

Online MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship

for time of pandemic

April 9, 2020

+GATHERING+



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. Our sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. **Amen.**

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 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.** **Amen.**

HYMN: #608
Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 16:9-18

The Word of the Lord! **Thanks Be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, responsively

I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

**²for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.**

¹²How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?

**¹³I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people.

**¹⁵Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly | I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me | from my bonds.

**¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people,

**¹⁹in the courts of | the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:23-33

The Message translation

The Word of the Lord! **Thanks Be to God.**

The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION: Pastor Ann Gonyea

HYMN: #659 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



Prayers of Intercession

United with Christians around the globe on this Maundy Thursday, let us pray for the church, the earth, our troubled world, and all in need, responding to each petition with the words, “**Your mercy is great.**”

A brief silence.

Blessed are you, holy God, for the church. Gather all the baptized around your presence in the Word. Strengthen the body of your people even when we cannot assemble for worship. Grant bishops, pastors, deacons, musicians, and all worship leaders faithfulness and creativity for their ministry in this time, and accompany those preparing for baptism.

A brief silence.

Hear us, holy God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, bountiful God, for this good earth and for the flowering of springtime. Save dry lands from destructive droughts. Protect the waters from pollution. Allow in this time the planting of fields for food. Make us into care-givers of your plants and animals.

A brief silence.

Hear us, bountiful God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God, for our nation. Inspire all people to live in peace and concord. Grant wisdom and courage to heads of state and to legislators as they face the coronavirus. Lead our elected officials to champion the cause of the needy.

A brief silence.

Hear us, sovereign God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, faithful God, for you accompany suffering humanity with love. Abide wherever the coronavirus has struck. Visit all who mourn their dead; all who have contracted the virus; those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost their employment; those who fear the present and the future. Support physicians, nurses, and home health aides; medical researchers; and the World Health Organization.

A brief silence.

Hear us, faithful God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, for you care for the needy. We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying.

A brief silence.

Hear us, gracious God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, loving God, that your Son knelt before us, your unworthy servants. Preserve our lives, comfort our anxiety, and receive now the petitions of our hearts.

A longer period of silence.

Hear us, loving God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you, eternal God, for all who have died in the faith, especially the martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whom we commemorate today, and those whom we name before you here.

A brief silence.

At the end, bring us with them into your everlasting glory.

Hear us, eternal God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive, merciful God, our prayers, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the host of our meal of life, who died and rose that we might live with you, now and forever. **Amen.**¹

¹ Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

+LOVE FEAST+

PEACE (in ALS)

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

THE OFFERING

PRAYER FOR A RITUAL MEAL IN PANDEMIC

As we begin this meal with grace,
Let us become aware of the memory
Carried inside the food before us:
The quiver of the seed
Awakening in the earth,
Unfolding in a trust of roots
And slender stems of growth,
On its voyage toward harvest,
The kiss of rain and surge of sun;
The innocence of animal soul
That never spoke a word,
Nourished by the earth
To become today our food;
The work of all the strangers
Whose hands prepared it;
The privilege we enjoy, even in time of pandemic,
That enables us to feast and celebrate.²

Amen.

You are invited to enjoy a quick bite of your Love Feast, if you have come prepared with a little bit of food this evening. Enjoy that nourishment on your own or with those you are quarantined with and then clear your worship space of your Love Feast as you listen to an offering of music. At the conclusion of the music, we will come back together for the Lord's Prayer and then begin to strip our worship spaces.

-STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR & OUR HOME WORSHIP SPACES-

THE 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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

² Based on a blessing by John O'Donohue, To Bless the Space Between Us, Grace Before Meals



The service will conclude with the stripping of the altar. You may remove everything from your worship space as the altar at Eden is stripped of all vessels, candles, linens, paraments, banners, and books.

You may want to leave only a cross, perhaps with a veil of mourning draped on it, in your worship space, as we will on Eden's altar. Before we meet again tomorrow, you may place your 15 candles too.

But for now, it all goes, our spaces are stripped to their foundations, as Christ was for us. We will hear Psalm 88 will as we all embody and witness this ancient Holy Week ritual. Lights may be dimmed as our worship spaces are stripped.

Once the altars and worship spaces are stripped, you are free to remain in silent prayer and depart in silence as you are ready.

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Worship will continue at Eden tomorrow at 7 pm with an Online Good Friday Service of Shadows for Home Worship.