



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

VANCOUVER, BC | EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA



MAUNDY THURSDAY  
MARCH 24, 2016

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**OPENING RESPONSES**

In remembrance, we gather:

**to be with the one who teaches us the meaning of faithfulness.**

In remembrance, we worship:

**lifting our voices to the one who calls us to love one another.**

In remembrance, we feast:

**breaking the bread which makes us whole, drinking the cup which fills us with grace.**

**EVENING PRAYER**

Liberating God, it was the beginning of hope:

that night long ago when you prepared to lead your people to freedom.

As they readied themselves, you fed them with your grace,

so that all sin, pain and bitterness could be set down

and left behind when it was time to follow you.

Servant Lord, it was the beginning of salvation:

that night long ago when you prepared your disciples

for all the things which were to happen.

You humbled yourself by washing their feet,

so they could follow you in service and love

into a world which would reject you and hang you high on a cross.

Servant's Spirit, we tell these stories once again on this night of remembrance.

Here is the bread and wine which gives us life and whets our appetite for justice;

here is the basin which cleanses the stains and wounds of the world;

here is the towel with which we will wipe away the tears of the broken-hearted.

Prepare us for our journey of discipleship, as we share a meal with one another,

taking the time to hear your voice in the stories of our friends. **Amen.**

***EAT SOUP AND BREAD***

**OPENING HYMN**

**# 642 *Ubi Caritas***

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

How will people recognize us as followers of Jesus?

Simply by how we treat one another.

Let us confess our failure to love as Christ loves.

## **PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS**

Creator and loving God, you kneel to wash our feet,  
**yet we are reluctant for you to see the wounds and scrapes of all the places we have run to in our attempts to escape you.**

You would bathe us in the warm, living waters of your love,  
**yet we splash and play in the puddles of temptation.**

We have received all the gifts you have to offer,  
**yet are tempted to think they are only for us rather than for sharing.**

Forgive us, Holy One, and have mercy on us.

God, what can we give you for all your wonderful graciousness towards us:

**as you have broken your heart for us, may we open ours to serve others.**

**As you have given your life for us, may we offer ours to bring healing to the world.**

**As you have called us together around your table, may we go forth to feed a world hungry.**

**Not only for food, but for that spirit which brings peace and reconciliation.**

**This we pray as servants of Jesus Christ,**

**who came to serve us in life, in death, in resurrection hope.**

*Time of silence*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

On this holiest of nights, we have received the Good News:

God has come in Christ Jesus to fill us with hope and peace,  
to bathe us in grace and mercy.

**In remembrance, we go forth: to bring hope where despair has taken up residence.**

**To be servants to those who are broken.**

**To love as selflessly as we are loved by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.**

## **WORD**

**FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1–14**

*(read by Jen Langerud)*

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. <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.

*Response after the reading:* Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26** (*read by Mary Rao*)

<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.

*Response after the reading:* Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** # 642 *Ubi Caritas*

**GOSPEL: John 13:1–17, 31b–35**

*Response after announcement:* **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. <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>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "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."

*Response to conclusion of reading: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

**MEDITATION/REFLECTION** *(by Thom Shuman)*

**FOOT WASHING/HAND WASHING**

*Each table will be given a basin and towel.*

*Participants are invited to wash one another's hands.*

*There are two foot washing stations for anyone desiring to have their feet washed afterwards.*

**HYMNS DURING FOOTWASHING**    # 712 *"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"*  
# 359 *"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*

**PEACE**

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

**OFFERING**

*There is an offering basket and envelopes on your table. If you are able to give monetarily this evening, please insert your offering into an envelope and mark whether you are from St. Thomas or First Lutheran.*

## MEAL

May the God of Last Suppers be with you.

**And also with you.**

Open your hearts to God this night.

**We open them to the one whose heart is broken this night.**

In the midst of uncertainty and fears, we will praise God.

**Our thanks are offered to the one who walks and waits for us through long nights.**

Creator of the heavens and earth, when the hour had come, you lifted up the cup of creation, pouring it into the emptiness of chaos. Rivers played tag through the valleys, stars spangled the blue-black night, joy danced in the fields of grace.

Given that fountain flowing with living water, we drank from betrayal's bitter cup; offered the feast of faith, we sat down at sin's groaning table.

You asked the prophets to remind us of promises made, but we continued to embrace the pangs of hopelessness. Then, because we are your own, you sent Jesus to glorify you by saving us from ourselves.

Therefore, with those whose feet are covered with sin, and those whose hearts are gripped by fear, we join the choirs of every time and place, forever singing your praises:

## HOLY

**Holy, Holy, Holy are you, God of towers and basins.**

**We join heaven and earth in praising your name.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the one who became a servant for us.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you, God of redemption, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Servant, our Saviour. When the hour had come, he got up from grace's side, took off his glory, tied humanity around his heart to cleanse us of our sins. In the midst of his friends, in the congregation of his enemies, he kept the promises made to you: to love us to the very end. Our friend, he welcomed all; our teacher, he modelled the life of obedience and faith; our Lord, he endured the snares of death, that we might have life with you.

Every time we eat the bread, our brokenness is made whole;  
every time we drink from the cup, we receive unceasing grace;  
every time we come to the table, we remember that mystery called faith:

**In remembrance, we mourn Christ's death.**

**In remembrance, we look to the day of resurrection.**

**In remembrance, we await his return.**

Now that the hour is come, send your Spirit upon the gifts of the bread and the cup.  
As you cradle the bread in your gentleness, break it, give it to us, feed us with your compassion  
that we might be made whole, and, in our healing, become servants to a shattered world.  
As you take the cup, mingle its juices with your tears of hope, so we might carry this gift  
to all who have lost everything.

And when there are no more hours to come, when there is only eternal peace and life with you,  
we will gather in that upper room called your heart, serving our families and friends with grace,  
receiving forgiveness from our enemies, singing your joy forever and ever,  
God in community, Holy and One. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION HYMNS** # 472 ***“Eat This Bread Jesus Christ; Bread of Life”***

*Each table will be given bread and wine. Please serve communion to one another.*

*You may use the words “The body/blood of Christ for you” or “Bread/wine for the journey”.*

***(After communion, please move to Sanctuary)***

### **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*After the communion is completed, the liturgy concludes with the stripping of the altar.*

*Volunteers from the assembly are invited to help 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.*

*Psalm 22 Chanted by Arvid Vimb and Brad Langerud*

***Today's liturgy comes from “In That Upper Room Called Your Heart”,  
by Thom M Shuman, Iona community.***

## Holy Week Worship Schedule 2016

- March 25      Good Friday  
10:30 AM    Joint service at St. Thomas  
Beginning with procession from FLC
- March 26      Easter Vigil  
8 PM Service at St. Thomas
- March 27      Resurrection of Our Lord  
8 AM          Pancake breakfast  
10:30 AM    Service at FLC



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If you are interested in joining the FLC men's crew on Easter morning to help with the pancake breakfast, please contact Jack Kuyer or Lanny Harris. You may provide assistance in the kitchen or bring food contribution, or gladly do both if so inclined.

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Our thanks to the good folks from St. Thomas for joining us tonight and for providing delicious soup for the supper prior to the service. We also thank all who contributed to the supper and helped with serving, set-up and clean-up.

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### **BC Synod in Convention: Learning Day, Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 - (open to all)**

*The Challenge of Addressing Change:  
Thinking Missionally about Ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

We gather 9:15am  
Sessions 9:30am -3:00pm

Facilitator: Craig Van Gelder

**Registration deadline: April 12**

Event details and registration form posted in the narthex.

Please let the office know if you plan to attend.