Trinity Lutheran Church 810 Fairfax St. Stephens City VA Trinitychurchvirginia.com

Maundy Thursday April 1, 2021, 7:00PM



Introduction to the day

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight, we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in the meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world.

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.**





Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844 Text © Oxford University Press

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.

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through 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 12:1-4, 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.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

A reading from 1 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.

GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-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."

^{31b}"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.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: Latin, 9th cent.; tr. composite Music: UBI CARITAS, plainsong mode VI Text © 1995, 2001 Augsburg Fortress. 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United by the servant love of God in Christ, we pray this holy night for the needs of the world. 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. 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. 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, 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.

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.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR as Psalm 22 is recited by Jim Hall and Christine Cornwell; congregation sings refrain:



¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? ²My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I find no rest. ³Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel. ⁴Our ancestors put their trust in you, they trusted, and you rescued them. R ⁵They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame. ⁶But as for me, I am a worm and not human, scorned by all and despised by the people. ⁷All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips; they shake their heads. ⁸"Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver; let God rescue him if God so delights in him." R ⁹Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb, and kept me safe on my mother's breast. ¹⁰I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb. ¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help. ¹²Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me. R ¹³They open wide their jaws at me, like a slashing and roaring lion. ¹⁴I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax. ¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of death. ¹⁶Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me; they pierce my hands and my feet. R ¹⁷I can count all my bones while they stare at me and gloat. ¹⁸They divide my garments among them; for my clothing, they cast lots. ¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid. ²⁰Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog. ²¹Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me. ²²I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you. R



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Tomorrow night's Tenebrae service will be at 7PM.

Easter Sunday Trinity will have two services with Holy Communion: 9:30AM, in person and virtual on Facebook and Zoom. 11:00AM, in person outdoors in the upper parking lot. Bring your own chair.