



**Welcome to Worship
Maundy Thursday
April 17, 2025**

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end as 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. 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.

Call to Worship: "Let Us Break Bread" Handbell Duet
Linda Kunz & Melissa Peterson, handbells; Michelle Bolstad, piano

Introduction of First Communion Young People and Presentation of Gifts
Edwin Alme, Amber Daniels, Clara Harrington, Jordyn Hostrawser, Malcolm Harris, Finnley Kopf, Theodore Raday, Avery Sime and Levi Wendorf.

Remain seated

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season you 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 a 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.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **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.**

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Stand

Hymn: **"Remember Now My Children"**

Vs. 1: The night of his betrayal, our Lord took bread.

He blest it as he broke it, and then he said,

"My body broken for you, is what this means.

Remember now, my children what you have seen.

Vs. 2: And then he took the chalice and raised it high.

"My blood is given for you, a full supply,

a covenant, a promise, a cleansing stream.

Remember now my children, what you have seen.

Vs. 3: We share this food together, remembering Christ,

we share a common treasure and know the price,

we share it without measure a gift of love,

we share our life forever with God above.

Maundy Thursday Litany

P: In this meal O Lord, you give us your body and blood.

C: **Your body and blood feeds our hungry souls.**

P: In this meal guilt we cannot let go of and sins we cannot forget are taken away.

C: **Your body and blood assures us we are forgiven.**

P: In this meal, the storm raging within us is quieted.

C: **Your body and blood calms our troubled souls.**

P: In this meal, the sadness and regret that sin brings into our lives is replaced by your “amazing grace.”

C: Your body and blood gives us joy.

P: In this meal, we catch a glimpse of the “feast to come,” where all will be welcomed.

C: Your body and blood gives us hope.

P: In this meal, we see the depth and the strength of your love.

C: Your body and blood reveals your love.

Hymn of Praise: “Let Us Break Bread Together” #471 ELW

Vs. 1: Let us break bread together on our knees. (repeat)

**Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

Vs. 2: Let us drink wine together on our knees. (repeat) Refrain...

Vs. 3: Let us praise God together on our knees. (repeat) Refrain...

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Eternal God, in the sharing of this meal your Son established a new covenant for all people. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit this sign of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Anthem: “We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace” Men’s Choir

First Reading: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-16

God said to Moses and Aaron while still in Egypt, “This month is to be the first month of the year for you. Address the whole community of Israel; tell them that on the tenth of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one lamb to a house. If the family is too small for a lamb, then share it with a close neighbor, depending on the number of persons involved. Be mindful of how much each person will eat.”¹¹ “And here is how you are to eat it: Be fully dressed with your sandals on and your stick in your hand. Eat in a hurry; it’s the Passover to God.”¹²⁻¹³ “I will go through the land of Egypt on this night and strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, whether human or animal, and bring

judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am God. The blood will serve as a sign on the houses where you live. When I see the blood I will pass over you—no disaster will touch you when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴⁻¹⁶ "This will be a memorial day for you; you will celebrate it as a festival to God down through the generations, a fixed festival celebration to be observed always.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Stand

Gospel Canticle: "Eat This Bread" #472 ELW

**"Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst."**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 22nd Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading: Luke 22:14 – 29

Lector: When it was time, he sat down, all the apostles with him, and said,

**Jesus (All): You've no idea how much I have looked forward to eating this
Passover meal with you before I enter my time of suffering. It's the last one
I'll eat until we all eat it together in the kingdom of God.**

Lector: Taking the cup, he blessed it, then said,

**Jesus (All): Take this and pass it among you. As for me, I'll not drink wine again
until the kingdom of God arrives.**

Lector: Taking bread, he blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,

Jesus (All): This is my body, given for you. Eat it in my memory.

Lector: He did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

**Jesus (All): This cup is the new covenant written in my blood, blood poured out
for you. Do you realize that the hand of the one who is betraying me is at this
moment on this table? It's true that the Son of Man is going down a path
already marked out—no surprises there. But for the one who turns him in,
turns traitor to the Son of Man, this is doomsday.**

Lector: They immediately became suspicious of each other and began quizzing one another, wondering who might be about to do this. Within minutes they were bickering over who of them would end up the greatest. But Jesus intervened:

Jesus (All): Kings like to throw their weight around and people in authority like to give themselves fancy titles. It's not going to be that way with you. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant. Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You'd rather eat and be served, right? But I've taken my place among you as the one who serves...

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Hymn: "We Come to the Hungry Feast" #479 ELW

**Vs. 1: We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**Vs. 2: We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**Vs. 3: We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,
the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.**

APOSTLES CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: 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 the Church

Following each petition the congregation will sing "Jesus, Remember Me" #616 ELW one time through.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

P: Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence and music begins to play in the background.

Congregation Sings...

P: Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all

who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days. **God of grace,**

Congregation Sings...

P: Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. **God of grace,**

Congregation Sings...

P: Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. **God of grace,**

Congregation Sings...

P: Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need. **God of grace,**

Congregation Sings...

P: In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. **God of grace,**

Congregation Sings...

P: We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead. Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. **God of grace,**

Congregation Sings...

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C: Amen.

The Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Sit

Offering and Hymn: "For the Bread Which You Have Broken" #494 ELW

**Vs. 1: For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**Vs. 2: By the promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

**Vs. 3: With the saints who now adore you,
Seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.**

**Vs. 4: In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.**

Words of Institution

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**

Invitation to Communion

**P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread. The body and blood of our
Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting. Amen.**

The Fourth Graders, their families and the congregation are invited to come forward and kneel at the rails. "What Feast of Love" (#487 ELW) is played while the congregation communes.

Communion Distribution

Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

Stripping of the Altar

Music as the altar is stripped. After the altar is stripped, please leave the sanctuary in silence.



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Noon and 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday:

8:00 a.m. – Festival Worship

9:00 a.m. – Easter Egg Hunt

9:15 a.m. Worship Lite Festival Worship

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Easter Breakfast