



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



**MAUNDY THURSDAY
MARCH 28, 2013**

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INTRODUCTION

With nightfall 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. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Friends in Christ,

in this Lenten season we have heard our God's call to struggle against sin, death, and evil— 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 neighbour,

and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of the Holy One, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. 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 Loving Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

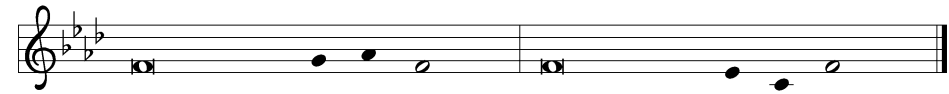
FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1–14

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴If 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. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹This 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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. ¹⁴This 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 116:1–2, 12–19



¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,
²**for the LORD has given ¹ear to me**
whenever ¹er I called.
¹²How shall I re- ¹pay the LORD
for all the good things God has ¹done for me?
¹³**I will lift the cup ¹of salvation**
and call on the name ¹of the LORD.
¹⁴I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people.
¹⁵**Precious in your ¹sight, O LORD,**
is the death ¹of your servants.
¹⁶O LORD, truly I ¹am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me ¹from my bonds.
¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice ¹of thanksgiving**
and call upon the name ¹of the LORD.
¹⁸I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people,
¹⁹**in the courts of ¹the LORD's house,**
in the midst of you, ¹O Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

In the bread and cup of the Lord's Supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another, because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

²³For 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, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In 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." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Holy Wisdom, holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 13:1–17, 31b–35

The gospel is announced. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.

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. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. 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 betray him; 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. ^{31b}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 Jews 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."

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

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY # 359 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" v. 3 - unaccompanied

FOOT WASHING

Each person who wishes to participate is asked to come forward and take a seat. Please remove the footwear from at least one foot. After the clergy person washes and dries the bare foot and moves to the next person, the footwear is replaced and the person returns to her or his seat. The rite continues until everyone's feet have been washed.

HYMN DURING THE FOOT-WASHING # 360 "Love Consecrates the Humblest Act"
(Tune is same as #359)

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: "God of mercy", and all will respond by singing "Hear Our Prayer". (words and music below)



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all people, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *The table is set while the offering is received. All rise for the prayer*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ, our Loving Saviour. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

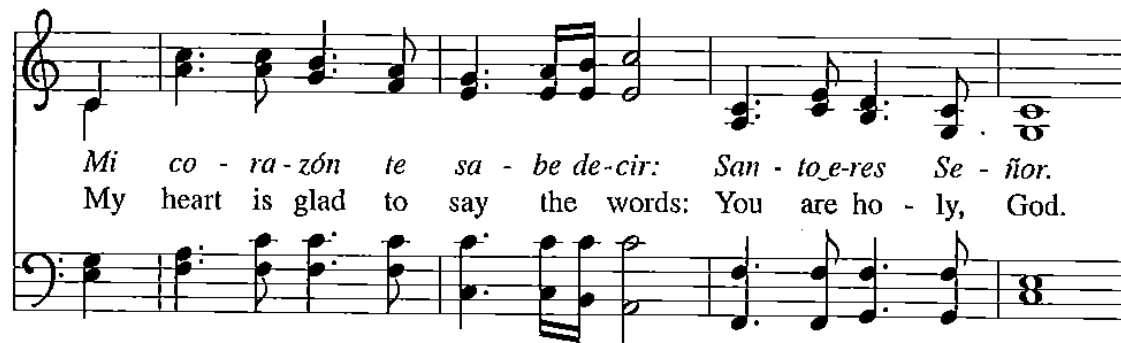
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: San - to e - res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Where charity and love abide, there is God. Rejoice in this Holy Communion.

SHARING OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

The bread will be placed into the upraised palm of the communicant. All may then drink from the first (common) cup or dip the bread into the second (intinction) cup.

COMMUNION HYMN # 472 "Eat This Bread" (refrain sung 4 times)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. **Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

After the communion is completed, the liturgy concludes with the stripping of the altar. The assembly sits or kneels in darkness. While Psalm 22 is chanted by cantors, the sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners, and books are removed from the worship space.

The faithful are invited to remain for silent meditation as long as desired.

There is no benediction since this liturgy is seen as the first of a three-part service which includes Good Friday and concludes with the Feast of Easter. All depart in silence.

