

# MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

APRIL 17, 2024

7:00 PM



Lutheran Church of the Cross  
Bismarck, ND

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
***Maundy Thursday First Communion Service***  
**April 17, 2025 —7:00pm**

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight, we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

**PRELUDE** "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less", "In Christ Alone"

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

*Please Stand*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** "Go to Dark Gethsemane" ELW 347

**FIRST READING: EXODUS 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. [<sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat

any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ] <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>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.

### **RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, because he has heard  
my voice and my supplications.

<sup>2</sup>**Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

<sup>12</sup>What shall I return to the LORD  
for all his bounty to me?

<sup>13</sup>**I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD,**

<sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful ones.**

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.  
You have loosed my bonds.

<sup>17</sup>**I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the house of the LORD,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

**Praise the LORD!**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

<sup>23</sup>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, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>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." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Jesus Messiah**

### **GOSPEL**

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

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup>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?" <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

<sup>31b</sup>“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>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.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**SERMON** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY:** “Where Charity and Love Prevail” ELW 359

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:** “I Love You, Lord”

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING:** “In This Very Room”

**OFFERING PRAYER**



**FIRST COMMUNION RECOGNITION**

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**

*All are welcome*

**FIRST COMMUNION RECOGNITION**

**COMMUNION SONGS:** "Unwavering", "I Am the Bread of Life" ELW 485

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING SONG:** "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

**DISMISSAL**



## First Communion Participants

Bella Fischer, daughter of Tanya Bonner & Tyler Fischer

Jasten Karvo, son of Jessi & TJ Karvo

Chloe Martin, daughter of Heather & Casey Martin

Harper Sommers, daughter of Nicki & Scott Sommers

Claire Staloch, daughter of Catherine & Tyler Staloch



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***“Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts”***