

Maundy Thursday

Calvary Lutheran Church
In the Heart of Lake Highlands – Dallas, TX

Maundy Thursday derives its name from the words Jesus spoke to his disciples on this evening: A new command (the Latin word for command is *mandatum*) I give you: Love one another” (John 13:34).

It was on this evening nearly 2,000 years ago that Jesus and his disciples gathered in a large upper room in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This meal commemorated the deliverance of God’s people from the slavery in Egypt. All the firstborn of Egypt died that night, but all Israel was saved. They were saved because the blood of the Passover Lamb they had sacrificed marked their doors. The angel of death saw the blood on their doorframes and passed over their homes as he went throughout the land of Egypt bring death to the firstborn.

This evening we celebrate the fact that *Christ is our Passover Lamb*, as Martin Luther reminds us in his great Easter hymn, “Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands” (Christian Worship Hymn 439,440). Luther points to our Savior on the cross and writes: “Here the true Paschal Lamb we see, whom God so freely gave us; He died on the accursed tree - so strong his love - to save us. See, his blood now marks our door; Faith points to it; death passes o’er, and Satan cannot harm us. Hallelujah!”

This evening we will be reminded of a very basic truth of Scripture: “Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness” (Hebrews 9:22). Nowhere is this truth of Scripture more clearly illustrated than in the accounts of the first Passover, when the Children of Israel were released from their bondage in Egypt through the blood of the Passover Lamb, and the final Passover, when Christ our Savior acted as the Lamb of God, who shed his blood for the sins of the world. This truth becomes especially significant for us this evening as we recall that it was on this Holy Thursday that Jesus first gave his disciples his true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins, thereby instituting the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Tonight, we celebrate that anniversary, as we once again receive Jesus’ very own body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and the promise of eternal life.

In keeping with the solemnity of the day, there will be no post-service music.

Silence for meditation is appreciated.

God bless your worship.



Order of Service for **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

After the lighting of the candles, the minister enters in silence.

A NEW COMMAND

John 13:1-15, 34

STAND

¹JOHN 13:1 It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

⁹"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

¹⁰Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you...

... ³⁴A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

BE SEATED

HYMN

It Was a Dark and Dismal Night (417)



1 It was a dark and dis - mal night when pow'rs of
 2 Be - fore the mourn - ful scene be - gan, he took the
 3 "This is my bod - y, slain for sin; re - ceive and
 4 "Do this," he said, "till time shall end, in mem - 'ry
 5 Je - sus, your feast we cel - e - brate; we show your



earth and hell a - rose a - gainst the Son, our
 bread and blessed and broke. What love through all his
 eat the liv - ing food." Then took the cup and
 of your dy - ing friend; meet at my ta - ble
 death; we sing your name till you re - turn and



God's de - light, and friends be - trayed him to his foes.
 ac - tions ran! What won - drous words of grace he spoke!
 blessed the wine: "This is my all - a - ton - ing blood."
 and re - cord the love of your de - part - ed Lord."
 we shall eat the mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb.

THE MESSAGE

Luke 22:7-20

LUKE 22:7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed.

⁸Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

⁹"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

¹⁰He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, ¹¹and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there."

¹³They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁰In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

Welcome to the Feast of Forgiveness

STAND

CONFESSION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried,

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

ANNOUNCEMENTS and MUSICAL OFFERING

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.

Offerings can be given in any of four ways:

- *Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary*
- *On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>*
- *On your phone with the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app*
- *Scan the QR code to the right...*



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the code to the left..

STAND

CONFESSION OF SINS

Our Lord Jesus Christ says, 'If you love me, keep my commands.' And again, 'Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.' Therefore, let us confess our sins to our almighty and merciful Lord, asking him to forgive us.

**Almighty God, merciful Father,
I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.
In what I have done and left undone,
I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.
I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.
For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.**

**I am truly sorry for my sins.
I repent of them.
I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

Silence for meditation

The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

[Maundy Thursday – 5]

EXHORTATION

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this Sacrament to our eternal good, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BE SEATED

THE FIRST PASSOVER

Exodus 12:1-14

EXODUS 12:¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ²“This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. ⁴If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. ⁸That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ⁹Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. ¹⁰Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. ¹¹This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD’s Passover.

¹²“On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. ¹³The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

¹⁴“This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Sanctus*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

THE FINAL PASSOVER

Matthew 26:26-29

^{MATTHEW 26:26}While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

²⁷Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD *(Agnus Dei)*

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a range of approximately two octaves. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.
A - men. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

HYMN

Take and Eat (676)

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain. The congregation is invited to join the cantor for the verses.

Refrain



Take and eat, take and eat, this is my bod - y



giv - en up for you. Take and drink, take and drink,



this is my blood giv - en up for you.



- 1 I am the Word that spoke and light was made;
- 2 I am the way that leads the ex - ile home;
- 3 I am the Lamb that takes a - way your sin;
- 4 I am the cor - ner - stone that God has laid;



I am the seed that died to be re - born;
 I am the truth that sets the cap - tive free;
 I am the gate that guards you night and day;
 a cho - sen stone and pre - cious in his eyes;



I am the bread that comes from heav'n a - bove;
 I am the life that rais - es up the dead;
 you are my flock: you know the shep - herd's voice;
 You are God's dwell - ing - place, on me you rest;



I am the vine that fills your cup with joy. *Refrain*
 I am your peace, true peace my gift to you. *Refrain*
 you are my own: your ran - som is my blood. *Refrain*
 like liv - ing stones, a tem - ple for God's praise. *Refrain*

- 5 I am the light that came into the world;
I am the light that darkness cannot hide;
I am the Morning Star that never sets;
lift up your face, in you my light will shine. *Refrain*
- 6 I am the first and last, the Living One;
I am the Lord who died that you might live;
I am the bridegroom, this my wedding song;
you are my bride, come to the marriage feast. *Refrain*

Following the DISTRIBUTION, please remain seated for the Great Litany.

