



Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

6:30 pm

Holy Communion

Prelude

“In the Hour of Trial” arr. Spencer Lane

Reed Wagner, organist

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

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 with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

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.

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.

Individual Absolution

P: On Ash Wednesday, you were invited to come forward as an act of repentance and to receive the ashes as a mark that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Now we have come full circle this Maundy Thursday as we invite you to come forward to receive individual forgiveness for our sins. Therefore, those who desire individual absolution may come forward and either kneel or stand at the altar railing.

Please come forward in a continuous fashion to kneel or stand at the altar rail and receive individual absolution as these words are said:

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

Music for Individual Absolution

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

Natalie Radcliffe, flute; Reed Wagner, piano

Please stand as you are able.

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: Let us pray.

Holy God, source of all love, on the night he was handed over, 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.

Word

A reading from 1st Corinthians the eleventh chapter.

P: ²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was handed over took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

P: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹Now 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 hand him over. 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 hand him over; 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.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "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 Judaeans 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."

(John 13:1-17, 31b-35)

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

"Great God, Your Love Has Called Us" ELW 358

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936. Music: Norman Cocker, 1889-1953 Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Co. Music © Oxford University Press
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of CCLI #1093735 and OneLicense #A-705218

Foot Washing of First Communion Students

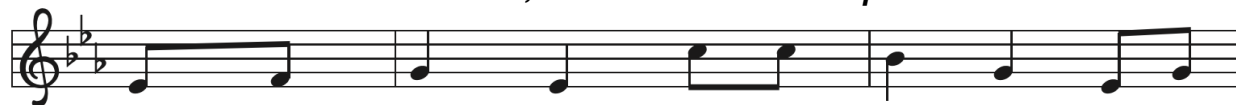
P: On this night we have heard Jesus' commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to our neighbors as Jesus modeled being a servant. Our commitment to serving one another is represented in the washing of feet, following the example Jesus gave us on the night before his death.

*The Pastors will wash the feet of First Communion students.
Please come forward and remove your shoes and socks.*

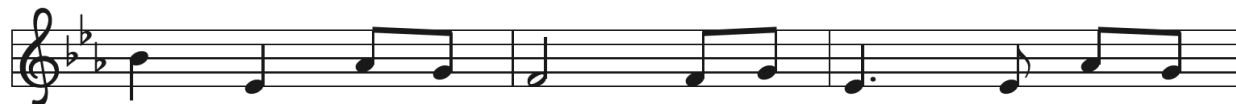
Please be seated.

Hymns to be sung during Foot Washing

“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken” ACS 966



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

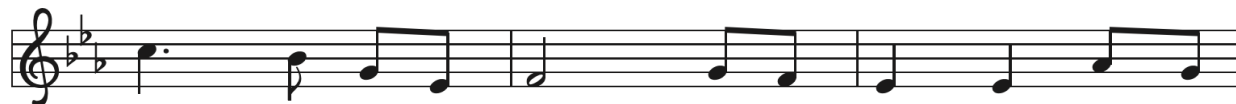


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: “I am with you; do not fear!”
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

Refrain



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



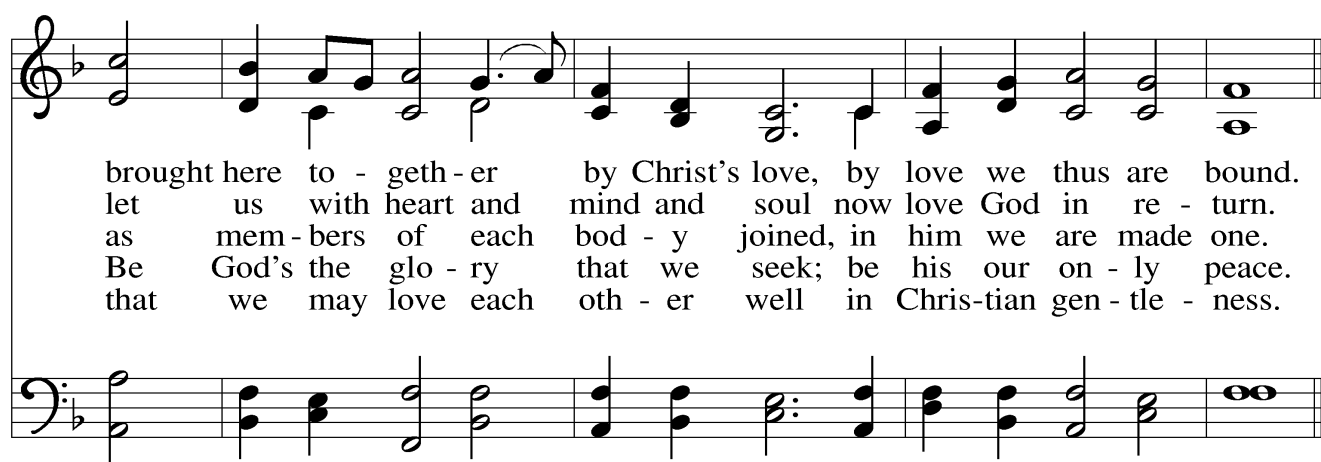
peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007. Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text © 2006 GIA Publications. Music © 1987 GIA Publications
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

