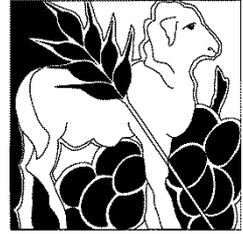


# MAUNDY THURSDAY

1:30 P.M. & 6:00 P.M., APRIL 1, 2021

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*God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.*

**Welcome to guests and visitors!** *This pamphlet will guide your worship today. The assembly’s parts are indicated by  and bold font. The vertical line in the left margin indicates when the assembly stands as each is able.*

## **About Holy Communion with Saint John Lutheran Church**

“It is taught that the true body and blood of Christ are truly present under the form of bread and wine in the Lord’s Supper and are distributed and received there” (Augsburg Confession, Article X)· “A person who has faith in these words, ‘given for you’ and ‘shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,’ is really worthy and well prepared.” “Forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament” (The Small Catechism, Part VI)· “This church practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion” (The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 50)·

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## **INTRODUCTION**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

 **Amen.**

## **SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)**

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God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**☩ Amen.**

### PSALM 25:1-17

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;

**☩ let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>2</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;

**☩ let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

<sup>3</sup>Show me your ways, O Lord,

**☩ and teach me your paths.**

<sup>4</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,

**☩ for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.**

<sup>5</sup>Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,

**☩ for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>6</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

**☩ remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>Gracious and upright is the Lord;

**☩ therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**

<sup>8</sup>He guides the humble in doing right

**☩ and teaches his way to the lowly.**

<sup>9</sup>All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness  
**☞ to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

<sup>10</sup>For your name's sake, O Lord,  
**☞ forgive my sin, for it is great.**

<sup>11</sup>Who are they who fear the Lord?  
**☞ He will teach them the way that they should choose.**

<sup>12</sup>They shall dwell in prosperity,  
**☞ and their offspring shall inherit the land.**

<sup>13</sup>The Lord is a friend to those who fear him,  
**☞ and will show them his covenant.**

<sup>14</sup>My eyes are ever looking to the Lord,  
**☞ for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.**

<sup>15</sup>Turn to me and have pity on me,  
**☞ for I am left alone and in misery.**

<sup>16</sup>The sorrows of my heart have increased;  
**☞ bring me out of my troubles.**

<sup>17</sup>Look upon my adversity and misery  
**☞ and forgive me all my sin.**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The presiding minister invites the assembly into the confession.*

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season . . . and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*All kneel or sit and keep silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For self-centered living,  
and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

For longing to have what is not ours,  
and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

For misuse of human relationships,  
and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

For jealousies that divide families and nations,  
and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God,  
and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ,  
and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

**☩ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

*The assembly is invited to stand. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. 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.**

### PSALM 67

<sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to us and bless us,

**☪ show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.**

<sup>2</sup>Let your ways be known upon earth,

**☪ your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**☪ let all the peoples praise you.**

<sup>4</sup>Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**☪ for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**☪ let all the peoples praise you.**

<sup>6</sup>The earth has brought forth her increase;

**☪ may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

<sup>7</sup>May God give us his blessing,

**☪ and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
**☩ as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### **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**

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.**

### **FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14**

<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.

The word of the Lord.

**© Thanks be to God.**

**PSALMODY: Psalm 116:1, 10-17**

<sup>1</sup>I love the Lord,  
because he has heard the voice of my supplication,  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

**© <sup>10</sup>How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the good things he has done for me?**

<sup>11</sup>I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.

**© <sup>12</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.**

<sup>13</sup>Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his servants.

**© <sup>14</sup>O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.**

<sup>15</sup>I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.

**☪ <sup>16</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,**

<sup>17</sup>in the courts of the Lord's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**☪ I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

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

*Paul writes:* <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.

The word of the Lord.

**☪ Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The eyes of all look to you, O Lord,  
and you give them their food in due season.

**☪ You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

*Jesus said:* I give you a new commandment,

**☪ that you love one another just as I have loved you.**

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

The holy gospel according to John.

**☪ Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**☩ Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

*Silence for reflection may follow the sermon.*

### MUSICAL OFFERING

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**☩ And also with you.**

*The assembly remains in place, as the service continues.*

### APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**☩ 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 INTERCESSION

*Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.*

**☞ Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude: Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.*

**☞ Amen.**

## OFFERING PRESENTATION

*Offerings are received at the door as one enters. The offering is presented for the work of Christ's Church, here and throughout the world.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

*At the conclusion, the assembly responds:*

**☞ Amen.**

## OFFERTORY: *Ubi caritas* (ELW # 653)

Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.

