

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 01, 2021**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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. [We have shared this discipline of Lent with new brothers and sisters in Christ who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil.]

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 with one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

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.**

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.

**Amen.**

**Opening Hymn "Go to Dark Gethsemane"**

1       Go to dark Gethsemane,  
          all who feel the tempter's pow'r;  
          your Redeemer's conflict see.  
          Watch with him one bitter hour;  
          turn not from his griefs away;  
          learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

2       Follow to the judgment hall,  
          view the Lord of life arraigned;  
          oh, the wormwood and the gall!  
          Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!  
          Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;  
          learn from him to bear the cross.

- 3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;  
there, adoring at his feet,  
mark that miracle of time,  
God's own sacrifice complete.  
"It is finished!" hear him cry;  
learn from Jesus Christ to die.
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb,  
where they laid his breathless clay;  
all is solitude and gloom.  
Who has taken him away?  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.  
Savior, teach us so to rise.

### **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 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 (Read by the Worship Assistant)**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. [<sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ] <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>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.

**Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (Read together)**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,

**<sup>2</sup>for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

<sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the LORD  
for all the good things God has done for me?

**<sup>13</sup>I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people.

**<sup>15</sup>Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**

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

**<sup>17</sup>I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people,

**<sup>19</sup>in the courts of the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (Read by the Worship Assistant)**

<sup>23</sup>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, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>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." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup>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?" <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

<sup>31b</sup>"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>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.’<sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.<sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

## Sermon

### **Hymn – “Love Consecrates the Humblest Act”**

- 1 Love consecrates the humblest act  
and haloes mercy’s deeds;  
it sheds a benediction sweet  
and hallows human needs.
  
- 2 When in the shadow of the cross  
Christ knelt and washed the feet  
of his disciples, he gave us  
a sign of love complete.
  
- 3 Love serves and willing stoops to serve;  
what Christ in love so true  
has freely done for one and all,  
let us now gladly do!

### **Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, He will come again 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.

**Sharing of the Peace** (nods, waves, “air hugs” to each other, only)

### **Prayers of Intercession**

United by the servant love of God in Christ, we pray this holy night for the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

You call your people to hand on what we receive from you. Form all the baptized into teachers of faith. From one generation to the next, give your church hunger for your promises in the sacraments and joy in receiving and sharing your word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your creation provides all that we need. Cleanse and protect the water you have given for washing and drinking, water on which all life depends. Sustain crops and herds that provide food; teach us how to live so that there is enough for all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You redeemed your people from slavery. Preserve people throughout the world who flee violence and oppression (*especially*). Establish just leadership in place of tyranny and peace in place of war. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Jesus loved his followers to the end. Grant assurance of that love to all who need it: those living with guilt, those struggling to forgive, those who are lonely or overlooked. Heal the sick and embrace the dying. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed him. Inspire this congregation's ministries of service (*especially*), that we love as Jesus loved us. Give us renewed courage to serve. Bless the ministry of deacons throughout the church. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your glory shone in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We thank you for generations of the faithful who have proclaimed our Lord's death. Unite us with them in hope until he comes again. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

### **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.**

### **Reading of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Psalm**

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?  
<sup>2</sup>My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;  
by night, but I find no rest.  
<sup>3</sup>Yet you are the Holy One,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup>Our ancestors put their trust in you,  
they trusted, and you rescued them.  
<sup>5</sup>They cried out to you and were delivered;  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.  
<sup>6</sup>But as for me, I am a worm and not human,  
scorned by all and despised by the people.  
<sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh me to scorn;  
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.  
<sup>8</sup>"Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver;  
let God rescue him if God so delights in him."  
<sup>9</sup>Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb,  
and kept me safe on my mother's breast.

<sup>10</sup>I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;  
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.  
<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is near,  
and there is no one to help.  
<sup>12</sup>Many young bulls encircle me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.  
<sup>13</sup>They open wide their jaws at me,  
like a slashing and roaring lion.  
<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.  
<sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the dust of death.  
<sup>16</sup>Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;  
they pierce my hands and my feet.  
<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones  
while they stare at me and gloat.  
<sup>18</sup>They divide my garments among them;  
for my clothing, they cast lots.  
<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, be not far away;  
O my help, hasten to my aid.  
<sup>20</sup>Deliver me from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog.  
<sup>21</sup>Save me from the lion's mouth!  
From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.  
<sup>22</sup>I will declare your name to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.  
<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off-spring of Israel.  
<sup>24</sup>For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;  
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.  
<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.  
<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied.  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!  
<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn I to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.  
<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.  
<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.  
<sup>30</sup>Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.  
<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

## **Stripping of the Altar.**

### **Service concludes in silence**