on Bread

Great Thanksgiving from Matthew 26:17-30

The Lord be with you. **And also, 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.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

The 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.**

Communion Hymn *Chief of Sinners Though I Be* **Cranberry #609**



- 1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his blood for me,
- 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love! High - er than the heav'ns a - bove,
- 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part balm to heal the wound - ed heart,
- 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
- 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford by your Spir - it and your word!



died that I might live on high, lives that I might nev - er die.
deep - er than the depths of sea, last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty.
peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
all my wants to him are known, all my sor - rows are his own.
When my way - ward heart would stray, keep me in the nar - row way;



As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.
Love that found me—won-drous thought—found me when I sought him not.
faith and hope to walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
He sus - tains the hid - den life safe with him from earth - ly strife.
grace in time of need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1870

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

John 13:21-30

A reading from the Gospel of John:

²¹ After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, "Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. ²³ One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining close to his heart; ²⁴ Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵ So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus 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. ²⁷ After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." ²⁸ Now no one knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some 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. ³⁰ So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

Reflection on Silver**Offering****Offering Song***Ten Thousand Angels***Women's Trio****Prayers of the People**

Let us pray, God among us,
When we cry out for justice, you hear us.
When we fall to our knees, you witness us.
When we lean into your comfort, you hold us.
When we lose our way, you guide us.

**Hear our prayers. Stay with us here
as we seek your way toward hope and wholeness.**

Refrain:*Stay with me***Cranberry 348**

Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and

pray. Watch and pray.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: STAY WITH ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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We name, O God, that at times it is hard to stay loving
in the face of cruelty, neglect, and harm.

Yet even when Jesus knew his friends would betray and abandon him, he
showed us how to center our whole selves in your love
instead of the hatred of people and the injustice of systems of power.

**May we go and do likewise, as he called us to do, so that our love for others will
be a testimony to all you have done in our lives.**

Refrain

Through the life and ministry of Jesus,
you taught us how to love fiercely,
how to honor one another fully,
and how to serve with humility and kindness.
Through grace, you join us together as one body.

**Be with us today and every day as we seek
to pour out love as disciples of Jesus. Amen.**

Stripping of the Altar

*You are invited to remain in the sanctuary for prayer and meditation,
Leaving in silence when you are ready.
There is no benediction on this night as we watch and pray
And return tomorrow as the story continues.*

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