



"BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER."

JOHN 13:35 (NIV)

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.

GATHERING

The congregation rises in body or spirit

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

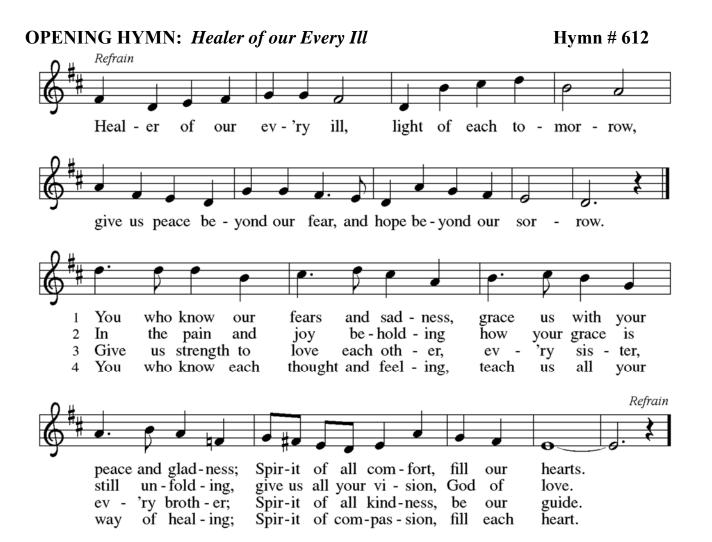
P: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism. Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, and enter the paschal celebration reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

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.

P: 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.



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen. Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

Those in the assembly may come forward and kneel for individual absolution during the song.

GREETING

P: 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

AM: Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14

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.

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This 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. ⁵Your 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. 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. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; 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.

¹⁴This 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

The choir will lead the singing of the Psalm with the congregation singing the bolded lines.

¹I 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 11:23-26

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.

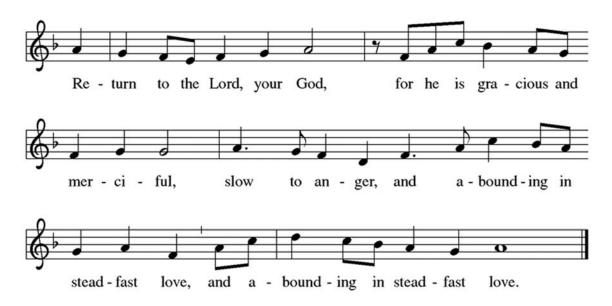
²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation rises in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: 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.

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 put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. 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 the table, 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 returned to the table, 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, servants 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

SERMON

FOOT WASHING EXPLANATION

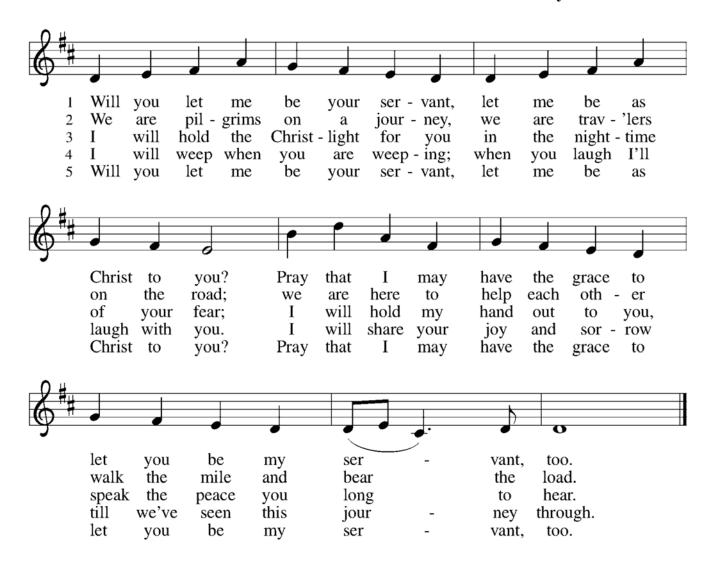
P: On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death. Where charity and love are found, there is God.

Amen

Lord of Lords, Adored by Angels

Jesu, Jesu

Tom Leeseberg Lange, arr. Bret Heim Tom Colvin, Dorothy and Tom Christopherson



Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953. Music: Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928. Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, admin. Capitol CMG Publishing. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2634076

The congregation rises in body or spirit.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

AM: Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

AM: ... Merciful God, receive our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer.

THE PEACE

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

And also, with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another. Peace be with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.**

The congregation is seated.

