



Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



Maundy Thursday

April 1st, 2021

Triduum



During Holy Week, we join with Christians around the world in observing the Three Days, known by their Latin name, the Triduum. They are the pinnacle of the church year, beginning with the evening service on Maundy Thursday, and continuing through the Sunday evening of Easter. We travel with Jesus from last supper, to his betrayal and trial, to the moment of the cross, to his burial, and finally to the joy and promise of the empty tomb. These three days are observed not only in remembrance of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection, but so that we might be able to enter these experiences ourselves. We remember that through baptism we are joined to Christ's death and resurrection. As we move through these three days, we ponder the depth and the mystery of God's love, we reflect on the meaning of Christ's presence in our lives, and we give thanks for all that God has done. We are again raised with him and, brimming with hope, we are empowered and sent as messengers and servants into the world.





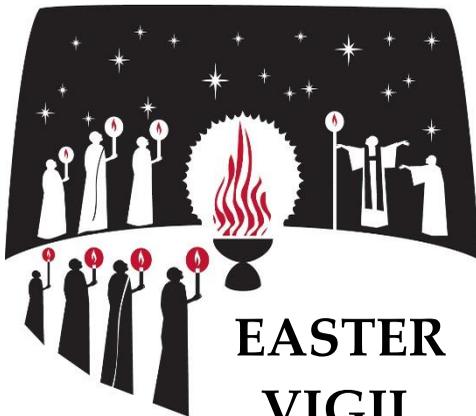
MAUNDY *Thursday*

Maundy Thursday centers on Jesus' commandment to love one another, and is the origin of two of the church's most ancient, and sacred acts. The symbolic act of foot-washing helps to remind us that we are called to a life of service and love. At the Lord's Table we remember Jesus' sacrifice. We receive God's grace, forgiveness, and love through bread and wine; and we are strengthened so that we might offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

+ *Good* Friday



Good Friday is a somber celebration as we travel with Jesus through the final hours of his life by way of his seven last words, read within the story of the passion. This is intended to be a time of personal meditation and reflection. Good Friday is the day we contemplate the cross, and the lengths to which our God would go to save us all. God's love, grace, and promise all meet in the moment of the cross, and we receive God's promise to show up in all of the crucifixion moments of our own lives.



EASTER VIGIL

The **Easter Vigil** is the earliest service of the church, with portions of the liturgy dating back to the 4th century. The church has always vigiled all Saturday night, "because we do not know at what hour our Lord arose from the tomb." The Vigil is also the traditional time of baptism, with the newly baptized coming immediately into their first service of Holy Communion at Easter dawn. Easter Vigil at Bethlehem is joyous and raucous and full of resurrection hope.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

JuBellation Ringers

WELCOME & LENTEN LAMENT

L: God of the journey, it feels as though we have been on this Lenten pilgrimage for far longer than 40 days. The pandemic has changed us in so many ways, some of which we are abundantly aware of, and some that we will not fully understand for quite some time. And much like last year, the joy of Easter morning will not mark the end of this journey. Our path stretches on far beyond our limited sight, and we are filled with a sacred mixture of grief and hope, anger and expectation, fatigue and promise. And so, we enter into a time of lament. A time to name that which burdens our hearts, that which pierces our souls, that which is too great for us to carry by ourselves.

Time for silent reflection

L: We lament to you O God, knowing that you hear the cries of your people. We lift up to you everything that troubles our hearts:
The trials this past year has brought.
The losses we have endured.
The grief we have carried.
The anxiety of this ever-changing landscape.
The exhaustion of mind, body, and spirit.
The anger that we are not used to and do not know what to do with.
The pain of being overlooked and taken for granted.
The empty places in our lives and hearts that nothing seems to fill.
These and so much more we lament, we rage, we cry unto you.

C: God hears the cries of our hearts, everything that echoes in the chambers of our souls, and grieves with us. There is a wideness to God's mercy, and room enough for all that we struggle to carry. Transform us as we travel with Jesus through death into new life over the next three days. And always remind us of the hope to be found in the coming resurrection dawn. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say – GC 622



1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's



1. rest; Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up -
2. give The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down, and
3. light; Look un - to me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy



1. on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I was, So
2. drink, and live." I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of
3. day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I found In



1. wea - ry, worn and sad; I found in him a
2. that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was quenched, my
3. him my star, my sun; And in that light of



1. rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
2. soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
3. life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

PRAYER OF THE NIGHT

L: Let us pray,

C: 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, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Inspire us to be beacons of love, not to be served, but to serve others, following the example of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

SCRIPTURE 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, 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.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to God with all your heart, the source of grace and
mer - cy; come seek the ten - der faith - ful - ness of God.

