

# Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

7:00 p.m.



“Dressed to Serve”

Pastor Erik Allen





## A Place to Belong

## A Place to Become

**As We Gather:** On the night He was betrayed, Jesus took a towel, washed His disciples' feet, and commanded them to do likewise. He also took a cup, gave it to His disciples to drink, and commanded them to remember Him by doing likewise. On this Maundy Thursday (Maundy from the Latin word meaning "command") we remember the commands of Jesus and celebrate His coming to us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion.

**Welcome** to our Maundy Thursday Worship. Tonight begins the three-day liturgy of Holy Week called the Triduum. What we begin in this service will be continued through Good Friday and conclude with the Celebration Festival of Easter. This is one story, even though it is told over several days and the benediction is held back until the resurrection is announced. Make sure that you attend each day as more and more of the story is revealed.

**Holy Communion** is the gift of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation offered by Christ to believers. All are welcome to the table who trust in the Lord's promise. We believe that Christ is truly present in the Sacrament and that with the bread and wine we receive His Body and Blood.

Please note:

- ☞ Grape juice is available in the center glass and the glasses of the center ring.
- ☞ Kneeling at the Altar rail may be difficult for some. It is not mandatory. Please feel free to stand.
- ☞ If you are unable to come to the Altar, please notify an usher so the Sacrament can be brought to you.
- ☞ Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are still welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Pastor - Erik Allen

Organist - Joan Krueger

Reader - Ken Herrmann

Communion Assistants - Gina Culver, Kien Herrmann, Deann Wimer

Ushers - Josh Drake, Jim Schmohe

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## *We Are Invited to Worship*

### **Prelude**

“Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness”

Richard Wegner

*Stand*

### **\*Hymn**

“Love Consecrates the Humblest Act”

ELW 360

1 Love con - se - crates the hum - blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;  
2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet  
3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true

it sheds a ben - e - dic - tion sweet and hal - lows hu - man needs.  
of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.  
has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, 1845–1917  
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

### **\*Invitation to Worship**

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** On the night He was to be betrayed, Jesus rose from supper, took a towel, girded Himself with it, and washed His disciples' feet.

**C:** **We come together to remember His humble service, and to be strengthened to be servants like Him.**

**P:** On the night before He died, Jesus took bread and the cup and gave Himself to His disciples.

**C:** **We come together to receive Jesus again in His holy supper and to celebrate His gift to us.**

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

- P:** 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.
- C:** **Amen.**

## *We Hear God's Word*

### **First Lesson**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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.

### **\*Gospel**

John 13:3-15, 33-35

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, "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.

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.”

*please be seated*

**Sermon**

“Dressed to Serve”

Pastor Erik Allen

**\* Hymn**

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

ELW 708

*Refrain*

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,  
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;  
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

*Refrain*

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
 this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.  
 Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin  
 Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Instruction**

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: When Jesus took the towel, Peter at first refused to have Jesus wash his feet.

**C: We, too, in pride and self-righteousness often refuse the humble service of our Lord who wants to wash us clean. Lord Jesus, forgive us our conceit and vanity.**

P: When Jesus commands us to take up the towel, how often we refuse.

**C: The task of service is too menial, too unpleasant, too loathsome for our refined sensibilities. Lord Jesus, forgive us our reluctance to serve.**

P: When Jesus took the cup, He said, "This is My blood of the covenant which is poured out for many."

**C: It is for my sin that Your blood was poured out, O Lord. For me You gave Your life. It fills me with remorse as I confess my sin. Forgive me, O Lord, according to Your mercy.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the sins of my youth.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the times I have trusted You too little.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the times I have been absent from Your house.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the times I forgot to pray.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the times I have failed in my relationships with other people.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the times I failed to see my neighbor in need.**

P: In your steadfast love,

**C: Remember not the times I have spoken unkind words.**

P: In your steadfast love,

C: **Remember not the times I have had an unforgiving heart.**

P: In your steadfast love,

C: **Remember not the times I have failed to love Your creation.**

P: “I will remember My Covenant,” says the Lord. In steadfast love God forgives all our sins. As far as the East is from the West, so far has God removed our sin from us. Believe in that forgiveness. It is real. It is true. And it is for you. As a called and ordained minister of Jesus Christ and by his authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## \* The Prayers

### Offering

\* Offering Response “On My Heart Imprint Your Image”

ELW 811

On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,

that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.

Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,

8

is my life, my hope's foun-da-tion, all my glo-ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.  
 Music: DER AM KRÜTZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

### \*Offertory Prayer

- P: Let us pray. God our provider,  
 C: **you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bles us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### *We Come to the Lord's Table*

#### \*Thanksgiving At the Table

- 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.**

#### \* Communion Prayer

- P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. ... we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

**\*Lord's Prayer**

**C:** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil, For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!

**Communion Distribution**

**\*Blessing**

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

**C:** Amen.

**\*Prayer**

**P:** Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**Hymn**

“Go To Dark Gathsemane”  
(vs 1-3)

ELW 347



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854  
Music: GETHESEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

*Please be seated.*

## Stripping of the Altar

*The service concludes with the "Stripping of the Altar," which is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldiers' hands. This removal of the altar furnishings (as Psalm 22 is shared) marks the transition from the eucharistic celebration to Jesus' crucifixion and death.*

Please join us...

## Good Friday

Stations of the Cross Service at 12:15

Traditional Service at 7:00 pm



## Saturday Morning

Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 am

3 years to 4th grade (bring your basket!)



## Easter Morning Worship

10:00 am

*(Blended Worship)*

*Easter Brunch following*