

Maundy Thursday



March 28, 2024

*Faith Lutheran Church
Jacksonville, Illinois*

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE: “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus,” arr. Smith; *Jean Welch, piano solo*

INVOCATION AND INVITATION

P: We begin in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: 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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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 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.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

SONG: "Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now" (ACS 930)

- 1 **Three holy days enfold us now in washing feet and breaking bread,
in cross and font and life renewed: in Christ,
God's firstborn from the dead.**
- 2 **The myst'ry hid from ages past is here revealed in word and sign,
for Jesus' story is our own: new life through death is God's design.**
- 3 **Christ, lifted high upon the tree, before you ev'ry knee shall bend
and ev'ry tongue in praise proclaim: "You are the Lord of all. Amen."**

WORD

Mark 14:22-42

²²While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take; this is my body.' ²³Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

²⁶When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered."'

²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.' ²⁹Peter said to him, 'Even though all become deserters, I will not.' ³⁰Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' ³¹But he said vehemently, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And all of them said the same.

³²They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I pray.’ ³³He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴And he said to them, ‘I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.’ ³⁵And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶He said, ‘Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.’ ³⁷He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, ‘Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ ³⁹And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹He came a third time and said to them, ‘Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.’

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: “Take, Drink” Mark 14:23, 36

SONG: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

- 1. How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.**
- 2. Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life – I know that it is finished.**
- 3. I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please respond to the words, "Lord in your mercy,"
with "hear our prayer."

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

DURING DISTRIBUTION

“As the Grains of Wheat” ELW 465

*Refrain: As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread:
so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.*

**1. As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. Refrain**

**2. Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain**

“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken” (ACS 966)

**1 Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.**

*Refrain: By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

**2 Loaves were broken, words were spoken in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them,
Christ, you came as Light from Light. Refrain**

**3 Loaves are broken, words are spoken, as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages: "I am with you; do not fear!" Refrain**

**4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger, words that tell your love and care.
Refrain**

“Where True Charity and Love Abide” ELW 642

**Where true charity and love abide,
God is dwelling there; God is dwelling there.**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen.

STRIPPING THE ALTAR

Stripping the altar is a symbolic act of the humiliation Jesus endured at his crucifixion. The altar is always a beautiful focal point of our worship, adorned with paraments and candles, but now is strikingly bare. Our worship is both an act of mourning Jesus' suffering and death... as well as an act of hope and confidence that the deep, deep love of Jesus expressed on a cross also reveals the glory of God.

Omitting the benedictions at the end of the liturgies of both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicates their continuity with each other and with the Easter celebration to come. The congregation is invited to leave in silence.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sabbatical Pastor: Paul Schwartzkopf
Pianist: Jean Welch
Usher: Mary Jane Esslinger
Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker
Greeter: Hallie Mayner
Altar Assistants: Greg & Terri Kimler
Chancel Committee: Kris Roth

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CONTINUING WORSHIP

Good Friday



Join us at 7:00 p.m. as we reflect on Jesus,
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Easter Sunday

9:30am Festival Resurrection Worship Service

10:30am Easter Breakfast

