FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

1100 E. Superior St., Duluth, Minnesota

April 1, 2021

6:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY—THE WAY OF DISCIPLESHIP

With nightfall 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. 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. We remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world. This service is comprised of six stations: The Word—We reflect on the story of the Last Supper. The Passover—As we confess our sins, God's punishment passes over us and we receive forgiveness. The Foot Washing—We practice Christ's new covenant to love one another as Christ has loved us. The Forgiveness of Betrayal—We remember Christ's breaking bread with Judas. As we have been forgiven; so, we seek to forgive. The Meal—we are fed. The Stripping of the Alter—We participate in the stripping by watching or laying bare our home alter.

As this night is about our prayerful participation in these stations, we decided not to redo the liturgy but to invite each of you to once again enter fully into this service as we begin our final journey to the cross.

WELCOME Gather together these items to fully participate in the service: A bowl of water and a towel oil (add a spice if so desired) candle and matches a loaf of bread

We begin in silence

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 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 STATIONS

Word

You are invited to ponder the italicized questions as John 13:1-17, 31b-35 is read:

Have you ever been betrayed? How did it make you feel? Why did Jesus allow Judas at the meal? Why do we hear when we gather at the table, "In the night in which he was betrayed . . ."

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.

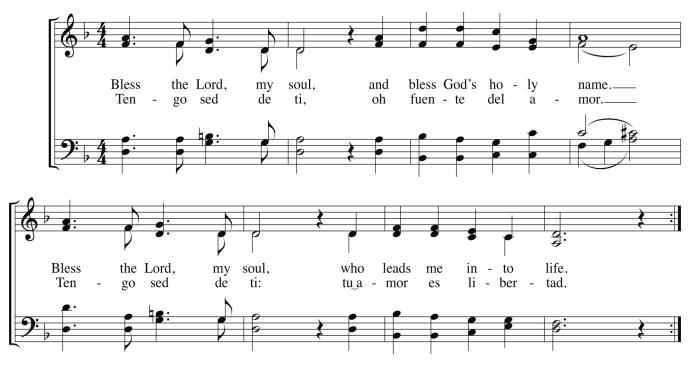
Why was Peter so upset with the thought of Jesus washing his feet? Would you have let Jesus wash your feet? Why? or Why not?

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."

Why did Jesus choose foot washing as the symbol of his new covenant? What is new about this covenant? In what ways as a congregation, do we embody this love?

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 PASSOVER

In this Holy Week story, through the waters of baptism, we are marked with the cross of Christ. We are bathed in forgiveness; death has no power over us.

Blessed be the holy Trinity + one God who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

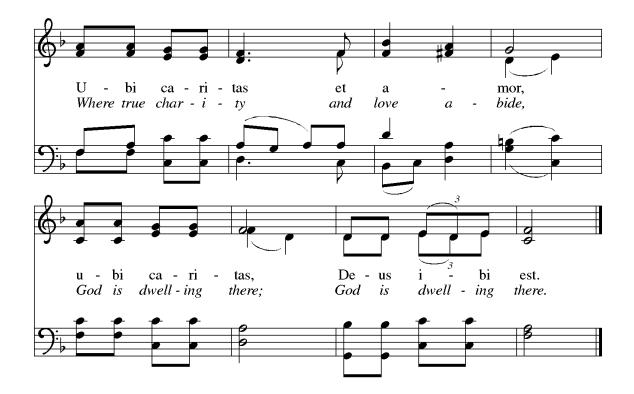
Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your 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. As you hear the water and word of forgiveness, mark yourself or your family members' foreheads with a cross of oil and these words: "Remember that you have been anointed; you are God's beloved daughter/son." Come into the freedom of forgiveness.

THE FOOT WASHING

Jesus gives us a new commandment (mandatum from which the name of this night, maundy, comes) - to love one another as he has loved us.

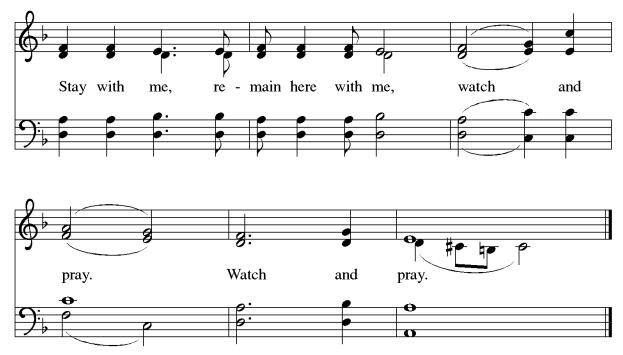
He shows us how to love - kneeling down as a servant to wash his disciples' feet.

