

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

(Minister) 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)

Most merciful God,

***(People)* we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

Silence

We confess, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Silence

We confess, we have not loved you with our whole heart;

Silence

We confess, we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Silence

Gracious God, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Silence

Most Merciful God, 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.

(Please be seated.)

Individual Absolution

All who wish to do so are invited to come forward to receive individual absolution. Kneel at the altar rail at the place where a minister is standing. Two people can kneel next to each other at each station. The minister will place his/her hands on your head and announce God's forgiveness; and, after the announcement, you are invited to rise and return to your pew. Those not coming forward may use the time for silent meditation and prayer or the singing of the hymn – "Healer of Our Every Ill."

(The Pastor will say: In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins. R/ Amen.)

Hymn Sung During Individual Absolution

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

Hymn 612

Refrain

**Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.**

**1) You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain***

**2) In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain***

**3) Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain***

**4) You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain***

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

(Together) **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.**

WORD**First Lesson****Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

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. 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.

(After the lesson) The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson**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.

(After the lesson) The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson**John 13:1-17, 31b-35***(Spoken before the reading)* The holy gospel according to John.**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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."

(Spoken after the reading) The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.****Sermon**

Pastor Krista Zimmerman

Hymn

"Great God, Your Love Has Called Us"

Hymn No.358

Prayers of Intercession

As Jesus calls us to love one another, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

(After each petition) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Senior Choir

“The Last Supper”

Bernard Sexton (6:30 pm)

Offertory Prayer

(Together) 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.

Great Thanksgiving

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The Lord be with you.

R/ And also with you.

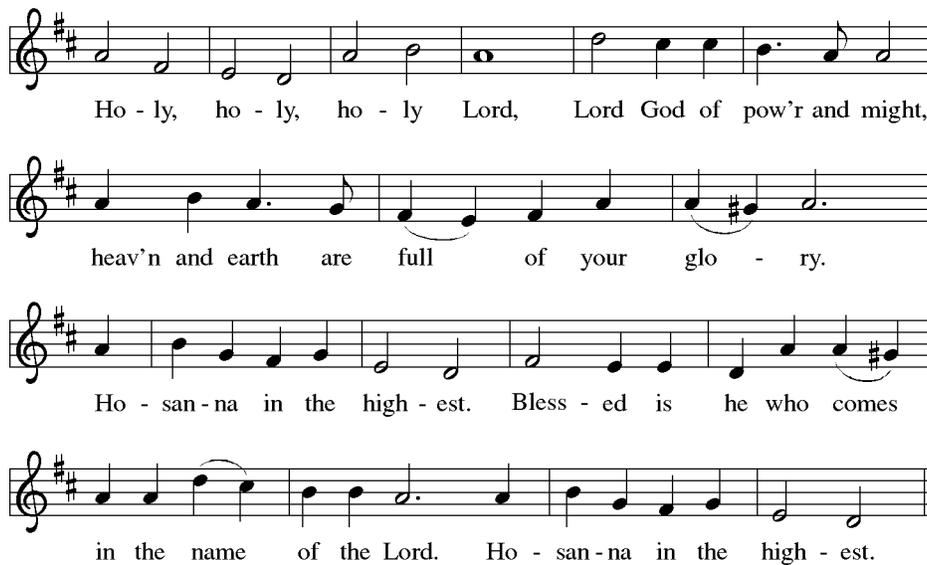
Lift up your hearts.

R/ We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are you, O living God,
 sovereign of time and space.
 You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.
 Your word leads us across the sea to freedom,
 and you have carried us together to these holy Three Days.
 Blessed be God forever! **Blessed be God forever!**

Blessed are you, O living God,
 for your glory revealed in Jesus Christ.
 He is our Servant, who washes our feet with love.
 He is our Lamb, whose blood takes away our sin.
 He is our Host at this meal, offering us the cup of salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed . . .
 Do this for the remembrance of me.
 Blessed be God forever! **Blessed be God forever!**

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again ...

Blessed are you, O living God,
for the gift of your loving Spirit.
Fill this meal with the life of your Son.
Make us servants of one another and of everyone in need.
Bring us with all your people to the joy of the resurrection.
Blessed be God forever! **Blessed be God forever!**
Amen, and amen. **Amen, and amen.**

Lord's Prayer

(Together) **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

Come to Jesus, our host and our meal. All are welcome.

Lamb of God

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Distribution

"Now We Join in Celebration"

Hymn 462

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn 359

Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept.*

(Together) **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 and Psalm 22

(The congregation leaves in silence.) The benediction is omitted at the end of the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday liturgies indicating their continuity with each other and the liturgies of Easter.