

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ,
and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Maundy Thursday
April 2, 2026
12:00 and 7:00 pm

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to
receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward
starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the
center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship
assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief
moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in
the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so
that all may freely receive. Children who do not commune may come forward for a
blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to
remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at
the beginning of distribution.

*With nightfall, 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.*

*At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is
Jesus' commandment to love one another.
As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example
as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved.*

*At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life,
even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.*

“As we prepare our hearts for worship, keep silent and listen to the birds.”

Words of Welcome

The birds announce God's glory! They remind us of the love of God we often don't pay attention to, but it is always there, singing for us. Welcome! Welcome to this place and to this community. Here we are reminded again that the love of God awaits you and that we are the expression of God's love to one another. We come to church not to forget this love. We are here to remind ourselves: God's love is like birds singing every day. That is the good news we have: the love of God! When we feel we have nothing else, we can lean on the love of God.

As we gather today, we are called to listen to the new commandment by Jesus: “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.” To love is to listen—to listen to each other, to the signs of life everywhere. It is also to listen to the silence within us. Throughout this service we will learn how to sit in silence and listen. Listen to our hearts, listen to God's voice, listen to each other. Just as we listened to God's love through the birds, let us now listen to God's love through each other's voices.

Please rise in body or spirit.

Call to confession

We come to worship feeling the burdens of life that only God knows. But we also come feeling weary, tired, sad, frustrated, angry, exhausted, spent, not knowing what to do, how to live our lives fully, or how to fix things. Our world is so confusing right now, and we are feeling lost. It is time to confess to God the things we carry and don't tell anybody, the things that we feel we can't speak, and the things we don't know how to speak. I will lead us in a responsive reading and then after the Assurance of Pardon we will have a time for Individual Absolution.

God of love,
we come to you feeling a thousand feelings.
There is too much going on,
and we don't know how to handle it all.
We don't even know how to put words to all that we are going through.
Hear our prayers.

God of love,
we come to you wanting total control over our lives, the stories we live,
the people around us, and our own desires.
Hear our prayers.

God of love,
we also come to you feeling numb.
Hear our prayers.

God of love,
we come to you in silence.
Hear our prayers.

God of love,
we come to you because you are the source of life.
Hear our prayers.

The assembly is seated.

Individual Absolution

You may come forward and kneel or stand for Individual Absolution.

*The pastor addresses each person, saying:
“In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.”*

*Each person responds: **Amen***

The assembly may remain seated.

Assurance of pardon

Hear this good news: the God of love listens to you attentively. “As an eagle stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, as it spreads its wings, takes them up, and bears them aloft on its pinions.” We are all listened to. We are all forgiven.

Amen

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus


Today is Maundy Thursday, the beginning of what in Christianity we call the Triduum, a period of three days that tells the story of the final days of Jesus’ life.

On Maundy Thursday, we honor Jesus’ last meal with his disciples and prepare for the three days ahead. And so, today, we will share Communion and wash each other’s feet (or hands). On Good Friday, we remember Jesus’ death. On Holy Saturday, the Saturday of Alleluia, we wait in the silence between death and resurrection.

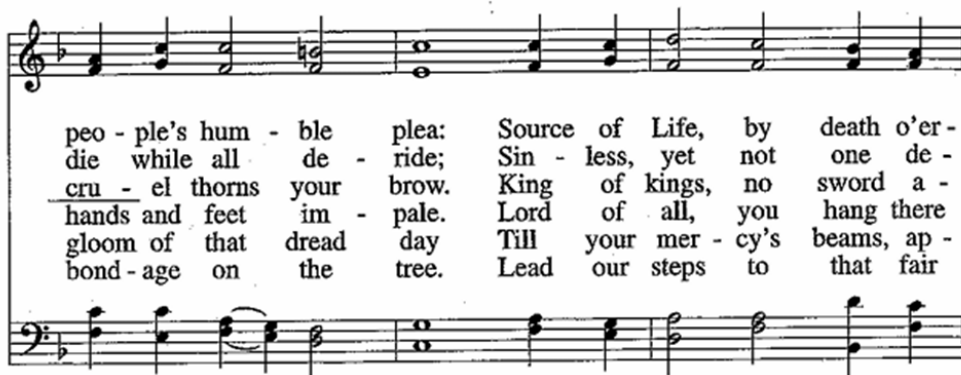
On Sunday, we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection. Let us now turn to scripture, revisiting the events leading up to Jesus’ final hours.

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came,
and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them.
He approached Jesus to kiss him,
but Jesus said to him,
“Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?”
When those who were around him saw what was coming,
they asked, “Lord, should we strike with the sword?”
Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest
and cut off his right ear.
But Jesus said, “No more of this!”
And he touched his ear and healed him.
Then Jesus said to the chief priests,
the officers of the temple police,
and the elders who had come for him,
“Have you come out with swords and clubs as though I were a rebel?
When I was with you day after day in the temple,
you did not lay hands on me.
But this is your hour and the power of darkness!”

