

MAUNDY THURSDAY
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope
MARCH 28, 2024 PASTOR ELAINA SALMON

Prelude *“Come to the Banquet”*

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of First Communicants

THE GATHERING

(Please stand.)

Confession

P 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 one another.

P 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.**

Pronouncement of Forgiveness

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.

C Amen.

(Please be seated.)

Laying on of Hands

People may come forward and kneel at the altar rail for the laying on of hands.

P In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

The person may respond **Amen.**

Songs

“Come, Bring Your Burdens to God”

*Come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God,
for Jesus will never say no.*

“The Jesus Song”

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, have mercy on me.
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, have mercy on me. Amen. (repeated)*

*Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
You are the Son of the Living God.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.*

(Please stand.)

Litany based on Psalm 116

A I love the Lord who has heard my voice.

C **I love the Lord who has listened to my cry.**

A How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

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

A Gracious are you and just; merciful and forgiving.

C **Though I am humbled, you lift me up.**

A You, O Loving Companion, bestow grace upon grace.

C **Now, I walk hand in hand with Love, for love is my birthright.**

A I offer you my thanks and praise,

C **I bear witness to your goodness.**

Gathering Song *“Gathered in the Love of Christ”*

Refrain

Gathered in the love of Christ

We are one in the fam'ly of God

We are the dwelling place that love has made

We are formed to be goodness and light in the world.

God is light in God there is no darkness

Let us walk in the light of life

If we lived in God, then we must love each other

Ever follow the way of truth and life. Refrain

See what love our God has shown to us

To call us the children of God

And as God has loved us, so we must love each other

Ever follow the way of truth and life. Refrain

Join with me and enter in rejoicing

Praise the one who had called us to be

And we come to you the flock that you will shepherd

You will show us the way of truth and life. Refrain

Praise our God who fashioned all creation

Praise to Christ, who redeems us in love

Praise the Spirit blest, who calls us and renew us

Lead us all in the way of truth and life. Refrain

Greeting

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

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P 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.

(Please be seated.)

THE WORD

The First Reading Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell 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. If 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. This 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. For 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. The 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.

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.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In 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." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

Gospel Acclamation *“Let Your Steadfast Love Come to Us”*

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus 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." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." After 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? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little 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.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P The Gospel of our Lord
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

Sermon **Rev. Elaina Salmon**

(Please stand.)

Hymn of the Day *“Your Song of Love”*

*May your grace make me whole again.
May your eyes make me see again.
May your words make me hear again your song of love.
May your hands touch the poor again.
May your arms hold the sick again.
May your smile fill each heart again through who I am.*

Refrain

*Your love within my heart, Lord,
holds me, heals me, brings me to myself,
like the North Star in the sky
bring me home into your light, into your love.*

*May your birth make me live again.
May your death make me free again.
May your life make me sing again your song of love.
May your feet walk the road again.
May your voice raise the dead again.
May your will calm the storm again through who I am.*

Refrain

*Let my tears wash your feet again.
Let my cloth wipe your face again.
Let my home give you rest again in those I see.
Let me give you your food again.
Let me shoulder your step again.
Let me answer your call again in who I am.*

Prayers of the People

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

(a moment of silence)

A God who kneels to wash our feet, gather your church around the world during this holy
week. Humble the powerful and lift up any who are marginalized. Renew our faith and
make us bold in service and love to our neighbors. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who blesses the grain of the soil and the fruit of the vine, inspire in us a reverent care
for the earth. Sustain fields, gardens, and wild places, that all people are fed and every
living thing flourishes. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God whose greatest commandment is love, guide all who govern by the principle of love. Transform unjust human systems that oppress some for the gain of others. Restore communities as places of justice and concern for those who are vulnerable. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A God who was betrayed, comfort people everywhere who have suffered abuse at the hands of someone they knew and trusted. Heal the bodies, minds, and hearts of victims of exploitation. Help all in pain to know that you are near. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A God who sits at the table with us, grant the joy of your presence to people celebrating first communion today, and to all who share the meal. Strengthen communities of faith in grace and courage. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A God who brings new life out of death, we pray with thanks for the lives of those who have joined the communion of saints. In our holy meal, connect us to the faithful who have gone before us, and nourish us as your people living today. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer.
C **Amen.**

Sharing of Christ's Peace

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

(You may share the sign of peace using jazz hands, a peace sign, or by bowing to one another. Please stay in your seats to do so.)

(Please be seated.)

THE MEAL

Invitation to the Offering

P Thankful for God's goodness to us, let us walk hand in hand with Love as we offer our gifts.

Offering

(Our offering is an act of worship and thanksgiving for all God has first given us. Our gifts support the mission of the church to "nurture with love and serve with hope.")

Special Music *“In Remembrance”*

(Please stand.)

Offering Song *“Take, O, Take Me as I am”*

*Take, O, take me as I am.
Summon out what I shall be.
Set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.*

*Jesus knelt and washed their feet
“Share my love with all the world”
Now that task is ours as well
As you, O Lord: (Refrain)*

*Jesus fed them bread and wine
“Do this to remember me”
Here, now at his table dine
As you, O Lord: (Refrain)*

Offertory Prayer

- A 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.
- C **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord is here.

C **God’s Spirit is with us.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P You are holy, O God of glory, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lived among us, teaching and healing, gathering the outcast and the sinner, welcoming everyone into the way of abundant life. By serving, he taught us how to serve. By loving

us fully, he gave the example of how we are to love one another. Even on the night of his betrayal, he loved his own to the end.