You are invited to kneel in humble service; wash another's feet; let another wash yours. Practice humility. Or if you live alone, wash your hands with gentle care remembering ways your hands have cared for others with footwashing love.



THE FORGIVENESS OF BETRAYAL

Light a candle for someone by whom you have felt betrayed. Practice forgiveness.



OFFERING

You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to **218-325-9525** with amount you would like to contribute. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.

OFFERTORY MUSIC Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

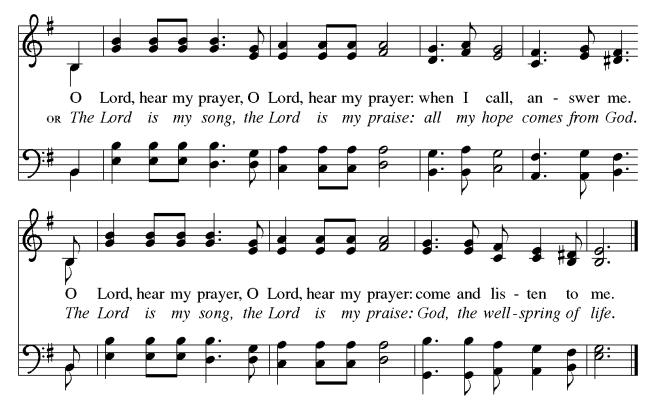
Bryan Gatten, guitar

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the offering 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 Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FOOD FOR THE WILDERNESS

As a scattered community this night, we are not taking communion since part of communion is the way we share it -- together as one body. But when the Israelites were wandering in the desert, they cried out to God and God sent manna. We know that in times of crisis, God feeds hungry people. Tear off a piece of bread and hold it in your hand. This is bread for the journey. Before you eat it, think of the ways that God has fed you over this last week. Think of how God has shown up in your life and the lives of others. Take a moment to thank God for nourishing you. As you eat the bread, say a prayer for those who don't have enough to eat, that God would feed them too and that we might be part of the way God answers those prayers.



Seeking your wisdom, we 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

We participate in the stripping of our Lord; and give thanks that we already have heard that this betrayal is forgiven. We leave in silence pondering our lives and Christ's giving of his.

The altar and chancel area are stripped and made bare. The lights are dimmed and Psalm 22, which Jesus quoted from the cross, is sung.

There is no benediction, as this service continues through the three days.

| Ministers | All People of First Lutheran Church |
|--|---|
| Pastor | The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman |
| PASTORAL INTERN | Daniel Grainger (Pastoral Intern 2019-2020) |
| PROGRAM STAFF | Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate |
| | Karen Sande, Director of Music |
| | Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities |
| | Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship |
| Musicians | Brad Anderson, Michael Fuchs, Liz Raduege, Suzanne Rauvola, singers |
| VIDEO TEAM | Shania Krause, David Sproat, and Sam Weston |
| DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER Stacie Curnow | |

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Holy Week 2021

Created for Beloved Community

Walk the Stations of the Cross

Masked and physically distanced

Gather at 2pm in the Superior St lot

Also available online as a virtual walk

Palm/Passion Sunday- March 28

LIVE 10am Radio 610AM/103.9FM & YouTube Palm car procession from church 10am palm pick up 9am-9:45am

Maundy Thursday- April 1

Video Premiere 6pm YouTube Participate in the holy acts of this night

Good Friday- April 2

Video Premiere 12pm & 6pm YouTube Contemplate the crucifixion of Christ through the music of Heinrich Schütz and Christ's Seven Last Words of the Cross

Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 3

Video Premiere 6pm YouTube Join us as we gather around fire, word, water, and meal

Festival of the Resurrection-Sunday, April 4

LIVE 10am Radio & YouTube Gather by the Superior St. Entrance at 11:30am for "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Bring colorful ribbons to adorn the outside cross and World Hunger offerings

KDAL Radio 610AM or 103.9FM | youtube.com/FirstLutheranDuluth | flcduluth.org

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land.

We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.



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