



**Christ
Lutheran**
CHURCH

2610 Campbell Street
Valparaiso, Indiana 46385
(219) 462-6660 • clcvalpo.org



MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 2, 2026
7:00 p.m.

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

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Manz

WELCOME

*If you are worshipping with us via livestream, consider **preparing your space for Communion**: light a candle (if appropriate and safe), and have a plate with bread/cracker/tortilla and a cup for wine or grape juice (or an empty cup as a sign Jesus is sufficient in one or both elements).*

READING: Matthew 23: 37-39

[Jesus said,] ³⁷Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁸See, your house is left to you, desolate. ³⁹For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

GATHERING HYMN #566

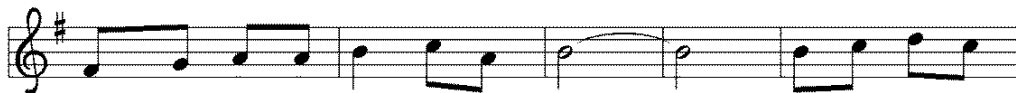
When Twilight Comes



1 When twi-light comes and the sun sets, moth - er hen pre-pares for
 2 One day the Rab - bi, Lord Je - sus, called the twelve to share his
 3 So gath-er round once a - gain, friends, touched by fad - ing glow of



night's rest. As her brood shel-ters un - der her wings, she
 last meal. As the hen tends her young, so for them he
 sun's gold, and re - count all our frail hu - man hopes: the



gives the love of God to her nest. Oh! what joy to
 spent him-self to seek and to heal. Oh! what joy to
 dreams of young and sto - ries of old. Oh! what joy to



feel her warm heart - beat and be near her all night long;
be with Christ Je - sus, hear his voice, oh! sheer de - light,
pray close to - geth - er, kneel - ing as one fam - i - ly,



so the young can find re - pose, then re - new to - mor - row's song,
and re - ceive his ser - vant care: all be - fore the com - ing night.
by a moth - er's love em - braced in the bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

READING: Matthew 26:1-16

¹When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ²You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.

³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, ⁴and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵But they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

⁶Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. ⁸But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, "Why this waste? ⁹For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor." ¹⁰But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. ¹¹For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. ¹²By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. ¹³Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in loving one another and entrusting ourselves to God. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service, and that we may not fail or deny you in the time of trial, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE UPPER ROOM

READING: 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."

HYMN

A New Commandment (sung 2x)



A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as



I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.



By this shall peo-ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if



you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know



you are my dis - ci - ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

PASSOVER, THE LAST SUPPER

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.

READING: Matthew 26: 17-25

¹⁷On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; ²¹and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²²And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." ²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

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 to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

I 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come!

The feast of grace is spread.

Thanks be to God!

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

*The pastor invites those worshipping via **livestream** to commune:*

The body of Christ, given for you.

Amen (receive the bread)

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen (receive the cup)

In-person distribution: When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. WINE is lighter-colored and GRAPE JUICE is dark; they are received via individual cups in the trays. USED GLASSES are placed in the basket located near the ramp. GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE, please indicate to the server that you require this.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

In Remembrance

Red

In remembrance of me, eat this bread, in remembrance of me, drink this wine. In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done. In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor. In remembrance of me, open the door and let your loved one in, let them in. Take, eat and be comforted, drink, and remember, too, that this is my body and precious blood, shed for you. In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love. In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart for God. Do this in remembrance of me.

HYMN ELW #357

Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless

Lamb of God, pure and sin - less, once on the cross an of - f'ring,

pa - tient, low - ly, guilt - less, for-sak-en in your suf - f'ring:

from sin's grasp you have torn us, from gloom to hope have borne us.

1 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.
 2 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.
 3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus. A - men.

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands as the minister continues.
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

READING: Matthew 26: 31-35

³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

³²But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." ³³Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

CONFESSION

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 denial of Christ, our sin against God and our neighbor.

The assembly stands. Time for reflection.

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.

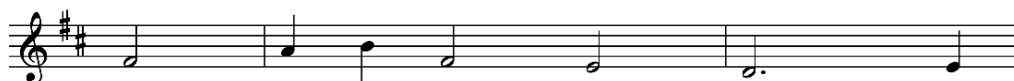
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The assembly is seated. People may come forward to the altar rail and kneel for the laying on of hands—come as you feel moved, the ushers will not dismiss you.