GOSPEL READING

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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. “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.”

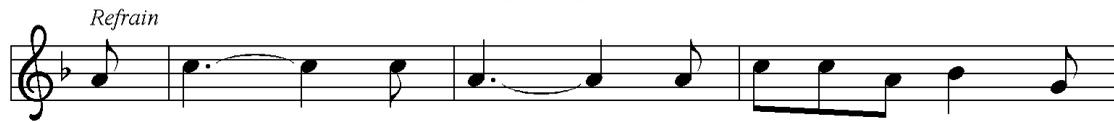
R: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Sam Nelson

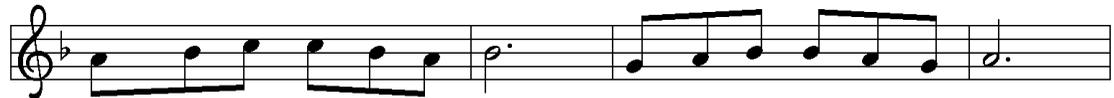
Refrain



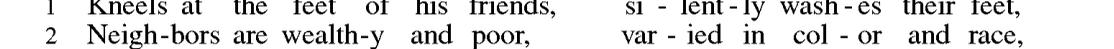
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



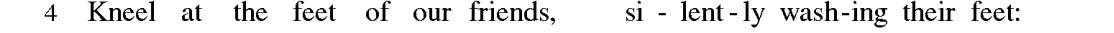
1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,



2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,



3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;

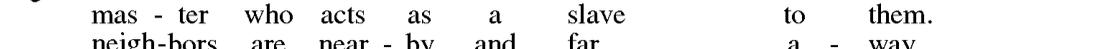


4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

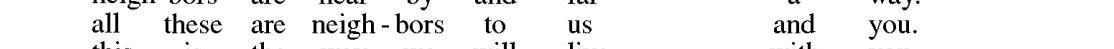
Refrain



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.



neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.



all these are neigh - bors to us and you.



this is the way we will live with you.

FOOT WASHING AND HAND WASHING

The tradition of foot washing is an ancient one. In some instances it served a practical purpose: to wash away the dust that was the natural result of walking in sandals on dirt roads. In this instance, the foot-washing that Jesus did was not an act of hygiene but a ritual act of purification. Foot-washing was a task that was reserved for the lowliest of menial servants and it was unheard of for someone to have their feet washed by a peer or a superior. In this simple act Jesus serves as a model for Christian humility and calls us all to live a life of service to others.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always, C: And also with you!

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- L: The Lord be with you, C: **And also with you.**
L: Lift up your hearts, C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

**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.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Let Us Break Bread Together – ELW 471



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



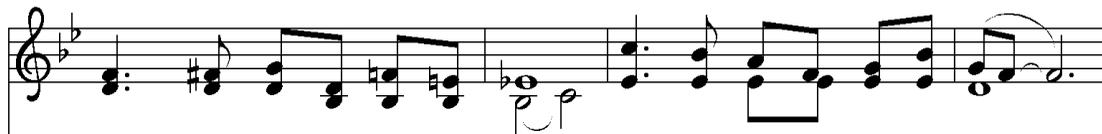
sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

SENDING

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR & READING OF PSALM 22

SENDING HYMN

Just a Closer Walk with Thee – ELW 697



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;
1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*

The Maundy Thursday worship concludes without a benediction.

The three days of the Triduum are meant to be treated as three parts of one worship service.

Our Good Friday service will be slightly different in format from tonight, and is intended to be a time for reflection, meditation, and prayer.

It will be posted tomorrow evening.

We thank you for your participation in this unique way of celebrating Holy Week this year, as we explore new understandings of what it means to be a community of faith.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“**Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love**” - Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000; Tune CHEREPONI: Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin; both - ©1989 Hope Publishing Company. For copyrighted selections, all rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net License No. A-706214. Other hymn selections are in the Public Domain. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-7062.

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STAFF

Pastors

Laura Ziehl
Sam Nelson

Family Ministry Director

Constance Mithelman

Early Childhood Center

Debi Carr – Full Day Preschool Director
Kelly Perez – Half Day Preschool Director

Office Administrator

Judy Foland

Music Ministries

Mona Goetsch – Director
Judy Collier – Pianist/Organist

Ministries & Programs

Laure Reynolds – Stephen Ministry
Rose Moldenhauer – Parish Nurse

All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.

**The Mission of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is
to announce boldly the love of God through Christ.**



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church
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