

King of Kings Lutheran Church and Preschool

Following Christ, Living Faithfully, Serving Others

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024

10am In-Person and Online Worship Livestream at Facebook & kofk.org

Tonight 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. We will 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.

Our Greeters/Ushers are *Carl and Diann Makariak*

Linda Walker is serving on Altar Care.

A/V operations are provided by *John Breslin*

You are invited to share in our table fellowship –
gather with us around bread and wine/grape juice that you place on your table at home.
As we are united by the Spirit of God who transcends all space and time,
we are fed and nourished by Christ's gift of himself
that fills us with holy love, divine peace, and new life

+ GATHERING +

***Invocation**

Holy Spirit, draw us close as we journey with Jesus through his final days.

Fill us with divine love that we might be always and ever ready to offer our lives in faithful service. In Jesus' name. **Amen**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Friends, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation.

Let us confess our sin against God and neighbor and enter the great Three Days reconciled.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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 our (+) Lord 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**

*Confessional Hymn

ELW #599

Lord Jesus, Think on Me



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375–430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–1896, alt.
Music: SOUTHWELL, W. Daman, *The Psalms of David*, 1579, alt.

*Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...*a brief silence*...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**

+ **WORD** +

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

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

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 Jesus 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.”

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Deacon Alyssa Prinzivalli

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 will tonight be signified in the anointing of each other, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

We are, each one of us, called to anoint every member of the body, from the weakest to the strongest. We are called to love.

We are called to give what we have received from God.

Take this time now to anoint each other with the words “you are God’s beloved”.

The congregation anoints each other.

Jesus gives us a new command: To love each other just as much as he loves us. We discover that when we love other people, everyone will know that we follow Jesus. We pray and ask for Jesus's help to do this every day and give him all our praise as we continue our worship together.

***Hymn of Response**

ELW #360

Love Consecrates the Humblest Act

1 Love con - se - crates the hum - blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;
2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet
3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true

it sheds a ben - e - dic - tion sweet and hal - lows hu - man needs.
of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.
has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, 1845–1917
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

*Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

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

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, **receive our prayer.**

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

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

*Offering of Our Gifts

As we collect our offering, we prepare ourselves with a moment of prayer.

God, prepare us to give to each other and to you. Give us boldness to ask our neighbors what they truly need and humility to listen to their answers. Give us patience to tolerate disappointment as we wait for goodness to grow. Give us generosity so others can benefit from all that the world tells us to keep to ourselves. In your most holy name. **Amen**

We appreciate your ongoing support of our work in the community and the world.

At King of Kings we see our offering as a practice of gratitude, sacrifice and joy.

You can give online at...Kofk.org Resources/Online Giving

You can Text-to-Give at 844-251-6727 and follow the one-time setup

Special Music

“Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread” (*arr. Ryan*)

The King’s Ringers

***Offering Prayer**

Let us pray...God of good gifts, receive all our offerings and prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen**

+ **MEAL** +

***Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

St. Paul writes: 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.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Where is our God?

God is with us here.

Where are your hearts?

We have given them to God.

What shall we do in the presence of our God? **We shall give our thanks and praise.**

The night before Jesus died, the people who knew Jesus best were hungry for answers. They wondered where they should prepare the meal. They wondered what would happen next. As Jesus spoke of impending betrayal, each of them wrestled with the personal question: Is it me? What Jesus did around a table that night meant that they never had to worry about those questions again.

Jesus’ answer was to take bread. He 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.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup we never have to question your love for us, Great God. Send your Spirit into this meal and into our hearts that we might delight in what you have done and joyfully wonder what you shall make of us today. **Amen**

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

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

All are welcome to the table, where Jesus is host and offers himself to all who desire to receive. This meal is indeed given for you for the forgiveness of sins and as a promise of our Lord's eternal presence with you. Take and eat – take and drink. God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

W&P 76

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.

Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all"
Music: ALL IN ALL, Dennis Jernigan

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

Let us pray... Lord Jesus, you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May we go forth from this table in the example laid here before us. Let the bread and wine so work in us that the fruits of your redemption show forth in the way we live and love, now and forever. **Amen**

Introduction and Palms

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

3 Yet you are holy,

enthroned on the praises of Israel.

4 In you our ancestors trusted;

they trusted, and you delivered them.

Candles

- 5 To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
- 6 But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
- 8 “Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”
- 9 Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.
- 10 On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Offering Plate

- 11 Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
- 12 Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- 13 they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

The Missal and Stand

- 15 my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
- 16 For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;
- 17 I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
- 18 they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
- 19 But you, O Lord, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!

Communion Vessels

- 21 Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.
- 22 I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
- 23 You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

Paraments

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!
27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
28 For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.
29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.
30 Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,
31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

We maintain a moment of silence.

***Dismissal**

May God grant us a quiet night of rest,
and peace forevermore.

All depart in silence.

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