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**MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 1, 2021
The Eucharist**

(P: pastor; C: congregation)

OPENING HYMN: "It Happened on That Fateful Night" LBW 127 (Text: Public domain)

**It happened on that fateful night When pow'rs of earth and hell arose
Against the Son, our God's delight, And friends betrayed him to his foes.**

**Before the bitter scene began, He took the bread, and blest and broke.
What love through all his actions ran! What wondrous words of love he spoke!**

**"My body, broken for your sin, Receive and eat as living food."
He took the cup and blest the wine: "Share this new testament, my blood."**

**"Do this," he said, "till time shall end. Remembering your dying friend;
Meet at my table and record The full obedience of your Lord."**

**O Lord, your feast we celebrate; We show your death; we sing your name
Till you return, when we shall eat The marriage supper of the Lamb.**

SERMON

THE RECONCILIATION OF THE PENITENTS

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

P: Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen**

P: Let us make confession to God.

There is silence for personal examination.

P: Almighty God,

C: Merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. **C: Amen**

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God our Father, by the cross of your Son you reconciled the world to yourself, enabling us to live in peace and harmony. We thank and praise you for the forgiveness of sins and the precious gift of peace. Help us to forgive each other and to establish justice and peace throughout the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 12:1-14, *The Passover of the Lord*

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. ³Tell 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. ⁴And 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.

⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and 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. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 11:23-32, *Proclaim the Lord’s death*

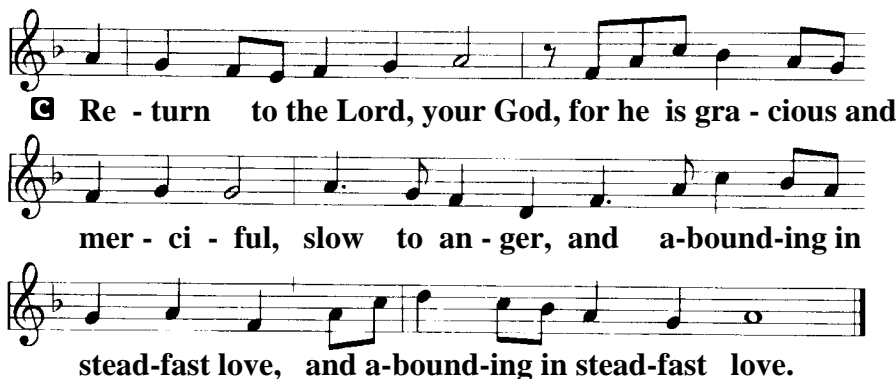
For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying,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

²⁷Whoever, 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. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

VERSE



☐ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35, *The service of Christ: footwashing and meal*

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

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. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not 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, "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." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

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

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³²If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.' ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people 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!

HYMN: "Love Consecrates the Humblest Act" LBW 122

(Text: Public domain)

**Love consecrates the humblest act And haloes mercy's deed;
It sheds a benediction sweet And hallows human needs.**

**When in the shadow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet
Of his disciples, he gave us A sign of love complete.**

**Love serves and willing stoops to serve; What Christ in love so true
Has freely done for one and all, Let us now gladly do!**

PRAYERS

Prayers and intercessions are said by the pastor. In concluding the prayers the pastor says:

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

THE EUCHARIST

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 him thanks and praise.

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation
you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper. Amen.

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. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

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

C: Amen

P: As often as we eat of this bread and drink this cup

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

During the hymn and the psalm all that would suggest or remind us of celebration, the sacrament and vessels, linens, and adornments are removed.

HYMN: “O Living Bread from Heaven” LBW 197 (Text: Public domain)

**O living Bread from heaven, How well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows!**

**My Lord, you here have led me Within your holiest place,
And here yourself have fed me With treasures of your grace;
For you have freely given What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die.**

**You gave me all I wanted; This food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit The favor you have shown,
And all my soul and spirit Bow down before your throne.**

**Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened With heav’nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.
And when you call my spirit To leave this world below,
I enter, through your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.**

Lights in the sanctuary are dimmed as the PSALM is read responsively by verses, with the leader beginning.

PSALM 22

P: My God, my God, why have you turned your back on me?
Your ears are deaf to my groans.

**C: O my God, I cry all day and You are silent;
my tears in the night bring no relief.**

P: Still, You are holy;
You make Your home on the praises of Israel.

**C: Our mothers and fathers trusted in You;
they trusted, and you rescued them.**

P: They cried out to You for help and were spared;
they trusted in You and were vindicated.

**C: But I am a worm and not a human being,
a disgrace and an object of scorn.**

P: Everyone who sees me laughs at me;
they whisper to one another I’m a loser; they sneer and mock me, saying,

**C: “He relies on the Eternal One; let the Eternal rescue
and keep him safe because He is happy with him.”**

P: But You are the One who granted me life;
You endowed me with trust as I nursed at my mother’s breast.

**C: I was dedicated to You at birth;
You’ve been my God from my mother’s womb.**

P: Stay close to me – trouble is at my door;
no one else can help me.

**C: I’m surrounded by many tormenters;
Like strong bulls of Bashan, they circle around me with their taunts.**

- P:** They open their mouths wide at me
Like ravenous, roaring lions.
- C:** **My life is poured out like water, and all my bones have slipped out of joint.
My heart melts like wax inside me.**
- P:** My strength is gone, dried up like shards of pottery;
My dry tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; You lay me in the dust of death.
- C:** **A throng of evil ones has surrounded me like a pack of wild dogs;
They pierced my hands and ripped a hole in my feet.**
- P:** I count all my bones;
People gawk and stare at me.
- C:** **They made a game out of dividing my clothes among themselves;
they cast lots for the clothes on my back.**
- P:** But You, O Eternal One, stay close;
O You, my help, hurry to my side.
- C:** **Save my life from violence,
My sweet life from the teeth of the wild dog.**
- P:** Rescue me from the mouth of the lion.
From the horns of the wild oxen, You responded to my plea.
- C:** **I will speak Your Name to my brothers and sisters
When I praise You in the midst of the community.**

After the psalm is completed and the sanctuary is near darkness, there is a time of silence.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Grant, O Lord, that we may put off the old self with all sinful deeds, and put on the new, which after your own image is created in true righteousness and holiness; that when the earthly tent in which we dwell is destroyed, we may not be found naked, but may receive the clothing of a house not made with human hands, eternal in the heavens, where now you live forever and ever. **C: Amen**

Those who wish to remain for prayer and meditation are invited to do so.

We strive to use our gifts and the best resources available to support people in their faith. To inquire about our sermons and/or the resources used to produce them please contact us through our church office. To God be the glory!

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