



First Lutheran Church

We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021; 7:00pm

Maundy means command (mandate), so tonight we focus on Jesus' command to love one another as he has loved us. As a part of this command, Jesus washes his disciples' feet and tells them to do likewise. It was common then for slaves to wash the feet of masters and their guests, so Jesus' act demonstrates his servanthood. At the same time, we all are reminded of our call to become servants to one another.

Prelude

Gathering/Invocation

L: This is a night to remember.

All: We remember the Passover that Jesus shared with his followers.

L: This is a night to pray.

All: We pray that we may stay awake and watch.

L: This is a night of sadness.

All: Our hearts are heavy with Jesus' betrayal and suffering.

L: This is a night of cleansing.

All: As Jesus' hands were nailed to the cross, so we ask to have our hands washed of sin.

L: This is a night of hope.

All: We will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.

Confession

L: Almighty God, tonight we come together to be in your presence. You know our hearts. You know our shortcomings. You know that we cannot love as you did. Bless us with the power of your Holy Spirit, that we might confess our sin, receive your forgiveness and grow in faith and love. Amen. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

(Silence for reflection) Merciful God,

All: We confess that we are imperfect disciples. We try but fail to serve as Jesus did; we fail to love one another as Jesus loves us; we praise Jesus with our lips even as we deny him with our actions...forgive us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: Almighty God, in his mercy, gave his Son to die for us, and forgives us all our sins. The Holy Spirit has cleansed us and given us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who has called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. We are forgiven to forgive, love, and serve. Amen.

Hymn

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, source of all love, fill our hearts to overflowing and grant us the will to serve one another. Help us follow in the footsteps of the One who is 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.

Reading Psalm 34:8-10
 "The word of the Lord" Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (v. 1, 6) ELW 502

Gospel Reading Luke 22:1-27
 Response after the announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.**
 Response after the reading: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn *Ah, Holy Jesus* (v. 1, 2, 3, 5) ELW 349

Apostles' Creed
 Prayers of the People
 Words of Institution
The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Stripping of the Altar
The stripping of the altar area has come to symbolize the stripping of Jesus before the Crucifixion. This dramatic act transforms the chancel from a beautiful place of worship to the bareness of a tomb. In that transformation, we see a great truth: the joy we typically experience at worship comes through the death of the One we worship.

Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* ELW 351

Distribution

Thank you for serving!	
Greeters/Ushers	Denise Schneekloth
Communion Assistants	
Lector	Denise Schneekloth
Music	Rosie Sorum, Steve Meyer, Kristin Neet-Holien