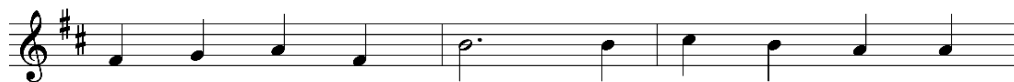
In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

The person may respond **Amen.**

HYMN #343 *My Song Is Love Unknown*



1. My	song	is	love	un -	known,	My
2. He	came	from	his	blest	throne,	Sal -
3. Some	-	times	they	strew	his	And
4. Why,		what	has	my	Lord	What
5. They		rise	and	needs	will	My
6. In		life,	no	house,	no	My
7. Here		might	I	stay	and	No



Sav -	ior's	love	for	me,	Love	to	the	love -	less
va -	tion	to	be -	stow,	But	all	made	strange,	and
his	sweet	prais -	es	sing,	Re -	sound -	ing	all	the
makes	this	rage	and	spite?	He	made	the	lame	to
dear	Lord	made	a -	way;	A	mur -	der -	er	they
Lord	on	earth	might	have;	In	death,	no	friend -	ly
sto -	ry	so	di -	vine;	Nev -	er	was	love,	dear



shown That they might love - ly be. O
 none The longed - for Christ - would know. But
 day Ho - san - nas to their King. Then
 run, He gave the blind their sight. Sweet
 save: The prince of life they slay. Yet
 tomb But what a stran - ger gave. What
 King, Nev - er was grief like thine. This



who am I That for my sake My
 O my friend, My friend in - deed, Who
 "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all they breathe, And
 in - jur - ies! Yet they at these Them -
 cheer - ful he To suf - f'ring goes, That
 may I say? Heav'n was his home; But
 is my friend, In whose sweet praise I



Lord shall take Frail flesh, and die?
 at my need His life did spend.
 for his death They thirst and cry.
 selves dis - please, And 'gainst him rise.
 he his foes, From thence might free.
 mine the tomb Where - in he lay.
 all my days Could glad - ly spend.

THE GARDEN

READING: Matthew 26: 36-46

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." ³⁹And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." ⁴⁰Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴²Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." ⁴³Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So

leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

PRAYER OF LAMENT

Gracious God, by day and night we pour out our prayer to you.

We are crying out for justice, yearning for what is right, longing for your peace. Come quickly to help us, O God; save those who call upon your name.

Experiencing times of uncertainty; in the pain of anxious lives; in compassion for all who are suffering; in sorrow for all that has been lost,

We are deeply grieved.

Knowing that we have neglected to care for others and have prioritized satisfying our wants over meeting the needs of our neighbors,

We are deeply grieved.

Seeing our culture torn by division, suspicion, and distrust,

We are deeply grieved.

Witnessing wars across our world destroying lives, homes, and futures,

We are deeply grieved.

Hearing of hateful violence and senseless killing again and again in our communities,

We are deeply grieved.

Recognizing patterns of privilege and systems of discrimination,

We are deeply grieved.

Seeing your creation destroyed by carelessness and greed,

We are deeply grieved.

Time for personal reflection.

...with all these sorrows spoken and with those that we carry in our hearts,

We are deeply grieved.

We entrust all our griefs and fears into your tender keeping, O God. As Jesus shared our human sorrow and suffering, give us a share of his trust, to say with him, "your will be done."

LORD'S PRAYER

Children: The Spirit makes us one. We 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.**

THE ARREST

READING: Matthew 26: 47-56

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

⁵¹Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The service concludes with the stripping of the worship space. The symbolic elements, vestments, banners, and books are removed from the worship space, echoing Jesus' humiliation by his captors after his arrest on Thursday night. Psalm 22 is chanted.

PSALM 22

The service ends in silence.

Worship Leaders

Readers:	Denise Maragos Angela Wehner
Communion Assistants:	Phyllis Schroeder Holly Knauff
Ushers:	Irene Adams
Lights/Sound:	Tony Reinhold
Livestream Tech:	Zach Wehner
Pastors:	Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr. Rev. Erica Gibson-Even
Director of Music Ministries:	Brian Bartusch
Worship Participants	Sanctuary Choir Karl Stefans, cantor Matthew Jenetopolus, violin



HOLY WEEK

Good Friday—1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

All-ages Easter Vigil on Saturday—4:00 p.m.

We keep the ancient tradition, in a family-friendly way. Gather around the fire to hear the stories of God's saving love through the ages, remember the gift of Baptism, and hear the Easter story as we gather around Christ's table.

Easter Sunday - 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Pre-service music begins at 7:50 a.m. and 10:20 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt begins at 12:00 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

12:00 p.m. – Pre-K & K (near the Memorial Garden)

12:10 p.m. – 1st– 4th grade (out in the field)

12:15 p.m. – 5th-8th grade (in the woods)

Maundy Thursday is part of the Christian celebration of Easter and **marks the night of the Last Supper as told in the Bible**. At the Last Supper, Jesus commanded that people should love one another, he then washed the feet of his disciples as an act of kindness.



From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26201.

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Portions printed under OneLicense.net License #A-711129. Cover art permission by Stushie Art.