MEAL

THE OFFERING: The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

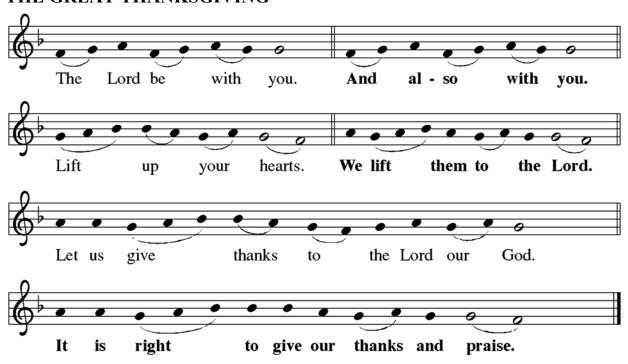
MUSICAL OFFERING: I Give You a New Commandment Peter Aston

The congregation rises in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

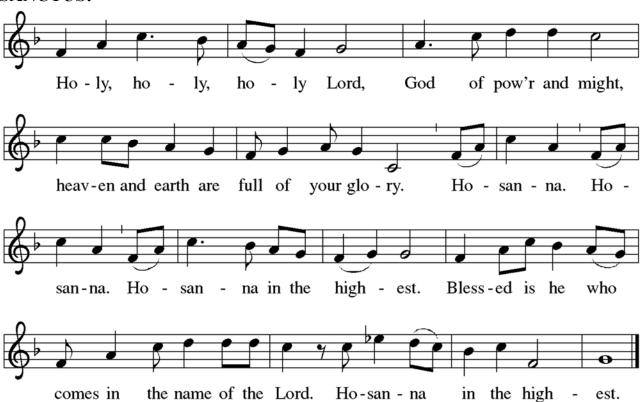
P: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

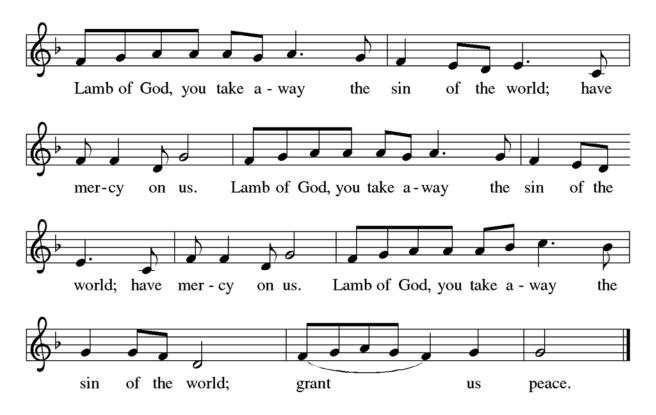
COMMUNION

P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

The congregation is seated.

All who seek the Lord are welcome at Christ's table to receive the gift of God's grace! Those not receiving the bread and wine are welcome to come for a blessing. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.

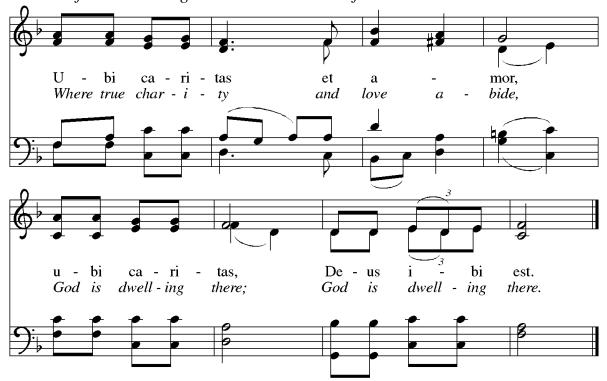
MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:



Where True Charity and Love Abide

Hymn# 642

The congregation will continue to repeat the refrain, first in Latin, then in English while members of the choir sing the verses over the refrain.

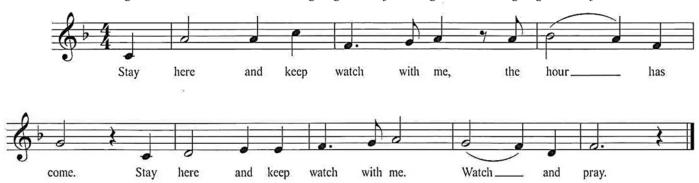


Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. With One Voice. Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. Text and music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

Stay Here and Keep Watch

Taizé

The choir will sing the verses with the congregation joining in the singing the refrain below.



Text: from Matthew 26, Taizé Community. Tune: Jacques Berthier (c) 1984 Les Presses de Taizé. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, 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.

JESUS IS BETRAYED AND ARRESTED: John 18:1-11

P: ¹After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" ⁵They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. ⁷Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. ¹¹Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

PSALM: Psalm 22**

The congregation may sit or kneel as Psalm 22 is chanted.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

When the Psalm has ended, some lights will come on so that the congregation may depart in silence.

**Special Note about Psalm 22: Psalms from the hymnal are sung according to modern, western compositional formulas known as psalm tones. This is for ease of congregational singing. Tonight's chanting of Psalm 22 has been adapted based on recent sacred music scholarship to sound as psalms would have sounded during the time of Christ.

WORSHIP LEADERS		
GREETER	Kate Hartz	
USHER	Denise Buehrer	
USHER	Richard Lima	
ASSISTING MINISTER	Rick Schuessler	
LECTOR	Chris Schmidt	
ALTAR GUILD	Maryn Olson and Angie Fulton	
CAMERA	Gretchen Jenson	

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar March 28-31, 2024

Today		
Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube
3/29 Friday	7:00 pm	Good Friday
3/30 Saturday	7:30 pm	Easter Vigil at St. Mark's on Clayton
3/31 Sunday	8:30 am	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube
	9:30 am	Fellowship and Easter Breakfast
Easter Sunday	10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt
	11:00 am	Worship Service