



St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wyoming, MN

Order of Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021

Prelude

Words of Welcome

First 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 13:31b-35

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "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."

Call to Worship

Pastor: The glory of Jesus is seen as he gives himself on the cross.

People: And the glory of God is seen in the glory of God's gift to humankind.

Pastor: "Little children," Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

People: Just as Jesus loved us, we also should love one another.

Pastor: By this everyone will know that you are Jesus' disciples.

People: Glorious God, let the love of Jesus be our gift to others. This will be our glory.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul O my soul.
 What wondrous love is this O my soul.
 What wondrous love is this, hat caused the Lord of bliss,
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul for my soul,
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down.
 When I was sinking down, sinking down.
 When I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown,
 Christ laid aside His crown, for my soul for my soul,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing.
 To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
 To God and to the Lamb, who is the Great I Am.
 While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing.
 While millions join the theme I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on I'll sing on.
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be.
 And thro' eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
 And thro' eternity I'll sing on.

Sermon

Hymn

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

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Where charity and love prevail,
 there God is ever found;
 brought here together by Christ's love,
 by love we thus are bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear,
God's charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul
now love God in return.

Let us recall that in our midst
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;
as members of each body joined,
in him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown;
let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek;
be his our only peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults
as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well
in Christian gentleness.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Let us make confession to God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Almighty God, merciful Father:

People: I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lord God, in the wonderful Sacrament of communion you have left us a memorial of your suffering and death. May this Sacrament of your body and blood so work in us, and in the homes of those gathered together with us this night, that the way we live will proclaim the redemption you have brought; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Offering - *Thank you for your continued support and generosity towards the mission and ministry of St. Paul Lutheran. Your consistent gifts are all the more important during this time of pandemic. You're reminded that you can contribute in three ways. You can click the "Donate" button below to give electronically, drop your envelope off at church, or mail in your offering envelope to:*

St. Paul Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 583, Wyoming, MN 55092



Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of Glory,

People: 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 Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Pastor: As we begin these holy Three days, let us offer our prayer for the life of the world.
(A brief silence)

For the whole church, that obeying the Lord's command that we love one another, we might serve one another as Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the strife-torn regions of the world, that war might cease and love prevail, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who are ill or weak in body, mind, or spirit, that they might receive God's strength and healing, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those in any need, for prisoners and the condemned, for the homeless and the hungry, for the lost and alone, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our congregation, that strengthened by the Lord's supper, we might make Christ visible through our own humble service, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Remembering those who have died in faith, that we with them might find our place at the table of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Grant these prayers, merciful God, and all that we need, as we eagerly await the Easter feast; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our 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 committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. This meal is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other. We give thanks that we can gather like this tonight, around the tables in our homes, as a whole, united fellowship, not a mismatch of isolated believers.

People: If we were to talk with those breaking bread with us, we might be surprised by everything brought to the table - anticipation, loss of dreams, hurting hearts, unresolved questions, memories of nourishing meals, hard decisions, desires to walk with Jesus, and holding back.

Pastor: The list is long, O God. But somewhere in the midst of it, Christ is still walking with us, holding our hands, lifting us up, mending our wounds, breathing new life into us, and tonight, breaking bread, and pouring wine. This is what unites us.

People: In remembrance of him then, we eat the bread of life and drink the cup of the new covenant. This is the heart of who we are, and this is the heart of the gospel. Thanks be to God!

Hymn

“Now We Join In Celebration”

ELW 462

Text: Joel W. Lundeen

Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Now we join in celebration
at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber,
clothed instead in joy and wonder;

for the Lord of all existence,
putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us,
with his very life to feed us.

Lord, as round this feast we gather,
fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing
are for us the sure possessing
of your loving deed on Calv'ry,
of your living self, our vict'ry,
pledge of your unfailing presence,
foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

Lord, we share in this communion
as one fam'ly of God's children,
reconciled through you, our brother,
one in you with God our Father.
Give us grace to live for others,
serving all, both friends and strangers,
seeking justice, love, and mercy
till you come in final glory.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: This is the food and drink of remembrance. Let all who hunger for grace and thirst for salvation this night, join in eating and drinking now, remembering and hearing the words, "The Body of Christ broken for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."

*On this Maundy Thursday you will also receive a special blessing reminding you of
God's love for you and your forgiveness found in Him, in the words,
"Through this gift of love, you are forgiven all your sins."*

Reading of Psalm 22

There is no final blessing tonight. This service ultimately culminates at the conclusion of our Easter Sunday service.

Holy Week Schedule

Good Friday, April 2, 7:00 p.m. (Online Only)

<https://www.facebook.com/SPLCWyoming>

Easter Sunday, April 4, 9:00 a.m.

(Parking Lot/Amphitheatre)

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