

+ Maundy Thursday April 1, 2021

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+ Maundy Thursday Order for Worship

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight, we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

P: 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 one another. 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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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 follow 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.

C: Amen.



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

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Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

C: Amen.

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.

P: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

I give you a | new commandment, that you love one another just as I | have loved you.

Gospel – John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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 Humanity has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in Godself 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359





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

God's the

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842 Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Anointing for Service

Be

that

In tonight's Gospel Jesus washes his disciples' feet, an act of hospitality and servanthood at a time when guests would enter a house with feet dusty from the road. In John's Gospel, this washing of feet is the embodiment of Jesus' new commandment for his followers to love one another. We, as disciples of Jesus' today, are called to carry this love into the world through service. While today we seldom need to wash our feet after being outside, this year has given us greater appreciation of how important it is to wash our hands, especially to ensure the well-being of our neighbors. Anointing with oil is a biblical symbol of consecrating, or setting apart, a person for ministry, and so tonight, we anoint our hands, praying that God would bless and use them, and us, to bear God's love to the world through our daily work and service.

P: On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he loved us. As Jesus became a servant to his disciples by washing their feet, we who have received God's love in Christ are called to respond in humble service to one another. Our commitment to such loving service is expressed in the anointing of our hands with oil.

Those who have received a Holy Week resource kit are invited to take the cotton ball with oil from its bag. The presiding minister demonstrates the anointing, using these or similar words:

Loving God, bless *Name*, who is called to serve in your name.

Prosper the work of her/his/their hands.

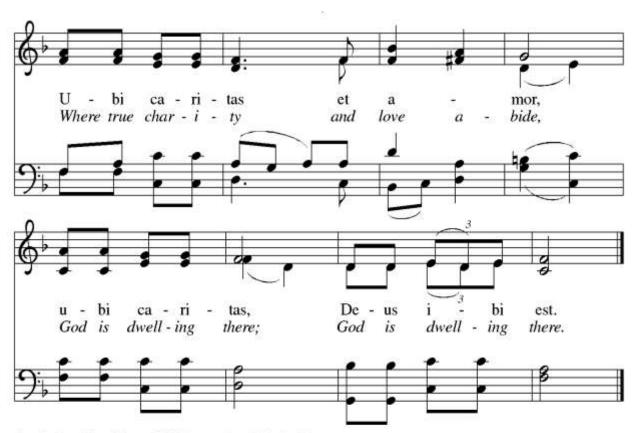
Bless those who receive the fruits of her/his/their labor.

May the gifts they use and share be signs of your love to all people.

As people of the congregation anoint their own and/or one another's hands, a hymn is sung.

Hymn during Anointing Ubi caritas et amor

ELW 642



Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. With One Voice
Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Prayers of the People

P: United by the servant love of God in Christ Jesus, we pray this holy night for the needs of the world.

After each petition

P: Hear us, O God;

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Receive these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

C: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.

Stripping of the Altar

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The service concludes with the stripping of the altar. The linens, paraments, banners, books, and other items are removed from the worship space. Psalm 22 is sung by a cantor. Light are dimmed as the worship space is stripped.

All depart in silence.

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Prelude Hymnody

Psalm Director of Faith Formation Presiding Minister Laura Reynolds
Joy Givens, Vocals
Sue Gaugler, Piano
Joy Givens
Christopher Atwood
Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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