

THE THREE DAYS



WORSHIP AT HOME FOR THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday

Good Friday

Easter Vigil

Prepared for the people of
Concordia Lutheran, Emanuel Lutheran and St. Mary's Episcopal Churches

Manchester, CT

April 9-11, 2020

Introduction and Invitation

"...On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer."

These words from the Great Vigil of Easter normally speak to dispersion as the reality that the church does not exist in one place but exists in all places and across time. This year, as a faithful response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, dispersion takes on new meaning. Rather than gathering to observe these incredibly rich and meaningful liturgies as a community, we will instead observe them as a dispersed community - as individuals and families in our homes.



Welcome, wherever you are, to Holy Week. For many centuries, followers of Jesus have gathered together to retrace and remember the last days of Jesus Christ, especially the three sacred days that make up the Triduum ("three days"). We believe that these days cannot be separated from one another, so they are celebrated as one liturgy. This year, while we are refraining from being together, we may still enter into the Holy Week of Jesus in our homes and places of refuge. We are dispersed but not despairing.

Make a holy place. Throughout this week, we will be attentive to the worshipful-ness of our homes and places where we observe Holy Week. Set aside a holy place in your home for Holy Week. Perhaps a simple side table covered with a cloth, of any color. Whatever you have, is enough. Place a few things to help you enter the presence of God: a cross, a bible, a candle. If you have children, encourage them to choose one item for your holy place. The table needs at most 5-6 things—simplicity is best.

We will not celebrate or receive Holy Communion until the days of social distancing due to COVID-19 have come to an end. On that glorious day, we will remember this Holy Week and Easter as a season of fasting, even as Christ dies and rises in our midst. It is our hope that within this Holy Week, each of us will be able to find that place of stillness and new presence with God in Christ, and that we will find ourselves transformed. We can do this even when the church cannot gather.

If you live alone, you may read and pray the words. If you are living with others, share the reading and the prayers. Notes or instructions during the devotions will be found in **red text**. These are not meant to be read aloud but are to help guide you. There are "hyperlinks" included in this document which are meant to be clicked to access videos and audio of readings, sermons, and other media which were prepared by the clergy and staff of the three churches. You may need to adjust settings for the hyperlinks to function correctly. The full addresses can also be entered into manually.

Joyfully, with expectation,

The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson, Rector, St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Douglas Barclay, Pastor, Concordia Lutheran Church

The Rev. Stephanie Kershner, Pastor, Emanuel Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 9, 2020

Hosted by: St. Mary's Episcopal Church



Introduction and Setting

Maundy Thursday gets its name from the Latin word *Mandatum*, meaning “commandment,” and it is Jesus’ final commandment to his followers in John’s Gospel, “Love one another as I have loved you,” that we remember today. The washing of feet, which has its origins in the Gospel according to St. John, is one of the most ancient and universal rites in the Christian Church. It is a reminder of the humility necessary to be ministers with one another. On Maundy Thursday we also remember the last supper that Jesus ate with his friends, which has become for us the Holy Eucharist. This year, we can remember the last time we received Holy Communion, and look again to receive this gift, together, in the future.

This prayer from Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) describes the heart of Maundy Thursday

Christ has no body now on earth but yours;
no hands but yours; no feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out
on the world.

Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good.
Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people.

Musical Reflection

Take, O Take Me As I Am

<https://youtu.be/g7bXteoRnvQ>

You may listen to this youtube setting of the hymn as a prelude to the evening service.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Take, O Take Me As I Am'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: 'Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.'

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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Add to your place set apart for Holy Week a bowl of water and a clean washcloth. Maundy Thursday is offered in the evening as you are eating your evening meal. Begin the prayers before you start to eat, sitting down, Set out a bowl of water and a clean towel. Sit with them before you and begin with these texts. First, remember God's forgiveness:

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace we have been saved.
Our sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.
Almighty God strengthen us with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.
Amen.

Then pray the prayer for this night:

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 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.

The readings for Maundy Thursday may be read, as follows.

First Reading Exodus 12:1–14

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.

Psalm Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 I love the Lord, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,
2 for the Lord has given | ear to me
Whenever | er I called.
12 How shall I re- | pay the Lord
for all the good things God has | done for me?
13 I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the Lord.
14 I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord
in the presence of | all God's people.
15 Precious in your | sight, O Lord,

is the death | of your servants.
16 O Lord, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me | from my bonds.
17 I will offer you the sacrifice | of
thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the Lord.
18 I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord
in the presence of | all God's people,
19 in the courts of | the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.

We eat our evening meal. Any of these blessings that are appropriate are prayed over the meal. When the meal is served, if you are eating with others, it is good to serve one another. If you are eating alone, you are in the presence of Jesus.

Over Wine

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine; and you refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May the time come quickly when we can share that cup again, even as you are with us now in our very thirst for you. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

Over Bread

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You bring forth bread from the earth; and you have fed us on our way with the bread of life in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ. Let us be fed again soon with that bread of life. And as grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

Over the Other Foods

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. Let this food strengthen us in the fast that is before us, that following our Savior in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

After you have eaten your evening meal continue with the readings.

