



# Thursday, April 17, 2025

## Maundy Thursday

**MAUNDY IS AN ENGLISH FORM**....of the Latin word for commandment (mandatum). The overarching theme of this evening is Jesus' new commandment to love one another even as I have loved you, a love sharply focused by the contrast of the betrayal which followed. Jesus' love is demonstrated both in his example of servanthood and in the gift of himself in Holy Communion.

**THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**....is a symbolic act that reminds us of the humiliation that Jesus endured at the hands of the soldiers. Psalm 22 rehearses that, along with other themes of the Passion.

**THERE IS NO BENEDICTION TODAY**....because this is only the first part of a larger worship service know as the Triduum, which make up the three sacred days of Holy Week—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. During these three days we witness the somber celebration of the Lord's Last Supper, the hideous death of our Saviour on the cross, and finally the joy of the Easter Resurrection. It is with that resurrection that our service is complete and we can receive the parting blessing of our Lord and God in the words of the benediction. Our Easter Services will be held at 6:30am, 8:00am and 10:00am.

**SILENT PRAYER**

**PRELUDE**

# Gathering Hymn..... "Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now"



1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing  
2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -  
3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you



feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and  
vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry  
ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in



life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.  
is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.  
praise pro - claim: "You are the Lord of all. A - men."

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731-1807, adapt.  
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## SERMON.....Pastor Shari Bernau

## Sermon Hymn..... "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us"



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

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## CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil--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 day let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

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.**

*Those in the congregation may come forward and stand before the altar for personal absolution.*

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

**Amen.**

## **GREETING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **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.**

## **First Reading: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14**

*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: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 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. 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. [Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 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. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] 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. 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. 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. 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.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **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.*

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, 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." 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." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

**Choir Anthem.....** "Think of Me and Remember" *by Joel Raney*

## **Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

The Holy Gospel according to St. 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.*

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 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." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." 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? You call me Teacher and

Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them." "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 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.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By 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.**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

**Amen**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need (*especially Amanda, Bill, Jeff, Eric, Charlie, Terry, Barbara, Lizzy, Christi, Katie, Michael, Angelika, Jenna, Dave, Joy, Frank, Vicki, Kyle, Tyler, Carol, Dick, Dan, Kristin, Tom, Jill, Michael, Gabriele, Betty, Prentice, Rebecca, Bonnie, Kathie, Del, Mark, Kristen, Bob and Peter*). Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead (*especially Dan and Jim*). Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**



Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**Amen.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Distribution**

*We will be using the intinction method for distribution. You will be handed bread and asked to dip the bread in the chalice. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available. Please make your way forward by the center aisle, returning down the side. If mobility is a problem for you, please notify an usher and you will be served at your seat.*

## **Invitation to Communion**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

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**

## **Psalm 22**

## **The Silent Recessional**

*In keeping with the nature of this service, we would ask that silence be kept.*