

MAUNDY THURSDAY
A JOINT SERVICE OF HANDWASHING, WORD, AND TABLE
APRIL 2, 2026



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

All keep silence for reflection and self-examination.

Leader: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

Congregation: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

Congregation: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

Leader: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com - pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

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.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the 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 ACCLAMATION

A singing bell/bowl is rung to center our attention, through silence, on the gospel.

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

*The Holy Gospel according to St. 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

Marilyn Henry, LMA

HAND WASHING

On Ash Wednesday, we began this season of repentance with confession, and we came forward to receive the ashes of repentance. Come forward now and receive a sign of your baptism, the washing of hands. When you come forward, your hands will be ceremonially washed and blessed as a sign of our Lord's commandment to love one another.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Pie Jesu

Common Mission Choir

Pious Jesus (or Merciful Jesus), grant them rest.

Lamb of God, grant them rest.

Everlasting rest.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The singing bowl will ring between our intercessions. As you listen to the singing bell, you are invited to whisper your own prayers.

PEACE

When Jesus was at dinner with his friends, he said, "Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you. Peace which the world cannot give, I give to you." We share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host 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 with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right ... let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

LAMB OF GOD**Lamb of God**

ELW 336

Verse 1 Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God.
Oh, wash me in your precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Verse 2 Your gift of love we crucified.
We laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble king we named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. **Refrain**

Verse 3 I was so lost, I should have died,
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be call a lamb of God. **Refrain**

COMMUNION**In Remembrance****Common Mission Choir****PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **Lord Jesus, in this sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this holy mystery of your body and blood so work in us that we serve you faithfully and love one another fervently. For with your broken body, you heal our broken world. Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The service concludes with the stripping of the altar as Psalm 22 is chanted. The sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners, and books are removed from the sanctuary. Lights are dimmed as the worship space is stripped. Symbolically, Christ, now stripped of his power and glory, is in the hands of his captors. We end the service in holy and reverent silence.

No benediction is said on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday, for our Holy Week services are connected. We await the benediction of Easter morning.

We depart in silence.

