

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026, 6:30 p.m.



Beth Eden Lutheran Church

Newton, North Carolina

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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HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Page numbers and hymns refer to the **ELW** (the red hymnal).

PRELUDE *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* J. S. Bach

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us for worship.

Stand

GATHERING HYMN *Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now* ROCKINGHAM OLD

Sit

SERMON Family Night Pastor Marcus Ollis

Stand

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 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.

Silence is kept 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 walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of Christ.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The assembly may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Remain standing for the prayer of the day.

APOSTOLIC 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: Let us pray:

C: 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.

Sit



WORD

The Word of God, Jesus Christ, speaks to us.

FIRST READING

¹The 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Exodus 12:1-14



PSALM

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)

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

²**for the LORD has given ¹ear to me
whenever ¹I called.**

¹²How shall I re- ¹pay the LORD
for all the good things God has ¹done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup ¹of salvation
and call on the name ¹of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people.

¹⁵**Precious in your ¹sight, O LORD,
is the death ¹of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I ¹am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me ¹from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice ¹of thanksgiving
and call upon the name ¹of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows ¹to the LORD
in the presence of ¹all God's people,

¹⁹**in the courts of ¹the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, ¹O Jerusalem.**

SECOND 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL HYMN ELW 358 *Great God, Your Love has Called Us* RYBURN

Sit

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

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 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM

Sarabande in c minor

J. S. Bach

Stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: As we begin these holy Three Days, let us offer our prayers on behalf of the church and for the life of the world.

Prayer petitions end:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Final petition:

Into your hands, gracious Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.



MEAL

We gather at the Table of our Lord to share his Supper.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all to give thanks.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, O Lord our God, for the wonders of your love and mercy.

We praise you for the goodness you showed to your people Israel, leading them, after your Passover, from their bondage in Egypt to the land of promise.

We praise you for your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave us the New Passover in His holy Supper.

As He took his place at the table with His disciples we remember how, as He washed their feet, He gave them the new commandment to love one another. Though betrayed and forsaken, He overcame hatred with His forgiving love, enduring the suffering and shame of the cross reconciling us to you.

This same Lord Jesus, on the night of His betrayal, took bread; when He had given thanks; He 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.

For as often as we eat of this Bread and drink of this Cup,

C: we proclaim our Lord's death until He comes.

Loving and Holy God, we celebrate this Eucharist, recalling our Lord's agony in the garden, His holy Passion and His life-giving resurrection.

We await His coming as Lord of the new creation, when all people shall serve one another with love and rejoicing in His kingdom.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send your Holy Spirit among us, and upon this Bread of Life and this Cup of Blessing, that through our Lord's life-giving body and blood we may ever rejoice in the forgiveness of sins and be sanctified by the truth of His cross.

Gather the Church from every time and every place into the everlasting peace and freedom won by Christ, as we acclaim:

C: Through Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**C: 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

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Sit

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away...

Pg. 146

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to receive Communion at Christ's table. Ushers will invite you to the altar rail for communion. You may kneel or stand. After communing, you may remain at the rail for private prayer or return to your seat. If you are not communing, you may come forward and receive a blessing by bowing your head and folding your hands in prayer.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 462 *Now We Join in Celebration* SCHÜCKE DICH
Stand

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Sit

HYMN ELW 347

Go to Dark Gethsemane

GETHSEMANE



STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, Bible, and other items are removed from the worship space. This is a reminder of how our Lord was stripped of His garments before His crucifixion. During the removal of the items Psalm 22 is read.

There is no benediction or dismissal.

After the black cloth is placed on the altar the assembly is asked to depart in silence.

The service continues tomorrow at 7:00 p.m.

Worship Assistants

Allen Sherrill and Jody Alexander, Assisting Ministers

Connor Hendricks, Crucifer

Zac Mullinax, Acolyte

Mike Sherrill, Sound

Kathy Binkley, Myra Brownlee, Megan Parsons, Altar Guild



**HOLY WEEK AT BETH EDEN
CONTINUES TOMORROW**

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3

**Community Good Friday
12:00 p.m. Old St. Paul's
(in historic church)**

***Tenebrae Service*
7:00 p.m. in the BELC Sanctuary**