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.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine, gifts from the earth, and celebrate with thanksgiving the saving love of Jesus Christ. Accept, we pray, this offering of thanksgiving, as we proclaim the one crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

P Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and upon this bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be for us the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit, bind us in love to the church of every time and place.

Loving one another, may we bear witness that we are disciples of Christ and serve as he served us.

With our whole bodies—head, hands, feet—we give ourselves in humility and gratitude as we await the day when we share this feast at your table in glory.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P Here, we no longer need words.

The kingdom is breaking,

love is choosing,

the darkness conspiring,

and we find ourselves here

because there is no other place to be
and nothing else to say.

Tonight, we need only break bread and share wine and be with Jesus.

(Please be seated.)

Communion Distribution

Today, communion will be served at the altar rail. Our First Communicants and their families are invited to commune first. Worshippers are invited forward to receive bread and wine (red) or grape juice (white) from our worship leaders. Those on the east side of the sanctuary will commune first followed by those on the west side. To avoid walking through the PrayGround, those on the east side should return to their seat via the center aisle.

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"

*Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, grain of wheat, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, sinner's friends, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.*

"Eat this Bread"

*"Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst."*

"Loaves were Broken, Words were Spoken"

*Loaves were broken, words were spoken
by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven,
was their food forevermore.*

Refrain

*By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

*Loaves were broken, words were spoken
in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them,
Christ, you came as Light from Light. Refrain*

*Loaves are broken, words are spoken,
as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages:
"I am with you; do not fear!" Refrain*

*By the loaves you break and give us,
send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger,
words that tell your love and care. Refrain*

(Please stand.)

Communion Blessing

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A 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.
C **Amen.**

Stripping the Altar

Stripping the altar is an ancient custom of the Church done on Maundy Thursday. After the Last Supper, less than 24 hours remained in Jesus' earthly life. Events moved rapidly: prayer in Gethsemane, betrayal by Judas, arrest, mock trial, painful beating, the trudge to Golgotha and execution. As his life was stripped from him, so we strip our altar of the signs of comfort and life to symbolize Jesus' suffering and death.

Special Music *"My God, My God, Why"*

Because our worship this Holy Week is in essence a journey with Christ, we observe it as one worship service. Thus, there is no final blessing tonight or tomorrow. Please leave quietly.

Worship continues tomorrow with our Good Friday service at 7pm. Our Easter worship is at 10:30. Please join us!

May God abide with you this Holy Thursday and in the holy days ahead.

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

EJ Ahlberg	Mike Hoffman	Charlotte Pohlman
MariLynn Bergmark	Nancy Iwan	Zoey Pohlman
Sharon Bolerjack	Monica Johnson	Brilee Robbins
Yvonne Borkhuis	Sandra Pedley-Keller	Ken Rose
Scott Browne	Zeplyn Killmer	Frank Roy
Anthony Campagna	Lenny Kobilca	Joseph Rymkey
Gary Cobbett	Rev. John Lang	Ben Sabourin
Jim Conellan	Nancy Lang	Joe Sanfillipo
Jim Connelly	Dan Lipowski	George Scheel
Beau Dowling	Sue Lucheon	Bernie Schroeder
Finley Engnell	Scott Lundgren	Tim Schroeder
Laura Erickson	Bill Lynch	Virginia Schroeder
Elwood Faulhaber	Dede Machowski	Sharon Skopec
Judy Faulhaber	Hanna Mau	Gene Sobba
Dorothy Freehauf	Bill McNaughton	Gary Sperka
Abby Galvin	Jim McKeever	Dom Thielmann
David Gilchrist	Ruth Ann Miller	Chuck Vlcek
Keith Green	Omni Rook Myers	Martha Walsh
Liz Hawkinson	Linda Nelson	Keith White
Marie Heeren	Jane Nilles	Kyle Williams
Dale Hennebry	Dave Nommenson	

For Sean Acosta, Dustin Johnson, Steve Kleinfelder, Damen McDermott, Chad Peters, Mitch Pohlman and all others serving our country and their families.

For those we name in our hearts, and for those who have not yet found Jesus.

Acknowledgements

Prayer of the Day, Offertory Prayer, Prayers of the People, Invitation to Communion, Prayer After Communion, Blessing and Dismissal from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #43914

Come to the Banquet by Joseph Martin

Come Bring Your Burdens to God Text: Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

The Jesus Song © 2014, Tom Booth. Published by Spirit and Song, a division of OCP.

Gathered in the Love of Christ Marty Haugen © 1998 GIA Publications, Inc.

Your Song of Love by Bob Fabing

In Remembrance by Courtney Red

Eat This Bread Text: Taizé Community Text © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications Inc.,

Loaves were Broken, Words were Spoken Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

My God, My God, Why by The Psalm Project

Hymns reprinted with permission from OneLicense.net Annual License A-70879 and CCLI License 4049530

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING TODAY — Bill McAdam

MUSICIANS — Sandy Doebert, Sue Gray, Ralph Johnson and Shawn Salmon

ACOLYTES — Blaise Kissick and Margaret Kissick

TECH CREW — Gary Gray, Sue Gray and Zach Howell

HOLY WEEK

We invite you to join us for services all week.

- Good Friday Tenebrae Service, March 29 at 7pm
- Easter Celebration, March 31 with breakfast at 9am and worship at 10:30am.

ELECTRONIC GIVING is available to support Bethany Church. It is fast, easy and secure. You can schedule a weekly or monthly contribution that is automatically debited from your savings or checking account. Make a one-time donation to a special fund; even direct the gift in honor or in memory of someone. Visit our website: bethanylemont.org and click the Donate button on the homepage.