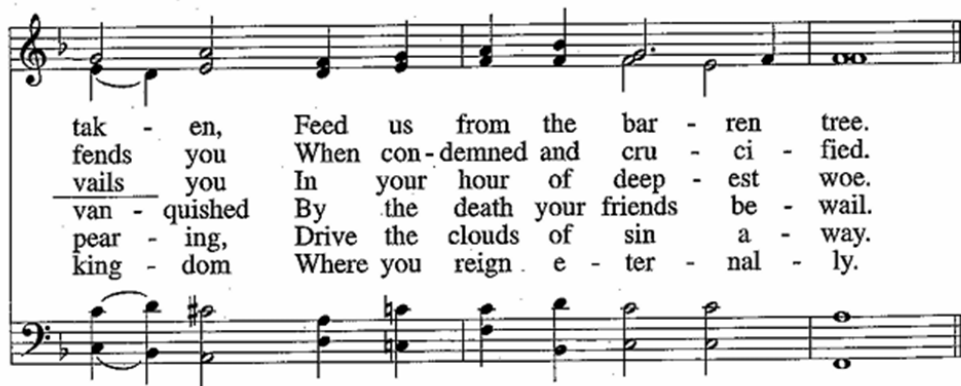
Reflection on the Scripture



1. Son of God, by God for - sak - en, Hear your
 2. Friend of sin - ners, none be - friends you, Left to
 3. Son of Man, your foes as - sail you, Crown with
 4. Heal - er of the bro - ken, an - guished, Nails your
 5. Light of light, no bright-ness cheer - ing Rends the
 6. Come, O Christ, and grant us free - dom By your



peo - ple's hum - ble plea: Source of Life, by death o'er -
 die while all de - ride; Sin - less, yet not one de -
 cru - el thorns your brow. King of kings, no sword a -
 hands and feet im - pale. Lord of all, you hang there
 gloom of that dread day Till your mer - cy's beams, ap -
 bond - age on the tree. Lead our steps to that fair



tak - en, Feed us from the bar - ren tree.
 fends you When con - demned and cru - ci - fied.
 veils you In your hour of deep - est woe.
 van - quished By the death your friends be - wail.
 pear - ing, Drive the clouds of sin a - way.
 king - dom Where you reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

Once again, let us turn to scripture, hearing the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet.

Scripture Reading - John 13:1-35

Translation: NRSVue

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 decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. 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 supper, 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 reclined again, 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, slaves 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. I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen.

But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe that I am he. Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me." After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, "Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me."

The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining close to his heart; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." Now no one knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the festival," or that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

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."

Reflection on the Scripture

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way
Verses 1 & 3

1. Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way Wher -
 2. You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But
 3. No gold - en scepter but a towel You
 4. You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor
 5. Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way Wher -

ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
 pow'r you laid a - side. You lived your years in
 place with - in the hands Of those who seek to
 count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the
 ev - er love may lead And bend - ing low, for -

get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.
 ser - vant - hood, In low - li - ness you died.
 fol - low you And live by your com - mands.
 mean - est task That waits the gift of love.
 get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.

Foot / Hand Washing

Jesus said, "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 for you.**

*Those who wish, may come forward to have their feet or hands washed.
The following hymns are sung:*

Hymn


Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

ELW 708

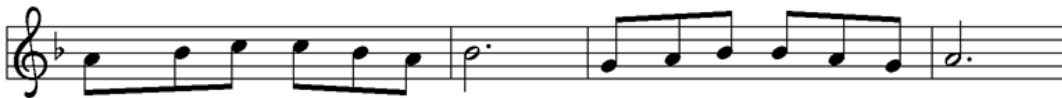
Refrain



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.



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

(12:00) Musical OfferingHymn of the Last Supper
Lisa Walton, solo

Demarest

(7:00) Musical OfferingHow Beautiful
Spirit Voices

Paris/Harlan

Offering Prayer

We pray.

Lord Jesus, on this night you gave us a new commandment: to love one another.

Receive these offerings as a sign of our commitment to that love.

May our lives and our resources reflect the sacrifice you were prepared to make for us.

We pray this in the name of the One who serves.

Amen

Prayers

Invitation to prayer:

On this night when Jesus gave us a new commandment to love one another, let us bring our prayers before the One whose love knows no bounds.

Following the words, "Lord, hear our prayer," we sing:

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us. Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us. Feed us, quench us, bless us,
guide us. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us.

Pastor's closing prayer.

We thank you, God, for your good, good news.

We lift our prayers to you certain of your peace and presence in our lives.

Amen

Please rise in body or spirit.

Holy Communion / The Eucharist

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of love, you have listened to your people throughout history. You have given them light and shelter, warmth and nourishment. In Jesus, you have shown us how to love and care for each other, especially the most vulnerable. Today we want to listen to you as we listen to each other.

