

Maundy Thursday March 28, 2024, 5:30p



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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Maundy Thursday receives its name from the Latin "mandatum" or the "new commandment" given by our Lord. At the Last Supper, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and commanded them to love and serve one another as he had done. The service begins with remembering God's mighty deliverance of Israel from bondage, where the Passover Meal was instituted. The service closes with solemnity as we turn our attention toward the agony in the garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal leading Jesus to the journey to the cross and crucifixion.

Call to Worship

Leader— The Lord be with you.

Congregation— And also with you.

Leader—

Let us pray. Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Song of Jubilation, O, Lord Hear My Prayer

Oh, Lord hear my prayer Oh, Lord hear my prayer When I call answer me Oh, Lord hear my prayer Oh, Lord hear my prayer Come and listen to me

Prayer for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb.

In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD'S Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

Congregation—

Psalm 116.1, 10-19

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. I believed, even when I spoke: "I am greatly afflicted"; I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars." What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds. I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

Leader—

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him. How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things he has done for me?

Congregation—

We will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. We will fulfill our vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Leader—

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his servants.

O Lord, I am your servant;

I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

Congregation—

We will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord. We will fulfill our vows to the Lord

in the presence of all his people,

in the courts of the Lord's house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Song of Response, Psalm 126

Our mouths they were filled, filled with laughter Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy

Chorus—

Third Reading

//Restore us, O Lord//Although we are weepingLord, help us keep sowingThe seeds of Your KingdomFor the day You will reap themYour sheaves we will carry

Lord, please do not tarry All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy

The nations will say, "He has done great things!" The nations will sing songs of joy

Outro—

//All those who sow weeping
will go out with songs of joy//

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them,

"Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Admonition

Where true charity and love dwell, God is there. Since the love of Christ has joined us in one body, let us all rejoice and be glad now and always. And as we hear and love our Lord, the living God, so let us in sincerity love all people. As we are all of one body, when we gather let no discord or enmity break our oneness. May all our petty jealousies and hatred cease that Christ the Lord may be with us through all our days. Now we pray that with the blessed you grant us grace to see your exalted glory, O Christ our God, our boundless source of joy and truth, of peace and love, for ever and for evermore, world without end.

Song of Response, The Communion Hymn (Behold the Lamb)

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, Slain for us: and we remember: The promise made that all who come in faith Find forgiveness at the cross. So we share in this Bread of life, And we drink of His sacrifice, As a sign of our bonds of peace Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, Torn for you: eat and remember The wounds that heal, The death that brings us life, Paid the price to make us one. So we share in this Bread of Life, And we drink of His sacrifice As a sign of our bonds of love Around the table of the King. The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, Shed for you: drink and remember He drained death's cup that all may enter in To receive the life of God. So we share in this Bread of Life, And we drink of His sacrifice, As a sign of our bonds of grace Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith We rise to respond: and to remember Our call to follow in the steps of Christ As His body here on earth. As we share in His suffering, We proclaim: Christ will come again! And we'll join in the feast of heaven Around the table of the King.

The Lord's Supper

Please come forward, when you like, to share from the common loaf, which signifies our oneness in Christ. It is also gluten free to enable as many to partake as feasible. Then take from the individual servings of wine or juice, which signifies our individual discipleship with Jesus. You may leave your cup at the table or take it back to your seat and drink it there.

Song of Contrition, I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord	I need Thee every hour, stay Thou nearby
No tender voice like Thine, can peace afford	Temptations lose their pow'r when Thou art nigh
Chorus—	I need Thee every hour in joy or pain
I need Thee O I need Thee	Come quickly and abide or life is vain
Every hour I need Thee	
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee	I need Thee every hour, most Holy One
	O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son

We encourage you, while this song is sung, to reflect on sinful attitudes and dispositions you must repent of. Call to mind how you have broken God's commands and betrayed his grace to you. Ask God to bring you true conviction of sin and a restored joy in your salvation.

Song of Reflection, I Will Wait For You

Out of the depths I cry to You In darkest places I will call Incline Your ear to me anew And hear my cry for mercy Lord

Were You to count my sinful ways How could I come before Your throne Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze I stand redeemed by grace alone

Chorus—

I will wait for You I will wait for You On Your word I will rely I will wait for You surely wait for You Till my soul is satisfied So put Your hope in God alone Take courage in His power to save Completely and forever won By Christ emerging from the grave

His steadfast love has made a way And God Himself has paid the price That all who trust in Him today Find healing in His sacrifice

Final Chorus—

//I will wait for You I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night
I will wait for You surely wait for You
For Your love is my delight//

Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Fourth Reading

Matthew 26:30-46

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

Please recess in silence



We are united by our Core Values

Community | Discipleship | Liturgy | Mercy + Mission | Simplicity

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