**HOLY COMMUNION:** *Setting 4***Maundy Thursday**

**April 1, 2021**

**Gathering**

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Confession and Forgiveness** *(below)*

A As we journey by faith in our world, let us acknowledge our sins and failures before God.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination).*

A For our indifference toward His presence in our midst,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A For our desire to control the time and seasons of our own destinies,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A For our injustices toward others—those we know and those we don’t know,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A For lack of concern for those who will come after us,

**C We confess to you, Lord.**

A In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all of our sins. To those of us who believe in Jesus Christ, he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on us the Holy Spirit.

**C**  **Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

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 Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Children’s time**

**Song:**

**I Know that Jesus has Died to Save Me**(Melody: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus)

I know that Jesus has died to save me.

I know that Jesus has died to save me.

I know that Jesus has died to save me.

He loves me so. He loves me so.

I know that Jesus has risen for me.

I know that Jesus has risen for me.

I know that Jesus has risen for me.

He loves me so. He loves me so.



I’ll live in heaven forever with Him.

I’ll live in heaven forever with Him.

I’ll live in heaven forever with Him.

He loves me so. He loves me so.

**Choir Anthem**

**Hand washing reading**

**Hand washing** (done symbolically by Minister Enoch)

**God’s Word**

**GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

*The gospel is announced:* The Holy Gospel according to John.

**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 other.

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 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 Holy Gospel is announced:* The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Dramatic Message**

**Prayers of Intercession -****Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021**

Faithful God, during the Passover supper, Jesus got up and washed the feet of his disciples telling them, as he tells us: “Do as I have done to you – serve one another.” Give us the courage and strength of faith to love through serving others as Jesus showed us. Lord in Your Mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, during the Passover supper, Jesus told his disciples that the bread he gave them to eat and the wine he gave them to drink were his body broken for them and blood shed for them. He then told them to continue doing so ‘in remembrance of me.’ May we always do so with thankful hearts. Lord in Your Mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, continue to guide our President, his Administration and the Congress so that they will work together for the common good of all and our country’s future. Lord in Your Mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, continue to guide our church council, church committees, and our whole congregation in carrying out the ministries of your church. Lord in Your Mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, we pray for the sick the homebound, those grieving loved ones who have died, those listed in the church bulletin prayer list, and those we lift up by name either silently or out loud this evening… Lord in Your Mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, Hear the prayers of your people today and always. **Amen!!**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you**.

**Meal**

**Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of glory,

receive these gifts and the offering of our lives.

As Jesus was lifted up from 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 Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



**Great Thanksgiving** – *responsive*

A God of our ancestors, friend in our midst, your children come before you.

Here is food! Here is drink!

These things are yours before they are ours.

Now we are making a feast, but it is a thanksgiving:

God, we are thanking you.

With our ancestors in faith and all the hosts in heaven,

O God, we thank you and rejoice.

This food - we shall eat it in your honor!

This drink - we shall drink it in your honor!

A We thank you for giving us life.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for giving us freedom.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for bringing us peace.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for the one who bore our sins upon the cross.

**C We thank you!**

A We thank you for the one who brought us over from death to life.

**C We thank you!**

A Father, send the Spirit of life, The Spirit of power and fruitfulness.

With the Spirit’s breath, speak your word into these things.

Give us who eat and drink the living body and the lifeblood of Jesus,

life and power and fruitfulness of heart and body.

Give us true communion with your Son.

P On the night of his suffering,

he gave thanks for the bread that he held in his hands.

This bread he shared among his followers, saying:

‘All of you, take this, eat this;

it is my body, handed over for you.

Do this and remember me.’

**C The body of Christ! Amen.**

P Then he shared drink with them, saying:

‘All of you, take this, drink this; it is my blood, the blood of the   
new covenant that begins now and lasts forever.

This blood is poured out for you and for all people so that sins   
may be taken away. Do this and remember me.’

**C The blood of Christ! Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Prayer before holy Communion**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, for all is prepared.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION**

**table blessing**

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

**Amen.**

**Prayer**

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.**

**Sending**

**Stripping of the altar**

**Psalm 22**

1My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
 Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
 2O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
 and by night, but find no rest.

3Yet you are holy,  
 enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
 4In you our ancestors trusted;  
 they trusted, and you delivered them.  
 5To you they cried, and were saved;  
 in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

27All the ends of the earth shall remember  
 and turn to the LORD;  
 and all the families of the nations  
 shall worship before him.  
 28For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
 and he rules over the nations.

29To 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.  
 30Posterity will serve him;  
 future generations will be told about the LORD,  
 31and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
 saying that he has done it.

*The liturgy ends in silence.*

Scripture Readings are taken from The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)