FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH 1100 East Superior Street, Duluth, MN

March 28, 2024

7:00 p.m.

-THE WAY OF DISCIPLESHIP MAUNDY THURSDAY-



In his final night with his friends and followers, Jesus shows the fullness of his love by removing his robe. kneeling, and washing the disciples' feet. As he makes his way around the room, Jesus comes to Simon Peter who protests, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Like Peter, we may also question if God loves us and will care for us, even at the brink of death. In these final hours of accompanying Jesus to his grave, can we seek a posture of trust? Can we allow ourselves to be embraced and loved—by our neighbor and by God?

You are invited to light a candle in prayer on the Tree of Life during the service.

The candle-lighter is hanging on the wall; you may need to take a candle out to light it. Please pass the Friendship Notebook along your row and greet those around you that you may not know.

Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.

PRELUDE I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ

J.S. Bach; Karen Sande, organ

The assembly stands.

SILENT PROCESSION

GREEFING

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

Loving God,

as Jesus took a basin and poured out water and love so long ago, bless our water for washing and the feet of your servants, pour out your love and forgiveness upon us that we may walk in your ways of love and humble service. In Christ, we pray.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

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

The story of Jesus' last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus takes on the role of a servant, washing the feet of his disciples, and urging them to do the same for one another.

Word of God. Word of life.

MEDITATION

HYMN ELW #566 When Twilight Comes



THE STATIONS

You are invited to move between the four stations in no particular order.

As you move between the four stations, you are invited to sing the chants on the next pages.

WORD

Remain at your seat as you look upon the image of footwashing.

Ponder the questions beneath the image.

Be bathed in grace.

THE PASSOVER

In the story of the Exodus, blood is marked on the door lintel so that death passes over the Israelites.

Through the waters of baptism, we are marked with the cross of Christ. We are bathed in forgiveness; death passes over us.

Come by the font, dip your fingers in the waters, remembering your baptism. Receive forgiveness; walk through the door remembering you have been freed.

Be bathed in mercy.

THE FOOT WASHING

Jesus gives us a new commandment—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.

Come, kneel in humble service; wash another's feet; let another wash yours.

Be bathed in love.

THE FORGIVENESS OF BETRAYAL

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

Bathe another in grace, mercy and love.

Be free.

Come and Fill Our Hearts



In God Alone



Don't Be Afraid





PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Mercy We Abide in You

words & music Bret Hesla

Refrain:



- Leader: 1. In peace, may we assemble. In peace, may we unite. In peace, may we be whole. Move within each heart. Refrain
 - 2. For all who suffer in war, for all who struggle for comfort, for all who slumber in ease. Move within each heart. Refrain
 - 3. We are broken, longing for peace, forgiveness, flow among us. May we be reconciled. Move within each heart. Refrain

MEAL

OFFERING given for the needs of our neighbors and for the needs of the world You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply text "flcduluth" to 73256. You'll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.

OFFERING ANTHEM Ubi Caritas

9th c. Latin, music by O. Gjeilo; Soli Deo Gloria Choir

Where charity and love are, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us revere and love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love one another. Amen

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Jesus, you are the very essence and heart of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food

but fill our hearts with peace and a hunger for justice. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Hear the words of Paul from I Corinthians 11:23a-26: For I received from the Lord what I

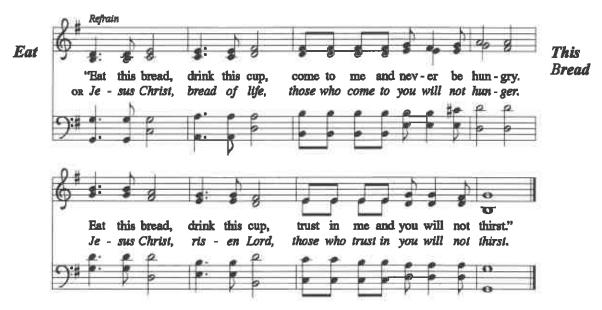
also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant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

Seeking the heart of God, we pray:

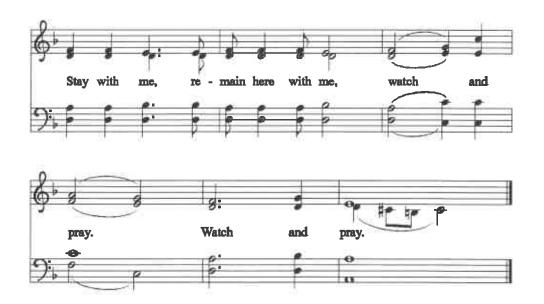
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

We betray Christ but like Judas are invited to be at table with him, where we receive Christ's forgiveness and presence.

HOLY COMMUNION We practice Eucharistic hospitality; all are welcome. Receive the bread and dip it into the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.



congregation sings refrain; cantor sings verses



Stay With Me

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 by cantors.

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

All leave the church in silence.

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.

Holy Week & Easter Services

March 29: Good Friday 12:00 p.m. service and 7:00 p.m. Bach's St. John Passion with choir, soloists & orchestra