MAUNDY THURSDAY



April 1, 2021
6:30 pm Radio and Facebook Live Worship
MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRELUDE

INVITATION TO MAUNDY THURSDAY AND CONFESSION

In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our 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 committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of God's Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from Godself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us make confession to God.

Almighty God, Merciful Father,

We are troubled and penitent sinners, we confess to you all our sins and iniquities with which we have offended you and for which we justly deserve your punishment. But we are sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.

Forgive us when we do not recognize when you are among us.

Forgive us when money, greed, and stockpiling become our God.

Forgive us when we deny and betray you.

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to us, poor sinful beings; forgive our sins, give us your Holy Spirit for the amendment of our sinful lives, and bring us to everlasting life.

Almighty God in mercy has given Jesus to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit we are cleansed and given the power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of light. As the woman poured out costly oil on our Lord's head, so too is God's forgiveness and love poured out on us. In the name of Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Believe the good news.

GREETING

The Lord be with you, **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord, Your disciples were not prepared for the events of your final days. Give us the perspective which they lacked, that we might stay present during this week of sorrows, knowing that you are leading us down the right path. In Jesus' name, **Amen**

GOSPEL Mark 14:1-11

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, 'Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.'

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

REFLECTION

Holy is the week...

Holy, consecrated, belonging to God...

We move from hosannas to horror

with predictable ease of those who know not what they do.

Our hosannas sung, our palms waved,

let us go with passion into this week.

It is time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit. It is time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy

It is time to greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One, to lavishly break our alabaster and pour perfume out for him

without counting the cost.

It is a time for preparation...

"Holy Week" by Ann Weems

The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us.

The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.

Eat, drink, remember:

On this night of nights, each one must ask, as we dip our bread in the wine, "Is it I?" And on that darkest of days, each of us must stand beneath the tree and watch the dying if we are to be there when the stone is rolled away.

The only road to Easter morning is through the unrelenting shadows of that Friday. Only then will the alleluias be sung; only then will the dancing begin.

HYMN



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us make confession to God.

Almighty God, Merciful Father,

We are troubled and penitent sinners, we confess to you all our sins and iniquities with which we have offended you and for which we justly deserve your punishment. But we are sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.

Forgive us when we do not recognize when you are among us.

Forgive us when we take community, food, health, and safety for granted.

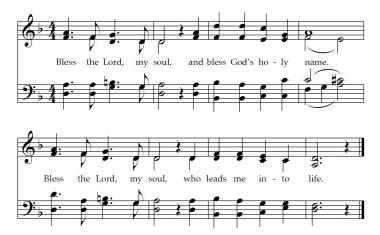
Forgive us when we deny and betray you.

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to us, poor sinful beings; forgive our sins, give us your Holy Spirit for the amendment of our sinful lives, and bring us to everlasting life.

Almighty God in mercy has given Jesus to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit we are cleansed and given the power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of light. As Jesus broke bread with the disciples, so too we are joined in community with you, holy God, and in that community, your love and forgiveness abound. In the name of Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Believe the good news.

HYMN

"Bless the Lord" sung twice



GOSPEL Mark 14:12-25

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.' So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.' They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, 'Surely, not I?' He said to them, 'It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.'

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

"And the Table Will be Wide" by Jan Richardson

And the table will be wide. And the welcome will be wide. And the arms will open wide to gather us in. And our hearts will open wide to receive. And we will come

as children who trust there is enough. And we will come unhindered and free. And our aching will be met with bread. And our sorrow

will be met with wine.

And we will open our hands to the feast without shame. And we will turn toward each other without fear. And we will give up

our appetite for despair. And we will taste

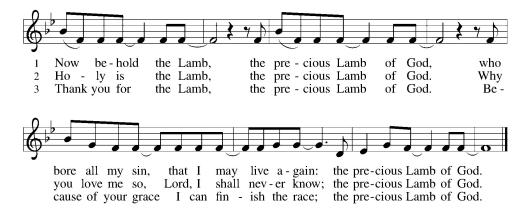
and know of delight.

And we will become bread for a hungering world. And we will become drink for those who thirst.

And the blessed

will become the blessing.

And everywhere will be the feast.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us make confession to God.

