



## Readings for April 1, 2021 Maundy Thursday



### INTRODUCTION

*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.*

### A New Commandment



A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as



I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.



By this shall peo - ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if



you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know



you are my dis - ci - ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

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## ■ SERMON

### ■ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 194)

Let us make confession to God.

**Almighty God, merciful Father: I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment.**

**But I am sorry for them and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen**

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God, who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## ■ THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## ■ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## ■ FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14

<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.

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<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

<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

<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.

## ■ THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO JOHN: 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

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## ■ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

*A brief silence.*

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

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

**Your mercy is great.**

P: 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.**

P: Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed him. Inspire this congregation's ministries of service, especially (*names*), 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.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

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## ■ 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.

## ■ PSALM 22

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night, but find no rest.  
<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup>In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.  
<sup>5</sup>To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.  
<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm, and not human;  
scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
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<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock at me;  
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
<sup>8</sup>"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"  
<sup>9</sup>Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.  
<sup>10</sup>On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
<sup>11</sup>Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.  
<sup>12</sup>Many bulls encircle me,  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.  
<sup>14</sup>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;  
<sup>15</sup>my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.  
<sup>16</sup>For dogs are all around me;  
a company of evildoers encircles me.  
My hands and feet have shriveled;  
<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me;  
<sup>18</sup>they divide my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.  
<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far away!  
O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
<sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!  
<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion!  
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

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<sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>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.

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>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.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the LORD,

<sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.



**PAGE ONE: A New Commandment**

**Text: John 13:34-35**

**Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous**

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## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### **GOOD FRIDAY ZOOM SERVICE**

**Friday, April 2nd at 7:00pm**

### **EASTER VIGIL RECORDED ON WEBSITE**

**Saturday, April 3rd**

### **EASTER SUNDAY ZOOM SERVICE**

**Sunday, April 4th at 10:00am and  
11:30am on the Web**

*A Holy Week “Stations of the Cross” slide presentation is available on our Reformation website beginning Sunday, March 28th through Saturday, April 3rd. Visit [www.reformationlc.org](http://www.reformationlc.org).*