

# MAUNDY THURSDAY



**APRIL 2, 2026**

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2, 2026

7:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

*Adagio for Strings*

Barber

WELCOME

*Please stand as you are able.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: 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 for reflection and self-examination.)*

Pastor: Most merciful God,

**All: 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.**

Pastor: 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.

**All: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

***Where Charity and Love Prevail***

**ELW #359**

**Westendorf/Chapin**



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



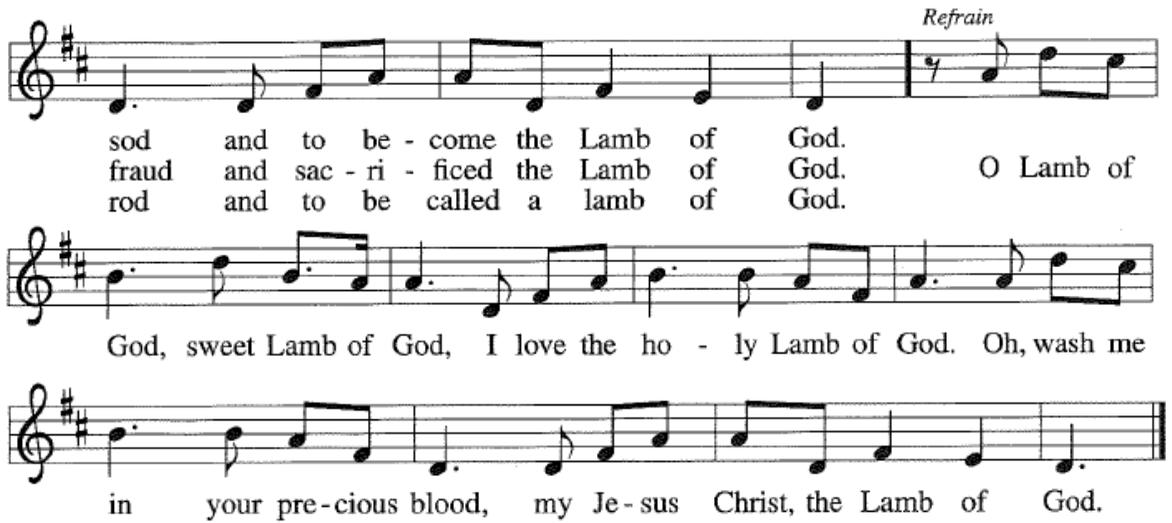
brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

**GREETING**

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

**All: And also with you.**





*Refrain*

sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.

God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me

in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Each petition concludes, *“God of mercy and grace,”* and the congregation responds, *“we lift our prayers to you.”*

+ + + + + + + +

*Congregation departs to Fellowship Hall under the direction of the Ushers.*

**COMMUNION MILESTONE**

Pastor: Today is a special day for Harper Renee Kuhn, Connor Scott Poling, Kyah Braelyn Rhoten, Layla Anne Rhoten, Calla Michelle Stehr, Tenley Ryan Stehr, Juliana Elinor Steiner, Oliver William Thomassy and Jayce Rylan Unger. When they were baptized, the Holy Spirit descended upon them, making them part of God's household, the family we call the Church. As they grew, they learned about what it means to be part of God's family. They learned to love others from Jesus, who was overflowing with love for everybody- so much that he loved us even to the point of death

on the cross. They have learned how in sharing the bread and wine of Holy Communion we remember Jesus' death and his rising to life again on that first Easter day, and how eating the bread and drinking the wine makes us one with him and brings us closer to each other through the power of the Holy Spirit. They have expressed their desire to join us as we gather around the Lord's Table, and tonight we celebrate their participation in this feast with us. Let us pray.

We thank you, Holy God, source of all love, for **these nine young people**, who come to share in Holy Communion, and for their parents, sponsors, and friends who have loved them, cared for them, taught them, and set a good example for them. Bless them as they come to the table of your blessed Son, who on the night of his betrayal, 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 Jesus was the servant of all, showing us your love and giving us joy in your salvation. Keep them faithful to the covenant of their baptism, and bring us all to that great feast which today we are privileged to taste.

**All: Amen.**

**All: We welcome you to the Lord's table. We thank God for you and rejoice in your being among us. And we pray that you will remain faithful to Christ and to his holy church, finding joy and strength in his body and blood, the signs of his love for the world.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**All: 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.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT** (*Communion will be distributed by one another around your table.*)

### **RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS OF BREAD AND WINE**

The body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen.** (Eat bread/wafer)

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.** (Drink wine/grape juice)

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

*Eat This Bread*  
Ruth Erb, Pianist

Berthier

**Text: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: 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.

**All: Amen.**

*Congregation returns to the Nave under the direction of the Ushers.*

† † † † † † † † †

*Please be seated when returning to the Nave.*

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR/READING OF PSALM 22

## TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

## DEPART IN SILENCE

\* \* \* \* \*

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –  
Also #A-708989 *One License.net*

***Many thanks to:***

***Altar Guild***

***Couriers Sue Covert and Mike Jones***

***Usher Teams: 6 & 7***

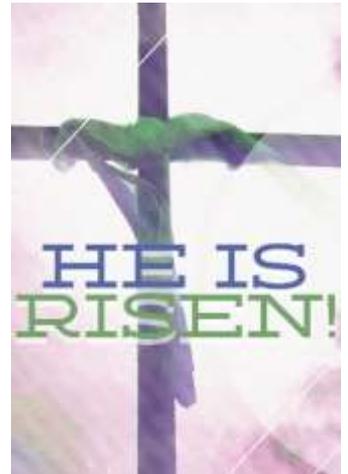
***Please join us as we continue our Holy Week journey to Easter:***

***GOOD FRIDAY:*** Service held at 7:00 p.m. The Service of Tenebrae (Shadows) features the passion reading according to the Gospel of John. It will be like you were there on that dark Friday. As we hear the readings and sing the hymns, darkness will fall upon us.

***EASTER EVE:*** Service held at 5:00 p.m. For our regular Saturday worshippers and anyone else whose schedules make it difficult to worship on Sunday, we have an Easter Eve worship when we will hear the Easter Story and rejoice with the promise of the resurrection, held in the Nave.

***EASTER SUNDAY:*** Both the 8:30 and 10:30 services are a festive celebration of the resurrection. From the Gospel of John we hear the story of Jesus' resurrection when Mary encountered the risen Lord and proclaimed it to the others. With our alleluias and songs of praise, we bear witness to the presence of the risen Lord and the power of the gospel.

An ***EASTER BREAKFAST*** of egg bakes and assorted rolls and breads will be available after the 8:30 service, from approximately 9:30 to 10:20 in Fellowship Hall. There will be no Faith Connections.







## St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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