Musical Reflection

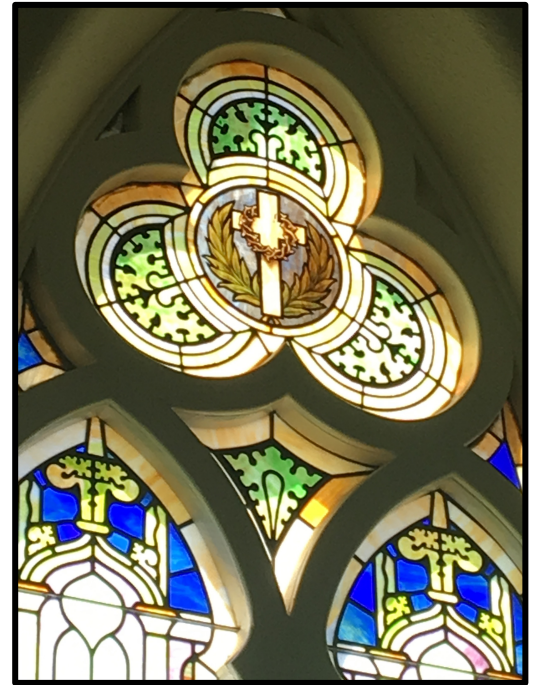
A Minuet by Domenico Scarlatti

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJljI2E1ISE>

This music was recorded by Kelly Sharp, Director of Music at St. Mary's for tonight's worship.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

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.



Gospel John 13:1–17, 31b–35

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."

Homily

The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RW4ftEky1gA>

This link will take you to a youtube video to hear the homily prepared by Rev. Ann for tonight's worship.

When you are finished with the meal use these words:

The Lord Jesus, after he had supped with his disciples and had washed their feet, said to them, "Do you know what I, your Lord and Master, have done to you? I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done." Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you. I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you. By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: That you have love for one another. Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.



If you are with others, you may wash each other's feet gently with the water and clean cloth, or use a larger basin and warm water. If you are alone, use the clean cloth to gently wash your hands. You may also choose to symbolically wash the cross on your table—a sign of the body of Christ. You may also consider how you are called to service, now and in the future.

The washing of feet is a sign of humble service. In the face of suffering and death with which the world is filled, God's word of service comes to us. Even when we cannot meet for the holy supper together, the words of Jesus draw us together as we love the world—to serve for the reconciliation of all.



Prayers of Intercession

United with Christians around the globe on this Maundy Thursday, let us pray for the church, the earth, our troubled world, and all in need, responding to each petition with the words, “Your mercy is great.”

A brief silence is kept after each petition

Blessed are you, holy God, for the church. Gather all the baptized around your presence in the Word. Strengthen the body of your people even when we cannot assemble for worship. Grant bishops, pastors, deacons, musicians, and all worship leaders faithfulness and creativity for their ministry in this time, and accompany those preparing for baptism. Hear us, holy God. Your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, bountiful God, for this good earth and for the flowering of springtime. Save dry lands from destructive droughts. Protect the waters from pollution. Allow in this time the planting of fields for food. Make us into care-givers of your plants and animals. Hear us, bountiful God. Your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, sovereign God, for our nation. Inspire all people to live in peace and concord. Grant wisdom and courage to heads of state and to legislators as they face the coronavirus. Lead our elected officials to champion the cause of the needy. Hear us, sovereign God. Your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, faithful God, for you accompany suffering humanity with love. Abide wherever the coronavirus has struck. Visit all who mourn their dead; all who have contracted the virus; those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost their employment; those who fear the present and the future. Support physicians, nurses, and home health aides; medical researchers; and the World Health Organization. Hear us, faithful God. Your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, gracious God, for you care for the needy. We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying (especially). Hear us, gracious God. Your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, loving God, that your Son knelt before us, your unworthy servants. Preserve our lives, comfort our anxiety, and receive now the petitions of our hearts. Hear us, loving God. Your mercy is great.

Blessed are you, eternal God, for all who have died in the faith, especially the martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whom we commemorate today, and those whom we name before you here. At the end, bring us with them into your everlasting glory. Hear us, eternal God. Your mercy is great.

Receive, merciful God, our prayers, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the host of our meal of life, who died and rose that we might live with you, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Pray the Lord's Prayer in whatever language or version is your custom. After you have finished, you may meditate on the words by listening to this recording from musicians at Emanuel.

Musical Reflection

The Lord's Prayer by Malotte, Teryn Kuzma (soprano), Jun Lee (piano)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1f_BSEtXhA

Closing Prayer

O God of the crucified and risen One, from whom no trial or trouble can separate us: you feed us with your Word and soothe us with your Spirit, closer to us than breath itself. Make us glad this night for the life of your servant Jesus; Make us servants of all for the sake of Jesus; who for our sake gave his life for the salvation of all. In the Name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Amen .

After this prayer, gently remove everything except the cross from your place set apart for Holy Week. After some minutes in silence, during the cleaning, Psalm 22 may be recited or chanted.

Psalm 22

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?
2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.
3 Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.
5 They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.
7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads,
saying,
8 He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; *

let him rescue him, if he delights in him.
9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.
12 Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
13 They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
14 I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; *
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

16 Packs of dogs close me in,
and gangs of evildoers circle around me; *
they pierce my hands and my feet;
I can count all my bones.
17 They stare and gloat over me; *
they divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.
18 Be not far away, O LORD; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
19 Save me from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
20 Save me from the lion's mouth, *
my wretched body from the horns of wild
bulls.
21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will
praise you.
22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor
in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.
24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of
those who
worship him.
25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise
him: *
May your heart live for ever!
26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and
turn to
the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations bow
before him.
27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow
down
in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before
him.
29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for
ever.
30 They shall come and make known to a
people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Musical Setting of Psalm 22 Provided by Richard Hicks <https://youtu.be/KZsWmo-brXY>

You may keep silence.

