

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 475 NORTH AVE. W. BROOKSVILLE, FL 34601

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

A GOD WHO LOVES

AS WE GATHER

"Behold the man!" was Pontius Pilate's short, yet most profound, sermon. Our endeavor this Lententide and Easter Sunday is to behold the man, God in human flesh, Jesus. Each time together, we are meditating on and proclaiming His real, bodily suffering and death as well as His physical resurrection. He knew all that real bodies experience; He suffered, wept, bled, ate, and hoped.

On the night when He will be betrayed, the One who has every power of God, "having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end" (John 13:1). He picked up a bowl of water, wrapped Himself in a towel, and used His divine hands to scrub the dirt from the feet of His disciples. A new commandment He gives. Love like this, He commands. Love with hands, not hearts. Love with actions, not feelings. Love by dying. As I have loved you.

As we have moved through this season of Lent, it has become increasingly clear why God became man: He lived this physical life in order to be nailed to a cross. Thereby, we are truly preparing for the celebration of His real, bodily, flesh-and-blood resurrection. Without that, our faith and our preaching are all in vain. God the Son became the embodied, incarnate Son of Mary. In Jesus, God has human flesh, a body, just like us. What could be more profound? Behold the man, who has led the way for us through death to our own physical resurrection!

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN "When You Woke That Thursday Morning"

tune CONVERSE LSB 700

When You woke that Thursday morning, Savior, teacher, faithful friend, Thoughts of self and safety scorning, Knowing how the day would end; Lamb of God foretold for ages, Now at last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's wages: You assumed their dreadful sum

Never so alone and lonely, Longing with tormented heart To be with Your dear ones only For a quiet hour apart: Sinless Lamb and fallen creature, One last paschal meal to eat, One last lesson as their teacher, Washing Your disciples' feet.

What was there that You could give them That would never be out spent,
What great gift that would outlive them.
What last will and testament?
"Show Me and the world you love Me,
Know Me as the Lamb or God:
Do this in remembrance of Me,
Eat this body, drink this blood."

One day all the Church will capture
That bright vision glorious,
And Your saints will know the rapture
That Your heart desired for us,
When the longed for peace and union
Of the greatest and the least
Meet in joyous, blest communion
In Your never ending feast.

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Please rise if able

INVOCATION

Look up to the cross

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

ADDRESS

P Our worship today parallels the Ash Wednesday liturgy. On that day, physical ashes were smeared as crosses on our foreheads, symbolizing our penitence. Today, in the stead of the man Jesus, my hands will make the sign of the cross in token that you have been redeemed by Christ the crucified, assuring each person of God's forgiveness for the sake of Jesus. His Son and our elder Brother.

Please he seated

OPENING SENTENCES

- P Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
- **but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.** *Philippians* 2:5–7
- **P** In this is love, not that we have loved God
- **b**ut that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:10
- **P** But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners,
- Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
- P [Jesus,] having loved His own who were in the world,
- **C** loved them to the end. *John 13:1*

HOLY GOSPEL, Part 1 John 13:1-11

(Jesus wipes His disciples' feet as an example of love.)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.
- P Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel tied it around His waist. Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around Him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him,

C Lord, do You wash my feet?

- P What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.
- **C** You shall never wash my feet.
- **P** If I do not wash you, you have no share with Me.
- C Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!
- P Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." For He knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, "Not all of you are clean."

CONFESSION

- We have more than dirty feet! Let us go to our loving Lord in humble confession.
- We are soiled by sin in our inner being, O Lord. We are helpless to change ourselves by our own power and determination.
- **P** We have not loved one another in our thinking.
- We have found friends who might give us compliments, rather than looking for people around us who may be isolated, alone, and in need of support.
- **P** We have not loved one another in our speaking.
- We have complained about neighbors who irritate us, rather than putting the best construction on their actions and trying to put a smile on their faces.
- **P** We have not loved one another in our acting.
- We have used our time and energy to make our lives easier, rather than lovingly assisting the people around us who have difficulty caring for themselves.
- P Heavenly Father, show us the true humanity of our Lord Jesus; help us grasp His great love for us on every level of our existence.
- Forgive us, renew our trust in Your daily and eternal care, and lead us in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. Amen.
- **P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
- C Amen.
- **P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
- C Yes.

- P Let it be done for you as you believe.
- Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in peace. 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24
- C Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL, Part 2 John 13:12–17

(Jesus has set the example we are to follow.)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹² When He had washed their feet and put on His outer garments and resumed His place, He said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please rise to receive the Absolution

CORPORATE ABSOLUTION

P Our Lord has washed away more than the dirt on our feet! In Holy Baptism, we were united to His death and resurrection; He has washed away all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins

in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please he seated

+WORD +

SALUTATION

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray. O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your Passion.
- Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us;
- for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (L32)
- C Amen.
- Let us pray. Lord Jesus, Your love knows no bounds but was even expressed on the night in which You were betrayed. You cared for the physical needs of Your followers and set an example for us to follow.
- Grant that we may be so aware of Your overflowing love that we may always be Your instruments of loving care for the people around us;
- **P** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT - Exodus 12:1–14 (The annual Passover meal is to be a physical reminder of the Lord's freeing His people from bondage in Egypt.)

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴ And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷ "Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰ And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11 In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. 13 The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a

- P [Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood.
- **C** thus securing an eternal redemption.
- P Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,
- so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.
- **P** He sent redemption to His people;
- **C** He has commanded His covenant forever.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 11:23–32 (When we eat and drink in the Sacrament, we proclaim the Lord's death until He returns.)

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

²⁷ Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰ That is why many of you

are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹ But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³² But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Please rise

- P Having loved His own who were in the world,
- **C** He loved them to the end.

HOLY GOSPEL, Part 3 John 13:31b–35 (Jesus' new command is that we are to love each other as He has loved us.)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him. ³² If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek Me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please he seated

HYMN OF THE DAY



SERMON: "A GOD WHO LOVES"

Please rise
NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us use the experiences of the man Jesus as we pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

The man Jesus experienced severe hunger.

- For all who are denied basic food, clothing, or shelter, that God would provide whatever they need to support this body and life, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus prayed for His circle of friends and those who believed in Him.

- P For the Body of Christ around the world, that God would protect and guide clergy and lay leaders so that the Gospel may be proclaimed freely and many may come to faith, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus was beaten, abused, and ridiculed.

- For all who are unjustly imprisoned, persecuted, and denied human rights, that God would strengthen them to remain strong under their circumstances until they find freedom, justice, and dignity, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

- The man Jesus was physically exposed on the cross.
- For all who try to hide their sins and failings, fearing God's wrath and people's scorn, that the Holy Spirit would grant them faith to know and trust the forgiveness Christ won for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus cared for His human mother.

- For all parents and children, especially those in fractured families and those dealing with daily turmoil, that our heavenly Father would surround them with caring friends and counselors to renew the love that they have lost, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus experienced thirst.

- P For all whose lives are focused on relief from pain and suffering, from illness or addiction, [including . . . ,] that according to His gracious plans God would bring about healing, relief, and health to body and mind, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus loved His followers to the end by serving even as their physical servant.

- For all who serve in homes and hospitals; all in armed forces deployed and in police, emergency, and fire departments at home; and all public servants in government, that God would protect, strengthen, and guide them for the good of the whole society, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus bled and died.

- For all who understand Jesus only as a moral teacher or example of pious living, that the Holy Spirit would open their hearts to see that Jesus' death is the reason He became man and to trust that in dying He did everything necessary for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus was buried.

- P For all who fear death and all who are in mourning, that the Holy Spirit grant them faith to see the death of all who trust in Christ as a sleep from which they shall awaken, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

The man Jesus physically rose triumphant over death.

- P For all artists and musicians, poets and writers who express Christian hope and encourage our joyful celebrating, anticipating the day when faith gives way to sight, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son and our Brother, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

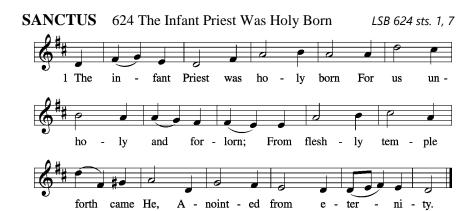
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

OFFERING

+ SACRAMENT +

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who loved us to the end of His physical life; on the tree of the cross, He accomplished the salvation of mankind He intended when He first became the man Jesus. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



7 With cherubim and seraphim Our voices join the endless hymn, And "Holy, holy, holy" sing To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for in Your great love You sent Your Son, who humbled Himself and became obedient even to death on the cross so that we might have life.

Gathered in His name, we pray that in true faith we may receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation He won for us in His great love.

Strengthen us through His body and blood so that we may share His love each day until, gathered together with all Your faithful people, we may celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Revelation 22:20

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

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.

AGNUS DEI

624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

LSB 624 sts. 3, 6



6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,

A priestly food and priestly meat; On sin-parched lips the chalice pours

His quenching blood that life restores.

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Maundy - Thursday

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"My Song Is Love Unknown" (LSB 430)

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR (7 pm Worship service)

This is the night in which the man Jesus was betrayed. After He had instituted the Sacrament of His body and blood, He and the eleven disciples went out to the Garden of Gethsemane, where He knew Judas would come to set in motion the events leading to His crucifixion.

All the appointments in the chancel are symbols of our Lord, the light of the world, the Word of God in the flesh, the covering for our sins, and so on. This evening, they are stripped from the altar—which represents the man Jesus—just as He was struck, humiliated, tortured, and taken to the cross.

As the various items are removed, we hear the words of Psalm 22, which anticipated our Lord's Passion and which He seems to have prayed while on the cross. And then we depart until our worship continues tomorrow.

My God, My God; Psalm 22 from the Psalm Project

PLEASE OBSERVE SILENCE WHILE LEAVING.

Acknowledgments

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