THE GREAT LITANY

Prayer of Approach to God

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy on us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God,
Have mercy on us.

Prayer for Deliverance

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses nor the offenses of our forebears. Spare us, good Lord; spare your people, whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.
Spare us, good Lord.

From all spiritual blindness; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of charity,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all deadly sin and from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart and contempt for your Word and your will,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From earthquake and tempest; from drought, fire, and flood; from civil strife and violence; from war and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,
Good Lord, deliver us.

Prayer Recalling Christ's Saving Work

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your baptism, fasting, and temptation; and by your proclamation of the kingdom,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By your bloody sweat and bitter grief, by your cross and suffering, and by your precious death and burial,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection, your glorious ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Spirit,
Good Lord, deliver us.

In our times of trouble or prosperity, in the hour of death, and on the day of judgment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

Receive our prayers, O Lord our God.
Hear us, good Lord.

Prayer for the Church

Govern and direct your holy Church, fill it with love and truth, and grant it that unity which is according to your will.
Hear us, good Lord.

Enlighten all ministers with true knowledge and understanding of your Word, that by their preaching and living they may declare it clearly and show its truth.
Hear us, good Lord.

Encourage and prosper your servants who spread the gospel in all the world, and send out laborers into the harvest.
Hear us, good Lord.

Bless and keep your people, that all may find and follow their true vocation and ministry.

Hear us, good Lord.

Give us hearts to love and revere you, that we may live according to your commandments.

Hear us, good Lord.

To all your people, give grace to receive your Word and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit.

Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen those who stand firm in the faith, encourage the fainthearted, raise up those who fall, and finally give us the victory.

Hear us, good Lord.

Prayer for Our Country

Rule the hearts of your servants, the president of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth.

Hear us, good Lord.

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection, and shield them in all dangers and adversities.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant wisdom and insight to those who govern us and to judges and magistrates the grace to execute justice with mercy.

Hear us, good Lord.

Prayer for All People

To all nations grant unity and peace, and to all people give clothing, food, and shelter.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us abundant harvests, strength and skill to conserve the resources of the earth, and wisdom to use them well.

Hear us, good Lord.

Enlighten with your Spirit all who teach and all who learn.

Hear us, good Lord.

Come to the help of all who are in danger, necessity, and trouble; protect all who travel by land, air, or water; and show your pity on all prisoners and captives.

Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen and preserve all women who are in childbirth and all young children, and comfort the aged, the bereaved, and the lonely.

Hear us, good Lord.

Defend and provide for the widowed and the orphaned, the refugees and the homeless, the unemployed, and all who are desolate and oppressed.

Hear us, good Lord.

Heal the sick in body or mind, and give skill and compassion to all who care for them.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins, and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your Holy Word.

Hear us, good Lord.

Concluding Prayer

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant us peace.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER and PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you, and you have promised through your beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be with them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth and in the ages to come, life everlasting. **Amen.**

READING

Matthew 26:30

MATTHEW 26:30When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

HYMN

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (420, st. 1)

**Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;
with your Spirit me endow for such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish
of your suffering, pain, and death that I may not perish.**

READING

Matthew 26:36-50,56

MATTHEW 26:36Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” 37He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

39Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

40Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. 41“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

42He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”

43When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. 44So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

45Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. 46Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”

47While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. 48Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.” 49Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him.

50Jesus replied, “Do what you came for, friend.”

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him...

...56Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

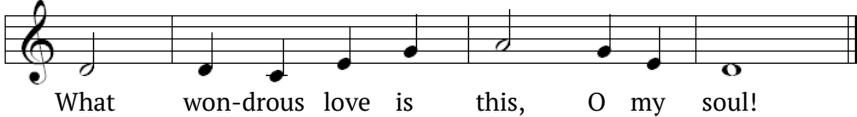
THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 88

The stripping of the altar symbolizes the desertion by the disciples and the impending stripping of Jesus' body (John 19:23). We are reminded of the humility and suffering that our Savior was about to endure on our behalf.

Sung by cantor (verses) and congregation (refrain)

Refrain



O Lord, the God who saves me, day and night I cry out before you.

May my prayer come before you; turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is full of trouble and my life draws near the grave.

I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am like a man without strength.

I am set apart with the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom you remember no more, who are cut off from your care.

Refrain

You have put me in the lowest pit, in the darkest depths.

You have taken from me my closest friends and have made repulsive to them.

Refrain

Your wrath lies heavily upon me; you have overwhelmed me with all your waves.

I am confined and cannot escape; my eyes are dim with grief.

Refrain

I call to you, O Lord, every day; I spread out my hands to you.

Is your love declared in the grave, your faithfulness in Destruction?

Refrain

Do you show your wonders to the dead? Do those who are dead rise up and praise you?

Are your wonders known in the place of darkness, or your righteous deeds in the land of oblivion?

Refrain

*But I cry to you for help, O Lord; in the morning my prayer comes before you.
Why, O Lord, do you reject me and hide your face from me? Refrain*

From my youth I have been afflicted and close to death; I have suffered your terrors and am in despair.

Refrain

*Your wrath has swept over me; your terrors have destroyed me. All day long they surround me like a flood;
they completely engulfed me.*

Your have taken my companions and loved ones from me; the darkness is my closest friend.

Refrain

**At the direction of the usher,
the congregation disperses solemnly into the night.**



“I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.”

Luke 22:15, NIV