

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This 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. [Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire.] 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. ¹²I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and 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. ¹⁴“This 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.”

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19**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.

GOSPEL: 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. ²The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. 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 supper, 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 reclined again, 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, slaves 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.”

Next Sunday’s Readings: Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 28:1-10 or John 20:1-18.

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*This is my body
that is for you*

1 CORINTHIANS 11:24

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

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.

PRELUDE & SILENT PRAYER

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

M: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to 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 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 and self-examination

M: Most merciful God,

C: 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.

M: 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.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Now It Is Evening

ELW 572 (tune 556)
(Morning Has Broken)

- 1 ***Now it is evening: lights of the city
bid us remember Christ is our light.
Many are lonely, who will be neighbor?
Where there is caring, Christ is our light.***
- 2 ***Now it is evening: food on the table
bids us remember Christ is our life.
Many are hungry, who will be neighbor?
Where there is sharing, Christ is our life.***
- 3 ***Now it is evening: little ones sleeping
bid us remember Christ is our peace.
Some are neglected, who will be neighbor?
Where there is caring, Christ is our peace.***
- 4 ***Now it is evening: here in our meeting
may we remember Christ is our friend.
Some may be strangers, who will be neighbor?
Where there's a welcome, Christ is our friend.***

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: 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.

C: Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Immanuel Choir

FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-14

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Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

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.

What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me?

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

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants.

Truly I am your servant, Lord; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.

I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord – in your midst, Jerusalem.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.

M: The Word of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Minister Marcia Buchs

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

WE GATHER OUR OFFERINGS

*OFFERING SONG *Please stand as you are able*

ELW 182

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

M: Let us pray...

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your

Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

M: 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.

A brief silence.

After each petition - P: Hear us, O God. **C: your mercy is great.**

M: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, confident that you will strengthen us by your Spirit to love one another as Christ has loved us. We ask this in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

M: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

M: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

M: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.
Congregation may be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We will gather at the railing by tables for Holy Communion this evening.
All are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. The inner circle of cups contain grape juice, the rest are wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers.

COMMUNION HYMNS

***Lamb of God
Let Us Break Bread Together***

ELW page 146
ELW 471

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

M: Let us pray together: Lord Jesus,

C: 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.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

As Psalm 22 is read, (see insert) the chancel is stripped.

When the psalm is completed, all may depart in silence.

There is no benediction this evening.

The service will continue with Good Friday liturgy tomorrow evening at 7:00 pm and we thank those who are assisting with worship:

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026

Good Friday, April 3, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: MINISTER MARCIA BUCHS

WORSHIP LEADERS: MINISTER MARCIA BUCHS

Lay Reader: Jerry Kukuck

Lay Reader: Suzie Kukuck

Greeters: Ron & Deb Jaskowiak

Greeters: Phil & Angie Kratochvil

Ushers/Acolytes: Phil & Angie Kratochvil

Ushers/Acolytes: Alec Harper, Acer Kratochvil

Communion: Denny & Amy Winterland

We will read Psalm 22 responsively as the altar is stripped.

The Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22

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

Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?

My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

Our ancestors put their trust in you, they trusted, and you rescued them.

They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

**But as for me, I am a worm and not human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.**

All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.

**“Trust in the Lord; let the Lord deliver;
let God rescue him if God so delights in him.”**

Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb,
and kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

**I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.**

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

Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

They open wide their jaws at me, like a slashing and roaring lion.

**I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof
of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of death.

**Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.**

I can count all my bones while they stare at me and gloat.

They divide my garments among them; for my clothing, they cast lots.

But you, O Lord, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.

Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

Save me from the lion’s mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

**I will declare your name to my people;
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**

You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob’s line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

**For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is
the Lord’s face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.**

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied.

Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

**Their descendants shall serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, “The Lord has acted!”

We depart in silence.