"Where Charity and Love Prevail" ELW 359



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt. Music: attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842. CCLI Song #195622
Music Public Domain Text ©World Library Publications. Used by permission of CCLI License #1093735 All rights reserved.

Please stand as you are able.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence for reflection.

P: Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead. Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care.

God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C: Amen.

Exchange of Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated.

Meal

Offering

“Near the Cross” arr. Franklin Ritter

Reed Wagner, organist

Communion Assistants please come forward at this time.

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

"Come to the Table" ELW 481



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942. Music: Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956. Text and music © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission of CCLI License #1093735

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was handed over 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:

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

Invitation to Communion

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Please be seated.

The young people that are taking their First Communion are invited to come forward to the altar rail with their families to be served first.

*We practice open communion at First Lutheran.
All are welcome to receive the elements. Please let
the Pastor know if you need a gluten-free wafer.
The wine is red, and the grape juice is clear in the trays.*

*Please keep these youth in your prayers as they receive
communion for the first time and continue their journey in
faith.*

FIRST COMMUNICANTS

<i>Collins Akerson</i>	<i>Aven O'Connor</i>
<i>Shaden Banzhaf</i>	<i>Cruz Peterson</i>
<i>Beckett Bauer</i>	<i>Brycen Placzek</i>
<i>Clifford Behrhorst</i>	<i>Mae Reece</i>
<i>Chase Brown</i>	<i>Tilly Reece</i>
<i>Jonathan Connot</i>	<i>Bennett Shipp</i>
<i>Magdalena Denton</i>	<i>Brynlee Stolcpart</i>
<i>Bergen Dutcher</i>	<i>Landon Todd</i>
<i>Jaxon Fehringer</i>	<i>Jaxson Vickers</i>
<i>Laiken Lintz</i>	<i>Jovie Weaver</i>

Communion Music

"Peace" by Eugene Englert

Reed Wagner, organist

Please stand as you are able.

Table Grace

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

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray.

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.

Please be seated.

Liturgical Dance based on Psalm 22

"My God, My God, Why Have You Abandoned Me?"

Dancers: April Van Horn, Brooke Van Horn, Paisley Dutcher

Soloist: Miranda Wright

Piano: Angela Wright

Stripping of the Altar

As we listen to Psalm 22, the candles are extinguished, and the altar is stripped. Stripping the altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldier's hands.

In the early days of Christianity, it became customary not to have a benediction throughout Holy Week. Thus, beginning with the Service of Palms, continuing through the week, including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, no benediction is pronounced. It is a way to observe the final days of a holy Lent, to remind us in prayer to draw closer to Christ, to help us meditate upon his suffering, and to prepare our hearts and minds for the anticipated glory of Easter Day.

After the stripping of the altar, please leave the sanctuary in silence.

Please join us in Centennial Hall for a reception honoring those who have just received their First Communion.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

**First Lutheran Church ~ 3315 G Avenue ~ Kearney, NE 68847
308-237-5544 ~ office@firstlutherankearney.org**

**Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Preaching Pastor
Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Presiding Pastor**

**Acolytes: Olivia and Gus Cardenas
Media Booth: Carrie Stithem, Adam Wegner**

Reed Wagner, Organist

Copyright Information

Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003295.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Music for Absolution: Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt. Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844 Text © Oxford University Press All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218, CCLI #1093735 My God, My God, Why have You Abandoned Me? (Psalm 22), Francesca LaRosa © 2021 Francesca La Rosa, Music by Francesca La Rosa.

The English translation of the Psalm Response from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corp. All Rights Reserved.

Lectionary for the Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Psalm refrain © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Used with Permission

Prelude: *"In the Hour of Trial"* arr. Spencer Lane (c) 1990 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

Offertory: *"Near the Cross"* arr. Franklin Ritter (c) 2002 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

Communion: *"Peace"* by Eugene Englert (c) 1999 Lorenz Publishing Co. Published by Unity Music Press