Almighty God, Merciful Father,

We are troubled and penitent sinners, we confess to you all our sins and iniquities with which we have offended you and for which we justly deserve your punishment. But we are sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.

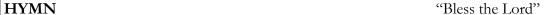
Forgive us when we do not recognize when you are among us.

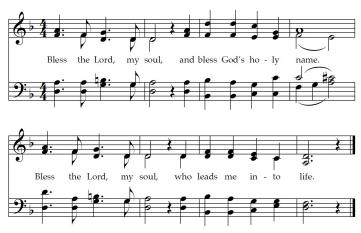
Forgive us when we do not keep awake to the suffering of our world.

Forgive us when we deny and betray you.

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to us, poor sinful beings; forgive our sins, give us your Holy Spirit for the amendment of our sinful lives, and bring us to everlasting life.

Almighty God in mercy has given Jesus to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit we are cleansed and given the power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of light. As Jesus prayed that your will might be done, your will of loving forgiveness is freely given to us. In the name of Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Believe the good news.





GOSPEL Mark 14:26-42

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters; for it is written,

"I will strike the shepherd,

and the sheep will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Even though all become deserters, I will not.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' But he said vehemently, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.' He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

"Gethsemane" by Mary Oliver

The grass never sleeps.

Or the roses.

Nor does the lily have a secret eye that shuts until morning.

Jesus said, wait with me. But the disciples slept.

The cricket has such splendid fringe on its feet,

and it sings, have you noticed, with its whole body,

and heaven knows if it ever sleeps.

Jesus said, wait with me.

And maybe the stars did,

maybe the wind wound itself into a silver tree, and didn't move,

Maybe the lake far away, where once he walked as on a

blue pavement,

lay still and waited, wild awake.

Oh the dear bodies, slumped and eye-shut, that could not

keep that vigil, how they must have wept,

so utterly human, knowing this too

must be a part of the story.

ANTHEM

"Jesus Went to a Garden" by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Celebrating Christ's passion that gives life and salvation, let us pray for the church, the world, and any who are in need.

For the church, that living according to Jesus' new commandment and by his example, we may grow in our love for one another and all people. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations, that their goal may be dignity and reconciliation for all, and that conflict and discord would give way to peace and unity throughout the world. God of mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For all people in need, that they might receive your blessing, and that we may be led to care for our brothers and sisters who suffer hunger, illness, oppression, loneliness, abuse, or any physical or spiritual disease. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation, that we would take up whatever cross is laid upon us and gladly carry it, sharing in Christ's death that leads to his everlasting life. God of mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We give thanks for all the saints and martyrs who followed the example of the one who washed his disciples' feet and who now rest from their labors. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayers, gracious God, for the sake of the one who came to serve and not to be served and offered himself for the sake of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:







... God most mighty ... life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The pastors remove all worship elements as the lights dim in the sanctuary preparing us for Good Friday.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"My God, My God"

The Triduum or Three Days continues tomorrow with Good Friday worship at 6:30 pm

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church



Children belong in worship!

Worship kits and a nursery space is available. God rejoices in the joyful noise of children and so do we!



God calls us to welcome everyone!

Messiah seeks to be a welcoming community and to share the love of God with our neighbors. If you are new, please introduce yourself to our pastors.



Worship should be accessible!

Hearing devices (and T-Coil) and large print bulletins are available. We invite you to sit or stand as you are comfortable. All gender and family restroom facilities are available on the first level, please see signs in the Narthex.



All are welcome at Jesus' table!

During communion grape juice and gluten-free options are available. Those not wishing to commune may come forward for a blessing. Those not able to come forward may receive communion in their pew, please notify the usher.



God calls us to pray!

Private prayer requests may be made by writing them on the back of the Welcome Card. If you would like to be added to the prayer list or receive a pastoral care visit, please contact the church office.

Liturgists: Music Leader: Pianist: Band:

Livestream Technician: Sound Technician:

Pr. Andrew Plocher, Pr. Molly Eversoll Sarah Parks, Dave Dagenais Kathy Strazzinski Jason Parks, Darren Smith, Tyler Davis, Tom Bronken Inga Banitt Dan Zini

Acknowledgements:

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Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

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