

WA: For those who are hungry and homeless, poor, and sick that they may not grow weary or lose heart but trust that their lives are embraced by the cross of Christ, let us pray to the Lord,

C: Lord, have mercy.

WA: For the faithful departed with whom we are united in the communion of saints, that our voices may join theirs in the unending song of heaven, let us pray to the Lord,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Gracious God, hear our prayers and receive them for the sake of the crucified and risen one, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen

THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of glory,

C: receive these gifts and the offering of our lives.

**As Jesus was lifted up from the earth,
draw us to your heart in the midst of this world,
that all creation may be brought
from bondage to freedom,
from darkness to light, and from death to life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the supper of the Lord. Share in the bread and cup of salvation.

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD AND WINE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament

you have left us a memorial of your suffering and death.

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

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The linens, parament, and candles are removed from the altar and chancel.

As this is done, Psalm 22 is read by all. (See Insert)

There is no blessing. All leave the church in silence



MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 24, 2016

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lena, Illinois



MAUNDY THURSDAY

On this day the Christian community gathers to share in the holy supper Christ gave the church to reveal his unfailing love for the human family. In the actions of this liturgy, Christ demonstrates this love by speaking his faithful word, washing our feet, and giving us his body and blood. From this gathering we are sent to continue these actions in daily life: to serve those in need, to offer mercy, to feed those who are hungry.

This first liturgy of the Three Days has no ending; it continues with the worship of Good Friday and concludes with the Vigil of Easter. Together the Three Days proclaim the mystery of our faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Hymn: 359 Where Charity and Love Prevail

P In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our 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 committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us make confession to God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Almighty God, merciful Father:

C I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.

Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his 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

C Amen

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

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, whom with you and the Holy Spirit we worship and praise, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4 11-14

The 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. The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 116:1, 10-17

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.

¹⁰**How shall I re- | pay the LORD* for all the good things he has | done for me?**

¹¹I will lift up the cup | of salvation* and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹²**I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD* in the presence of | all his people.**

¹³Precious in the sight | of the LORD* is the death | of his servants.

¹⁴**O LORD, I | am your servant;* I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me | from my bonds.**

¹⁵I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving* and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹⁶**I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD* in the presence of | all his people,**

¹⁷in the courts of | the LORD's house,* in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: 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, 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.

The word of the Lord,

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35\

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. 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."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

SERMON:

HYMN: 471 Let us Break Bread Together

THE PRAYERS

WA: As the cross draws us to new life in Christ, let us pray for all who stand in need of grace, hope, and life. *A brief silence.*

WA: For the church strengthened in word and sacrament, that it would follow Christ's life of loving service and self-giving sacrifice, let us pray to the Lord,

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

WA: For the world shaken by terror and violence, that its leaders and all people would be set free to love and serve one another with peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord,

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

WA: For everyone overshadowed by fear and anxiety, that through the ministry of the church they would find light in their darkness and protection in their trials, let us pray to the Lord,

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

³Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver — let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

My hands and feet have shriveled; ¹⁷I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me; ¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,

and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;

he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.