

*Maundy Thursday*



*At St. Paul's, ALL are welcome:*

*As Lutherans we believe that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. It is not something we earn but is freely given through God's love. That love is for all of us - created in God's image - and we respond by welcoming and including everyone, regardless of age, background, race, ethnicity, creed, socioeconomic class, marital status, physical or mental ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join with us as we seek to promote racial equity, social and economic justice, and care for our environment. There is a place for you here.*

*Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Ardmore, Pennsylvania*

*March 28, 2024*

*7:00 pm*

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*Maundy Thursday*

## Gathering

*(Words in all capital letters indicate that the congregation should stand.)*

Prelude

*Soul, Adorn Thyself*

J.S. Bach

### 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. [We have shared this discipline of Lent with new brothers and sisters in Christ who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil.]

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.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

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.**

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. **Amen**

*The assembly is seated. People may come forward for the laying on of hands. The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, addresses each in turn.*

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
I forgive you all your sins.  
*The person may respond Amen.*

Hymn # 359

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

## 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...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**

## Word

First Lesson

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

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*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.*

Reader/ A reading from Exodus.

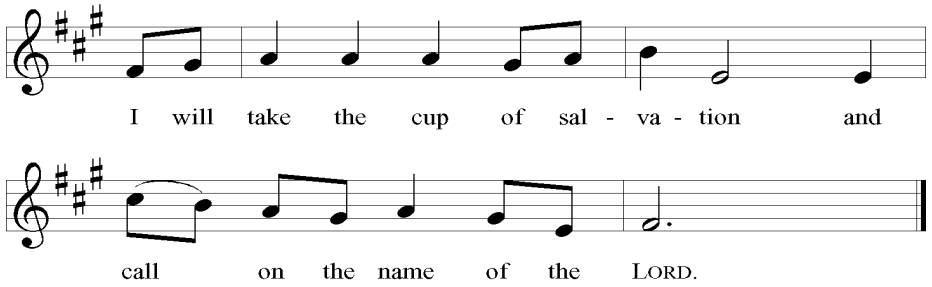
The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a 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. This 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. For 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.

The 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. This 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19



<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,  
and listened to my | supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given | ear to me  
whenev- | er I called.**

<sup>12</sup>How shall I re- | pay the LORD  
for all the good things God has | done for me?

<sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup | of salvation  
and call on the name | of the LORD. R**

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD  
in the presence of | all God's people.

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in your | sight, O LORD,  
is the death | of your servants.**

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

<sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name | of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD  
in the presence of | all God's people,

<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of | the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.**

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another, because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.*

Reader/ A reading from First Corinthians.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now 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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me."

Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus 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." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After 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? You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little 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.'



I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By 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

Pastor Tancredi

HYMN OF THE DAY #358

*Great God, Your Love Has  
Called Us*

## THE PRAYERS

*Each petition ends with the words: Lord, in your mercy,  
Response: **Hear our prayer.***

## EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*Meal*

## OFFERING

*Thank you for your generous support of our ministry. Checks can be mailed to the church office, or you can give online at [www.stpaulsardmore.org/giving](http://www.stpaulsardmore.org/giving)*



Anthem at Offering  
Adult Choir

*Ubi Caritas*  
Maurice Durufle

*“Where charity and love are present, God is there. We are gathered in the love of Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad.”*

OFFERTORY HYMN # 325

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*  
(vs. 1)

*I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

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, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

*(Here the celebrant continues with the preface for the day, concluding)*

... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*(During the Eucharistic Prayer, the congregation responds)*

... 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.**

... Come Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

**Amen.**

... Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

**Amen**

... Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

**Communion**

*All the baptized are invited to receive  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ.*

*After receiving the bread at the center aisle, dip the bread  
into the intinction cup.*

*Those who do not wish to commune may come forward  
for a blessing.*

Communion Hymn # 480

*O Bread of Life from Heaven*

## TABLE BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

## COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray...Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*Congregation may be seated. The choir will chant Psalm 22. Please leave in silence, or remain for silent meditation.*



Today, **Maundy** (from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning *command*) **Thursday**, the church recalls Jesus' command to "love one another even as I have loved you" and the institution of the Lord's Supper.

Please note the changes in this evening's service:

The **Creed**, a festive element of the liturgy, is omitted due to the solemn nature of Maundy Thursday.

The **Benediction** is omitted until Easter to reflect the continuity of worship throughout these days.

### Serving at Worship

Pastor	The Rev. Laura M. Tancredi
Youth & Family Minister	The Rev. Timothy Ness
Director of Music	Andrew K. Heller
Usher	David Wilson
Lesson Reader	Don Parman
Camera Crew	David Miller
Altar Care	
Set-Up & Clean-up	Bob Burns





St. Paul's  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The Staff**

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Sean Forde – Cemetery & Property Caretaker

Mike Dougherty – Cemetery Superintendent

Runa Kennedy, Ally Ross – Nursery Caregivers

William A. Henderson Jr. – Church Council President

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**Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm