

SELF-PRESERVATION
HYPOCRISY
REPENTANCE
HUMILITY BETRAYAL
BRUTALITY PRAISE
MISGUIDED ZEAL



NAIL-PIERCED

Hands of the Passion
Maundy Thursday 2021

*Welcome to our Maundy Thursday
Worship Service
St. John's Lutheran Church
Neillsville, WI
April 1, 2021*

"Welcome Visitors & Members!" *To those who are visiting us, we extend our sincere welcome; to our friends who know us we renew our welcome; to those who seek a church home we invite you to be part of our family and enjoy fellowship with our Savior.*

To assist you in worship, please be aware that personal listening devices are available for anyone to use. Please talk to the ushers.

Holy Communion: *St. John's Lutheran Church practices member communion. We ask, therefore, that only those who are members of St. John's or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament.*

Communion Note: *If there are any members who don't feel comfortable coming up to the front for communion, please let Pastor or one of the ushers know. We will be happy to serve you the Lord's Supper where you are sitting. Please don't hesitate to ask.*

Introduction: *Maundy Thursday (from the Latin mandatum, meaning "command," John 13:34) recalls Christ's institution of Holy Communion at the Last Supper on the night he was betrayed. During the Passover meal, Jesus gave the disciples his body and blood together with the bread and wine. Each time we celebrate this sacrament we "proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26).*

Order of Worship

Invocation

P: Come, let us bow down in worship

C: **let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;**

P: for he is our God

C: **and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.**

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father,
I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.
In what I have done and left undone,
I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.
I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.
For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.
I am truly sorry for my sins.
I repent of them.
I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

Silence for meditation

P: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

**C: Cleanse me from my sins.
Release me from my guilt.
Grant me your Holy Spirit to change for the better my sinful life.**

P: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Exhortation

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

C: Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Responsive Prayer

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross.

C: **Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this Sacrament to our eternal good, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:21-30

²¹Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and take lambs for yourselves according to your family size, and slaughter the Passover lamb. ²²You shall take a bundle of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and paint the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you are to go out of the door of your house until morning. ²³When the LORD passes through to strike Egypt and sees the blood on the lintel and the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you.

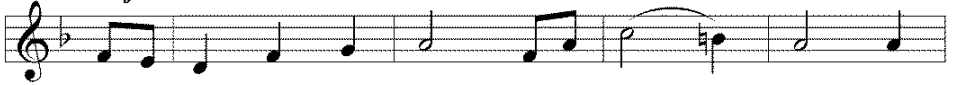
²⁴“You shall observe these instructions as a perpetual regulation for you and your descendants. ²⁵When you enter the land that the LORD will give you just as he said he would, you shall observe this ceremony. ²⁶So when your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ ²⁷you will say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the Passover to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. When he struck the Egyptians, he spared our houses.’”

The people bowed down and worshipped. ²⁸The Israelites went and did all this. They did just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron.

²⁹At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on his throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner who was in the dungeon, even all the firstborn of the livestock. ³⁰During the night Pharaoh got up—he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians—and there was a loud outcry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not someone dead.

We Sing Psalm 116

Refrain

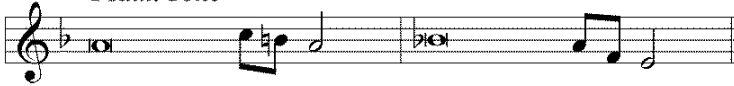


I will lift up the cup of sal - va - tion and



call on the name of the Lord.

Psalm Tone



I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;
when I was in great need, he saved me.

Refrain

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

How can I repay the LORD
for all his goodness to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

Glory be 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.

Refrain

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:16,17

¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Verse of the Day: 1 Corinthians 11:26

As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Gospel Reading: Mark 14:12-26

¹²*On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?"* ¹³*He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and there a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Wherever he enters, tell the owner of the house that the Teacher says, 'Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'* ¹⁵*He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."*

¹⁶*His disciples left and went into the city and found things just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.*

¹⁷*When it was evening, he arrived with the Twelve.*

¹⁸*While they were reclining and eating, Jesus said, "Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."*

¹⁹*They began to be sorrowful and said to him one by one, "Surely not I?"*

²⁰*He said to them, "It is one of the Twelve, one who is dipping bread with me in the dish. ²¹Indeed, the Son of Man is going to go just as it has been written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."*

²²*While they were eating, Jesus took bread. When he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take it. This is my body."*

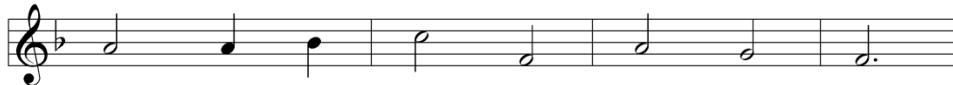
²³*Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them. They all drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, "This is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Amen I tell you: I will certainly not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." ²⁶After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

