

First Lutheran Church, Morris MN

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021

This evening, our Lenten observance comes to a close, as we gather with Christians around the world to enter into the Three Days of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Jesus' last meal with his disciples. Yet, the central focus is the commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this 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 through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in humble silence, we anticipate the coming days.

Readings Exodus 12:1-14
I Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Sermon "Footwashing Love"

Hymn "When Twilight Comes" #566

1. When twilight comes and the sun sets,
mother hen prepares for night's rest.
As her brood shelters under her wings,
she gives the love of God to her nest.
Oh! what joy to feel her warm heartbeat
and be near her all night long;
so the young can find repose,
then renew tomorrow's song.
2. One day the Rabbi, Lord Jesus,
called the twelve to share his last meal.
As the hen tends her young, so for them
he spent himself to seek and to heal.
Oh! what joy to be with Christ Jesus,
hear his voice, oh! sheer delight,
and receive his servant care:
all before the coming night.
3. So gather round once again, friends
touched by fading glow of sun's gold,
and recount all our frail human hopes:
the dreams of young and stories of old.
Oh! what joy to pray close together,
kneeling as one family,
by a mother's love embraced
in the blessed Trinity.

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Corporate Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from sin and to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God promises to heal us and forgive us. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us. For self-centering living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.***

*In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. 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.***

Sharing of the Peace

*The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.***

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

*Holy God, source of all love, on this 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.***

Footwashing

Offering

Offertory Prayer

*God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

Prayers of Intercession

The Great Thanksgiving

"Holy, Holy, Holy" (spoken)

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

"Eat This Bread, Drink this Cup" #472 (sing 2x)

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

Post Communion Prayer

Hymn *"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" #351*

1. O sacred head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighted down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory,
what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.
2. How pale thou art with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish,
which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter passion
were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.
3. What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever,
and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
outlive my love to thee.
4. Lord, be my consolation;
shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion
when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving,
from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing
die safely in thy love.

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Stripping of the Altar *(Psalm 22 is read)*

*The congregation sits in silence as linens, paraments,
ornaments, and candles are removed from the altar and chancel.*

Please leave the church in silence.