**S.A.L.T. Parish**

**First Lutheran Church, Meadowlands**

## Maundy Thursday

## ~ ~ April 6, 2023 ~ ~ 6:30 pm

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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.

P: 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.

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 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.***

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.***

**Gathering Hymn *“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*** *Hymn #693*

Vs. 1 Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

Vs. 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;
 wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
 Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

Vs. 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take the harvest home;
 from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away;
 give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.

**Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy

 Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Prayer of the Day**

***C: 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.***

**First Reading: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

1The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. 4If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

11This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. 12For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. 13The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. 14This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

**Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19**

I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

2**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

12How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

13**I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

14I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

 15**Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

16O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

17**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

18I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

19**in the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

**Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

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.

**Gospel Acclamation *“A New Commandment”*** *WOV #664*

A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you, that you love one another as I have loved you. By this shall people know you are my disciples, if you have love for another, by this shall people know you are my disciples: if you have love for another.

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

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."

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”*** *Hymn #712* Vs. 1 Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
 who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy’s perfect deed:
 we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
 consecrating to your purpose ev’ry gift which you impart.

Vs. 2 Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
 still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

Vs. 3 As we worship, grant us vision, till your love’s revealing light
 in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
 making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
 stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

**Apostles’ Creed** *Page 105*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

You make a new covenant with your people. Gather your church around word and table in love and promise as these three holy days enfold us. Open us to behold the mystery of our salvation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You give us our daily bread, fruit of the earth and work of human hands. Bless those who labor and tend to their crops and those who prepare our meals. Strengthen us to advocate for food justice and a fair distribution of resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You, our Savior and Teacher, stoop down to us in servant love. Inspire national and local leaders with a renewed sense of public service. Increase in them a humility to serve with equity and fairness. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You incline your ear to us in every need. Befriend all who are lonely. Comfort those who grieve. Soothe any who are anxious. Console all who are distressed. Graciously tend to the hurts of your children who suffer in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*).

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You inspire your people to praise in word, song, and art. We give thanks for artists whose gifts enrich the church's worship. Kindle in us appreciation for all who beautify our worship space throughout the changing seasons. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Precious in your sight is the death of your faithful ones. We remember and give thanks for the those who have died (*especially*). With them, we trust your promise to love your own until the end. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**Offering**

**Offertory Prayer**

P: 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.

***C: Amen.***

**Great Thanksgiving** ELW pg. 107

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

**Lord’s Prayer** ELW pg. 112

P: Let us pray as Jesus has 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.***

**Communion**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Blessing**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord’s face shine on us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and + give you peace.

**Stripping of the Altar**

*The stripping of the altar at the close of the service this evening is symbolic of Jesus’ humiliation at the soldiers’ hands.*

(Please leave the sanctuary in silence.)