Your glory shines everywhere and we are grateful!

We say, "Glory! Glory! Glory!"

Your ears are on the ground for those who have nobody!

We say, "Thank you, God! Thank you, God! Thank you, God!"

Your presence is never away from us, but moves within our breathing!

We say, "Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh!"

The night before Jesus was arrested by the police of the empire, he washed the feet of his disciples and taught them to embody the symbol of the towel everywhere they went: offering care and love, being of service. As Jesus washed the disciples' feet, he listened to their words, sounds, and breathing.

God of silence and God of thunder,

we listened to the birds, searching for your glory in the natural world.

We listened to a song,

searching for the beauty we humans can create.

We listened to each other as our hands and feet were washed, using the towel to restore and care for one another.

We praise you for your steadfast love and your companionship.

The world is so hard right now, but we have all we need!

We have the towel, we have food, we have each other, we have your Spirit.

Because of your steadfast love, we have enough for everyone!

And now we will feed each other with your food for us.

In the name of the God of sustenance, there is enough bread for everyone here to eat.

The minister raises the bread and says,

Look friends, God has food for you and for me. As a sign of love, Jesus says “remember me,” so no one goes hungry! Now look at the bread and for a time of silence, contemplate all the ways we can work to make sure no one in this community will go hungry or unassisted.

Then, the minister pours the wine, raises the cup, and says:

Look friends, God has given us this cup to quench our thirst and find joy! As a sign of love, Jesus says, “remember me,” so no one goes without joy in their lives! Now look at the cup and for a time of silence, contemplate all the ways we will strive to live God’s joy by spreading joy and laughter in this congregation!

Celtic Version of the Lord’s Prayer

Thankful for the opportunity to be together today, we turn to you in prayer with new words of the prayer you taught us to pray.

**Holy One beyond all names,
Eternal Wellspring,
may love rise again in us today
with food for every table,
shelter for every family,
and reverence for every life.
Forgive us our failings in love
and free us from all falseness,
that the light of our souls may shine,
and the strength of our spirits endure
for Earth and all its people,
this day, tonight, and forever.
Amen**

Invitation to the Table

Friends, the food is before us. We have listened to God and to each other. Now we will feed each other as if God is feeding us. The world is too difficult, but the good news is: we are here for each other to share the love of a God who will never stop loving us. We pray that God uses the gifts of this food to nourish our bodies, hearts, and souls. Bless this bread, bless this wine, bless these towels, bless our people, bless our community, bless the world. **Amen**

The assembly is seated.

Communion Song

Go to Dark Gethsemane
Verses 1 - 3

ELW 347



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

VERSE

♩ = 52



Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide; But You have sent Him from Your
 Your gift of) love they cru - ci - fied; They laughed and scorned Him as He
 I was so) lost I should have died; But You have brought me to Your

| 1



side, to walk up - on this guilt - y sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
 died. The hum - ble King they named a fraud, and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of
 side to be led by Your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of

CHORUS

(1) | 2, 3



Your gift of God. Oh Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God. I love the ho - ly Lamb of

| 1



God. Oh, wash me in His pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

OUTRO

(1) | 2



I was so Christ, the Lamb of God.

Communion Prayer

We pray.

God of gatherings, life is much less frightening when we are together, when we care for each other, when we are able to listen to each other. Then we can find joy even in the most difficult days of our lives. We are grateful, for it is your love that brings us here, and we honor you and one another for this unending love. Take us back home, now prepared for the days ahead. For in you we can go through the darkest night of the soul and rise again in your love! **Amen**

In one final time of silence, let us contemplate how we can better care for each other.

Stripping of the Altar & Reading of Psalm 22

The assembly remains in prayer reflecting on Christ's upcoming death.

All depart in silence.

What is the symbolism behind stripping the altar?

Congregations incorporate this act of humility into their Maundy Thursday services.

After the Eucharist is celebrated it is customary to "strip the altar," which symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion.

The blessing and dismissal are omitted to keep our vigil during the Great Three Days, the Triduum, (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday), until Easter Day.

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Ministers

12:00 pm – Becky Keane
7:00 pm – Alice Mudge

Readers

12:00 pm – Linda Devine, Sue Reiss
7:00 pm – Craig Kauffman, Jeff Gross

Communion Assistants

12:00 pm – Leesa Wimmer
7:00 pm – Sue Smith, Rob Smith

Greeters

12:00 pm – Becky Keane
7:00 pm – Fran Derhammer

Ushers

7:00 pm – Bill Derhammer

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Lexi H., Max H., XJ H., Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross,
Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz,
Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Bob Rice, Carolyn Rice, Terri Hinderliter, Linda Letts, Jennifer Wetzel,
Marian Harrison, Donna Bhagat, Lynda Swartz, Cindy Clark, Deb Stevens,
Julie Timmcke, Robbie Flynn