



*I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you,
you also should love one another.*

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday – March 24, 2016

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PRELUDE

A NEW COMMANDMENT
David Blackwell

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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 night 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.

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
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.
Amen.

All are seated. Those who wish may come forward for the laying on of hands. The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, addresses each in turn.

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

Amen.

During the laying on of hands, the assembly sings the following.

HYMN #358

GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US

When all who wish have received the laying on of hands, the assembly stands for the Greeting.

***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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**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 12:1-14

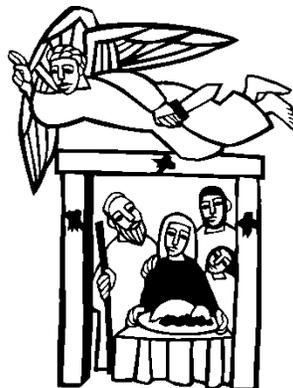
Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

^{12:1}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.

The word of the Lord.

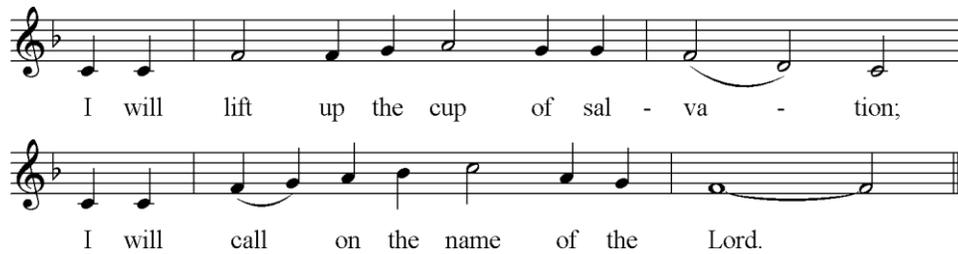
Thanks be to God.



PSALM

PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

The cantor sings the refrain, and all repeat it. The congregation sings the verses in **bold**.



¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

²**for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev-| er I called.**

¹²How 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. R**

¹⁴I 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.**

¹⁶O 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.**

¹⁸I 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. R**

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 the meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The cantor sings the acclamation, and all repeat it.

A new com - mand - ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth - er as
I have loved you, that you love one an - oth - er as I have loved you.

***GOSPEL**

JOHN 13:1-17, 31B-35

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 another.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{13:1}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. 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 gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL

1. Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2. With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3. Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's on - ly Son;
4. Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5. Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,
brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.
Music: Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799-1877
Text © 1960 World Library Publications. CCLI #3219012

ST. PETER
C M

*FOOT WASHING

On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. 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. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

All may be seated. Those who wish may come forward to have their feet washed, and to wash the feet of their neighbors. During the foot washing, the assembly sings the following.

HYMN #708

JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE

When all who wish have participated in the foot washing, the assembly stands for the prayers.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

At this service of communion at Christ's table, let us join together in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

Blessed are you, O God, for the church. Bring all people into your fellowship of love. Make us worthy to share your food. Pass us over from death into life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you for this good earth. Protect the waters from pollution. Bless the growing crops with your rain and sun. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you for our nation. Inspire us and all nations to live in peace and concord. Free those who are enslaved by injustice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you for this table. We pray for the hungry, those in need, the sick, and for those alienated from you. Answer their cries. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you for this community of faith. Form us into servants for this neighborhood. Give us your spirit of service. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed are you for all believers who have gone before us. Bring us all at the end into your everlasting glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive, O loving God, our prayers, and grant that we and all people may know the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of glory,

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 Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.

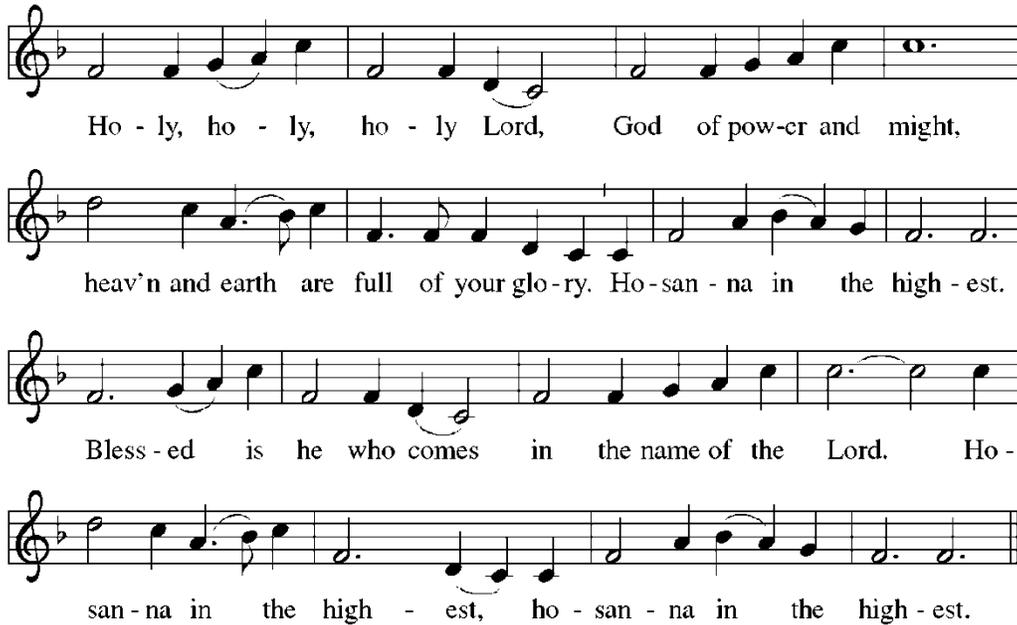
You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

***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**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Where charity and love abide, there is God.
Rejoice in this holy communion.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing.

COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The assembly sits or kneels while the sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners and books are removed from the worship space. During the Stripping of the Altar, Psalm 88 is sung by the cantor.

All depart in silence; the service continues on Good Friday.

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