

Welcome home! **BAY VIEW** **LUTHERAN CHURCH** ELCA



April 1, 2021
Maundy Thursday

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

A table is set before us. A feast is prepared for us. A meal of bread and wine, of meat and bitter herbs. The Lord calls us to this supper of remembrance. The Lord calls us to serve and to be served. As we break the bread and share the cup, our understanding may fail us. But we will never forget Christ's example. We will never forget the full extent of his love.

OPENING PRAYER: *As Christ Has Washed Us*

Let us pray

Merciful Savior, we have traveled this long, dusty Lenten journey. Our feet are tired, dirty, aching, and calloused.

You have shown us Your love by becoming a humble servant.

Humble us when we try to travel without You. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another. Humble us when we believe some work is below us. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another.

Humble us when we are too proud to accept help, or care, or love. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another.

Humble us when we do not fully receive the gift of Your amazing and bountiful grace. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: *In Christ Alone*

by Worship House Media.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Surely.

I would never betray you, never deny you.

Surely?

Beloved,

Give me the faith to doubt my righteousness. Give me the assurance to question, to examine myself honestly, to ask.

Give me the confidence to wonder how I might betray your perfect love, to see.

Give me grace to confess how my promises are broken, my heart broken.

Give me the peace to be troubled by my smugness, and repent. Open my eyes to see that you see, you know, and knowing, you keep right on eating with me.

Now, let us rest in some uncomfortable silence as we lift up our confessions to God.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus said: "I came not to judge the world, but to save the world" and "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end"

The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

SONG OF PREPARATION: *Lord, I Need You*

by Worship House Media.

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel of John, chapter 13

13 1-2 Just before the Passover Feast, Jesus knew that the time had come to leave this world to go to the Father. Having loved his dear companions, he continued to love them right to the end. It was supertime. The Devil by now had Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, firmly in his grip, all set for the betrayal.

3-6 Jesus knew that the Father had put him in complete charge of everything, that he came from God and was on his way back to God. So, he got up from the supper table, set aside his robe, and put on an apron. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the disciples, drying them with his apron. When he got to Simon Peter, Peter said, "Master, you wash my feet?"

7 Jesus answered, "You don't understand now what I'm doing, but it will be clear enough to you later."

8 Peter persisted, "You're not going to wash my feet—ever!" Jesus said, "If I don't wash you, you can't be part of what I'm doing."

9 "Master!" said Peter. "Not only my feet, then. Wash my hands! Wash my head!"

10-12 Jesus said, "If you've had a bath in the morning, you only need your feet washed now and you're clean from head to toe. My concern, you understand, is holiness, not hygiene. So now you're clean. But not every one of you." (He knew who was betraying him. That's why he said, "Not every one of you.") After he had finished washing their feet, he took his robe, put it back on, and went back to his place at the table.

12-17 Then he said, "Do you understand what I have done to you? You address me as 'Teacher' and 'Master,' and rightly so. That is what I am. So, if I, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you must now wash each other's feet. I've laid down a pattern for you. What I've done, you do. I'm only pointing out the obvious. A servant is not ranked above his master; an employee doesn't give orders to the employer. If you understand what I'm telling you, act like it—and live a blessed life.

31-32 When he had left, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is seen

for who he is, and God seen for who he is in him. The moment God is seen in him, God's glory will be on display. In glorifying him, he himself is glorified—glory all around!

33 "Children, I am with you for only a short time longer. You are going to look high and low for me. But just as I told the Jews, I'm telling you: 'Where I go, you are not able to come.'

34-35 "Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other."

MEDITATION: *written by Nigel Varndell*

PRAYERFUL RESPONSE

Let us pray ...

Messiah I come, Brought to my knees by astonishing grace. In the presence of such humility from one so great What can I do but kneel and praise?

Messiah I come, challenged to bow to the King who kneels. I want to pour out mercy and bring tender healing, But I am proud, judgmental, and self-absorbed.

And you are the only one who can lead me to first-becoming-last greatness. I would wash and serve, wash and love, like you do. But first Lord Jesus, wash my feet, cleanse my heart Till I am – like you – Humble and ready on my knees. **AMEN**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We will stray away from the Apostle Creed today for our affirmation. Our affirmation today is inspired by Jesus' last supper with the disciples before his arrest. It was written by Frank Henderson. Hold on to these truths:

We believe that bread comes from grain that grows in the wind and the sun and the rain with the farmers' help.

We believe that bread comes from love the love of God the love of the farmer, the love of the baker's hands, the love of those who bring it to us.

We believe that bread can be and should be broken and shared and given to all persons until all have enough.

We believe that Jesus loved bread and took it and broke it and blessed it and gave it to his disciples.

We believe enough in bread to want to receive it from Jesus to want it to nurture us. We want to be bread for others.

We believe the Spirit will help us.
Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Nothing But the Blood*
by Worship House Media.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

This was just a cup filled with wine this was just ordinary bread, baked for guests until Jesus took them, took and drank from the cup, even though it was his cup of pain, filled with the agony of the world; took and broke the bread – even though his body was too young to be broken.

This and these would be ordinary lives unless the bread, unless the wine, is poured into them: and the mystery of grace takes place.

Come, not because you fully understand, but because you need to reach out and receive the life that is offered to you.

Now, hear Jesus words in 1st Corinthians:

Let me go over with you again exactly what goes on in the Lord's Supper and why it is so centrally important. I received my instructions from the Master himself and passed them on to you.

The Master, Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, took bread.

Having given thanks, he broke it and said,

This is my body, broken for you.

Do this to remember me.

After supper, he did the same thing with the cup:

This cup is my blood, my new covenant with you.

Each time you drink this cup, remember me.

What you must solemnly realize is that every time you eat this bread and every time you drink this cup, you reenact in your words and actions the death of the Master. You will be drawn back to this meal again and again until the Master returns. You must never let familiarity breed contempt.

Body of Christ broken for you

Blood of Christ shed for you.

Now, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray:

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Sending Song: *You Never Let Go*
by Worship House Media.

BENEDICTION

So may the blessing of the God who calls the people out of Egypt
call us out from our comfort and our safety
to embrace a journey of challenge and risk

May the blessing of the Son who kneels and washes our feet
call us out from our comfort and our safety
to embrace and serve those we meet on the journey

May the blessing of the Spirit who weaves dreams of a new
community call us out from our comfort and our safety
to provide welcome and hospitality to strangers as well as friends.

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