

Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024 7:00pm

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa
Pastor Stephanie Wood † Pastor Kirsten Lee

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.

Congregational response in bold.

Announcements

Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane (v. 1-3)..... ELW 347

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane,
 all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
 your Redeemer's conflict see.
 Watch with him one bitter hour;
 turn not from his griefs away;
 learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

- 2 Follow to the judgment hall,
 view the Lord of life arraigned;
 oh, the wormwood and the gall!
 Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!

Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
learn from him to bear the cross.

- 3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry;
learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Confession and Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and evil—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.

(Silence 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.

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. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

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. Amen.

Heart & Voice Choir Anthem

O Christ Thou Lamb of God

Scripture Reading | 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel | John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray him. And during supper 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, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon 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. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

Hand Washing

Lord Jesus, on the night that you were betrayed you took a towel and a basin, and you washed your disciples' feet. Even Judas'. You said, "If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

Tonight, we gather before you **With open hands.**

We are **Humbled by your act of service.**

In this water, wash our wandering hearts clean. With each drop filled with your love, reclaim us as your servants sent to care for our neighbor.

Hymns During the Hand Washing

Ubi Caritas Et Amor (sing through multiple times) ELW 642

Ubi caritas et amor,
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

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

Jesus, Remember Me (sing through multiple times) ELW 616

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus asks us, "Do you know what I have done to you?" **You have made us one body in Christ.**

We are bound together in this act of love. **We are no longer divided by all that enslaves us but in you we know your liberating peace and reconciling ways.**

Tonight, we came **With open hands.**

With you, we are sent **To be of service to others.**

Prayers of the People

Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Call to Offering

A new commandment you have given us: That we give ourselves for each other, just as you gave yourself for us. That we love one another, just as you have loved us. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God.

Offering Song

Create in Me a Clean Heart ELW 186

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, **you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered so that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

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 Songs

As the Grains of Wheat ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Eat This Bread (sing through multiple times)..... ELW 472

"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."

Prayer After Communion

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

Stay With Me (sing through multiple times) ELW 348
Janice Gibbs *Bassoon*, Bill McCullough *Vocals*

Stay with me,
remain here with me,
watch and pray.
Watch and pray.

Psalm 22 Litany

This psalm tells of the great agony felt by Christ as he was approaching his death. Jesus was stripped of his power and glory. Beaten and bruised, he was handed over to his captors for trial.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? I have cried desperately for help, but still it does not come. During the day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. I call at night but get no rest. Our ancestors put their trust in you; they trusted you, and you saved them. They called to you and escaped from danger; they trusted you and were not disappointed. I am a worm and no longer human, despised and scorned by everyone! All who see me make fun of me; they stick out their tongues and shake their heads. "You relied on the Lord," they say. "Why doesn't he save you? If the Lord likes you, why doesn't he help you?"

Lord God eternal, in your mercy hear me.

It was you who brought me safely through birth, and when I was a baby, you kept me safe. I have relied on you since the day I was born, and you have always been my God.

Lord God eternal, in your mercy hear me.

Many enemies surround me like bulls; they are all around me, like fierce bulls from the land of Bashan. They open their mouths like lions, roaring and tearing at me. My strength is gone, like water spilled on the ground. All my bones are out of joint; my heart is like melted wax. My throat is as dry as dust, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You have left me for dead in the dust. Like a pack of dogs, the wicked close in on me, tearing at my hands and feet. All my bones can be seen. My enemies gamble for my clothes and divide them among themselves. I will tell my people what you have done; I will praise you in their assembly: "The Lord does not neglect the poor or ignore their suffering; he does not turn away from them, but answers when they call for help."

Lord God eternal, in your mercy hear me.

The poor will eat as much as they want; those who come to the Lord will praise him. May they prosper forever! All nations will remember the Lord. From every part of the world, they will turn to him; all races will worship him who is the King, who rules the nations. All who sleep in the earth will bow down to him, all who go down to the dust. Future generations will serve him; they will be told about the Lord. People not yet born will be told: "The Lord saved his people!"

Lord God eternal, in your mercy hear me.

Stripping of the Altar

*The worship tonight ends, but the story continues tomorrow at 7pm.
Today marks the beginning of what is known as "The Three Days".
Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are days that
the church remembers and celebrates what is at the center of
God's story of love - the death and resurrection of Jesus.*

Serving in Worship

Assisting Minister	Claudia Wood
Communion Assistants	Claudia Wood, Ruth McAndrews, Ruth Naber, Kathy Shriver
Hand Washing	Cindy Lee
Stripping the Altar	Gloria Lange, Kathy Higgins
Greeters	Deb Gustafson, Rod Levens, Jr.
Ushers	Ruthann Neumann, Ruth McAndrews
Sound System	Chuck Lehman
Altar Guild	Mike Keller
Tech Assistant	Vey Rodriguez
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish

Join us for Holy Week Services

Good Friday March 29 7:00pm
Easter Sunday March 31 8:30am & 10:30am



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