**☞ We are gathered by the one love of Christ Jesus;**

Let us lift our voices to God and be joyful.

**☞ In holy wonder let us love the living God;**

May our hearts ever be one in faithful love.

**☞ Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.**

Since we are all one in the Lord,

**☞ as we gather, let us be watchful that no strife still divide us.**

Contention, envy, ill will, spite—may these all cease;

**☞ With us, abiding in our midst, is Christ our God.**

Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.

**☩ Surrounded by the blest saints, we shall see you**

face to face in glory and light, O Christ Jesus.

**☩ With holy joy far beyond thought we shall be full,**

from age to age, world without end, forevermore.

**☩ Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.**

*The table is set.*

### 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.**

### PREFACE

*The minister continues, concluding: ... and join their unending hymn:*

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)

**☩ Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ . . .  
. . . with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and  
forever.

**☪ Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**☪ 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.

Receive this meal and be fed.

**☪ Thanks be to God.**

## COMMUNION SONG (AGNUS DEI)

**☪ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Please remain seated where you are. The communion elements  
will be brought to you. The host is received in your open hand.  
The wine will be taken by you from an individual glass. Carefully  
place your empty glass on the pew until end of worship.*

**POST-COMMUNION POEM** *(LBW # 120)*

**Of the glorious body telling,  
O my tongue, its myst'ries sing,  
and the blood, all price excelling,  
which the world's eternal king,  
in a noble womb once dwelling,  
shed for this world's ransoming.**

**Giv'n for us, for us descending,  
of a virgin to proceed,  
with us all in converse blending,  
scattered he the gospel seed,  
till his sojourn drew to ending  
which he closed in wondrous deed.**

**At the last great supper lying  
circled by his chosen band,  
meekly with the law complying,  
first he finished its command;  
then, immortal food supplying,  
gave himself with his own hand.**

**Word made flesh, by word ordaining  
very bread his flesh to be;  
we, in wine Christ's blood obtaining,  
and, if senses fail to see,  
faith alone will wake those straining  
to behold the mystery.**

**Therefore we, before him bending,  
this great sacrament revere;  
types and shadows have their ending,  
for the newer rite is here;  
faith, our outward sense befriending,  
makes the inward vision clear.**

**Glory let us give, and blessing  
to the Father and the Son;  
honor, might, and praise addressing,  
while eternal ages run;  
ever, too, the Spirit blessing,  
who, from both, with both is one. Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*At the conclusion, the assembly responds:*

**☩ Amen.**

### **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*The assembly sits or kneels. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar representing the betrayal and arrest of Jesus. Lights may be dimmed as the worship space is stripped. Psalm 88 is sung or said.*

*All depart in silence.*

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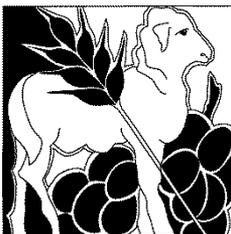
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## Loving Vulnerably

For many North American churchgoers Maundy Thursday is one of the most physically vulnerable occasions in the church year. Whereas other cultures view bare feet as an everyday facet of human life, North Americans tend to be a bit more squeamish when it comes to letting others see, let alone touch or wash, our feet. Feet come in many forms, shaped by the rhythm and circumstances of their own journeys. Feet are intimate, unique, and completely personal. The feet that enter our churches on this day may be cracked, frail, broken, or scarred.

The mere prospect of an encounter with any of these feet as a ritual component to Maundy Thursday worship can feel overwhelming and off-putting to some. It is no accident, though, that a command to love comes coupled with a moment of vulnerability. On the very night that Jesus commands us to love one another, we find him down at the feet of his protesting disciples, enacting a most vulnerable form of love: washing away the dust, dirt, and grime.

It would be one thing if this command to love only extended to people who look, act, and think like us, yet there is no hint in our gospel text that Judas's feet were excluded from Jesus' footwashing. This is a risky and difficult love, extended to those who betray us and hurt us, those whom we would rather call "enemy" than "friend." This kind of love is just as up-close and personal as an intimate encounter with broken, worried, tired, and worn-out feet. Living this kind of love can feel precarious, even dangerous.

If on this Maundy Thursday the thought of having your feet washed or of washing someone else's feet feels vulnerable to you, don't push away the feeling. Notice it. Perhaps you are closer than ever to understanding the radical nature of Jesus' command to love one another.