Congregational Response: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

136 'Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night



1 'Twas on that dark, that dole - ful night
 2 Be - fore the mourn - ful scene be - gan,
 3 "This is my bod - y, slain for sin;
 4 "Do this," he said, "till time shall end,
 5 Je - sus, your feast we cel - e - brate;



When pow'rs of earth and hell a - rose
 He took the bread and blessed and broke.
 Re - ceive and eat the liv - ing food."
 In mem - 'ry of your dy - ing friend;
 We show your death; we sing your name



A - gainst the Son, our God's de - light,
 What love through all his ac - tions ran!
 Then took the cup and blessed the wine:
 Meet at my ta - ble and re - cord eat
 Till you re - turn and we shall eat



And friends be - trayed him to his foes.
 What won - drous words of grace he spoke!
 "'Tis the new cov - 'nant in my blood."
 The love of your de - part - ed Lord."
 The mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
 Tune: ST. CROSS (LM) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

Sermon Text: John 13:1-5,12-17

Sermon Theme: Hands of Humility

Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved those who were his own in the world, he loved them to the end.

²By the time the supper took place, the Devil had already put the idea into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus.

³Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God. ⁴He got up from the supper and laid aside his outer garment. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

¹²After Jesus had washed their feet and put on his outer garment, he reclined at the table again. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me Teacher and Lord. You are right, because I am. ¹⁴Now if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵Yes, I have given you an example so that you also would do just as I have done for you. ¹⁶Amen, Amen, I tell you: A servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD...

...with Prayer

P: Our Savior Jesus Christ, God provided us with a Passover Lamb to save us from eternal death when he sent you into our world and sacrificed you on the cross for our sins.

C: **Oh, work true repentance in our hearts, causing each of us to make sincere confession of our sins and to believe with joyful trust that he has forgiven us for your sake.**

P: May your body and blood, given and shed for our sins and imparted to us here this evening in bread and wine in that Supper which commemorates your death,

C: **ever nourish our faith, cheer our hearts, and strengthen our will to live godly and upright lives.**

P: Gracious Lord, drive out all hypocrisy from our hearts, and grant to each one a heart truly set upon you and lips that make bold and honest declaration of your name to others.

C: Do not allow Satan to rob us of the treasures of heaven by tempting us to love the treasures and pleasures of this world.

P: As you went resolutely forth to meet the enemy, intent on doing the Father's will,

C: so may we be set to obey him in everything, so that what pleases him pleases us.

P: By your Spirit help us to watch and pray at all times and to be fully aware of the weaknesses of our flesh. And if the time of victory over our sinful flesh and the wicked world seems long in coming and the evil on every hand depresses us,

C: teach us to find joy and courage through believing your promises of everlasting salvation.

P: Precious Redeemer, may your face that once received the blows of the soldiers and that once reflected the burden of our sins and the anguish of hell be ever turned toward us in love and tenderness.

C: Let no one in this Christian congregation who has known you as Friend and Lord, as well as Savior, ever betray your love.

P: And may the dear blood once shed for us be for our sins the perfect cleansing power.

C: Hear us to the glory of your name, holy Redeemer. Amen.

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.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

...with Reception of the Lord's Supper

Preparation for the Lord's Supper (adapted from Martin Luther's Small Catechism-The Sacrament of Holy Communion)

P: Who is properly prepared to receive this sacrament?

All: **Fasting and other outward preparations may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words: "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins."**

But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is not prepared, because the words "for you" require nothing but hearts that believe.

P: What blessing do we receive through this eating and drinking?

All: **That is shown us by these words, "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins."**

Through these words we receive forgiveness of sins, life and salvation in this sacrament.

For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

P: How can eating and drinking do such great things?

All: **It is certainly not the eating and drinking that does such things, but the words, "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins."**

These words are the main thing in this sacrament, along with the eating and drinking.

And whoever believes these words has what they plainly say, the forgiveness of sins.

All: **Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Distribution

Prayer

P: Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing us in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let us always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

C: **Amen. (*sung*)**

Benediction, followed by sung "Amen"

Closing Hymn: 310:12-15

**12 With you, Lord, I am now united;
I live in you and you in me.
No sorrow fills my soul; delighted,
It finds its peace on Calvary.**

Refrain

**Lord, may your body and your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

**13 Who can condemn me now? For surely
The Lord is near, who justifies.
No hell I fear, and thus securely
With Jesus I to heaven rise. *Refrain***

**14 Though death may threaten with disaster,
It cannot rob me of my cheer,
For he who is of death the master
With help and strength is always near. *Refrain***

**15 My heart has now become your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, your praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally. *Refrain***

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Check out our Facebook pages.

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Services Broadcast on Cable Channel 977:

Sunday Services--Sundays at 10:30 a.m. & Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Mauddy Thursday Service-1:00 p.m. on April 2