

# Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



*Maundy Thursday*

March 28, 2024

7:00 p.m.

**Order of Worship**  
**for**  
**Thursday, March 28, 2024**

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS**

**GATHERING**

*(Please rise as you are able)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (John 13)

P: From busy weekday lives  
we pause this hour, gathered as friends,  
to remember Jesus' last earthly night  
with his disciples.

**C: May we listen for God's invitations  
to personal discipleship and service;  
to communion with one another  
and with the Holy One.**

P: Let us prepare our hearts and minds  
to worship God.

**OPENING HYMN -**      *"Where Charity and Love Prevail "*      #126  
*Lutheran Book of Worship—Green Hymnal*

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (John 13)

P: God of service and abundance,  
on this night of holy meals,  
we are reminded that we ought to love  
and share with one another.

We confess that your ways  
are not always our ways.

When we drift toward isolation and indifference,  
may we remember this night of communion  
and your ever new commandment of love.

May our love and sharing  
be signs of hope for the world.

**C: Amen.**

### **SALUTATION**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen.

*(please be seated)*

## WORD

**The FIRST LESSON** comes from the book of Exodus, chapter 12, verses 1 through 14.

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell 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. <sup>4</sup>If 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. [<sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of

this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the

morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ]

<sup>11</sup>This 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. <sup>12</sup>For 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. <sup>13</sup>The 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.

<sup>14</sup>This 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: This is the Spirit speaking to the church

**C: Thanks be to God**

The **SECOND LESSON** is from the book of 1 Corinthians, chapter 11 verses 23 through 26.

<sup>23</sup>For 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, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup>In 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." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*(Please rise as you are able)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☩ 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.

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

C: Glory to you O Lord.

## GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

<sup>1</sup>Now 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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>Then 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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what

I am doing, but later you will understand.”<sup>8</sup> Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.”<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”<sup>10</sup> Jesus 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.”

<sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

<sup>12</sup>After 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?”<sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am.<sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.<sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

<sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them.<sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

<sup>31b</sup>“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him.<sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.<sup>33</sup>Little 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.’<sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.<sup>35</sup>By 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.**

*(please be seated)*

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

# 107

*Lutheran Book of Worship—Green Hymnal*

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD (1 Corinthians 11)

P: May the word opened, like bread broken, nourish us for God’s service.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

### PRAYER SONG



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

### PRAYERS

P: Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

P: God who kneels to wash our feet, gather your church around the world during this holy week. Humble the powerful and lift up any who are marginalized. Renew our faith and make us bold in service and love to our neighbors. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.



P: God who blesses the grain of the soil and the fruit of the vine, inspire in us a reverent care for the earth. Sustain fields, gardens, and wild places, that all people are fed and every living thing flourishes. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

God whose greatest commandment is love, guide all who govern by the principle of love. Transform unjust human systems that oppress some for the gain of others. Restore communities as places of justice and concern for those who are vulnerable. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: God who was betrayed, comfort people everywhere who have suffered abuse at the hands of someone they knew and trusted. Heal the bodies, minds, and hearts of victims of exploitation. Help all in pain to know that you are near (*especially*). Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: God who sits at the table with us, grant the joy of your presence to people celebrating first communion today, and to all who share the meal. Strengthen communities of faith in grace and courage. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: God who brings new life out of death, we pray with thanks for the lives of those who have joined the communion of saints (*especially*). In our holy meal, connect us to the faithful who have gone before us, and nourish us as your people living today. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer.

C: Amen

### PRAYER SONG (repeated)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

*(Congregation is invited to gather at the Altar)*

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: We are gathered as disciples, and tonight Jesus reveals himself to us. He is the master teacher who unexpectedly washes our feet, as would a servant.

He has led us triumphantly into Jerusalem, and yet he speaks of going where we cannot go, of being broken and poured out for us. We remember him now as he asked us to do, in a communal meal. Whether bewildered that he must depart, sobered before the cross that awaits, or quietly anticipating Sunday's joy, let us center ourselves now— in this moment, connected with those around us—to seek God's presence in the breaking of the bread.

## MEAL

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

P: Let us join our hands and hearts together in the prayer that our Lord  
taught us to pray:

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

P: These are the Gifts of God, for the people of God! Let us say together:

**C: THANKS BE TO GOD! AMEN!**

## SHARING THE MEAL

*A: This is the Body Given for you. R: Amen*

*A: This is the Blood shed for you. R: Amen*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: O God, we thank you for gathering and feeding us as a mother hen embraces her young. Release us now to go on our way in these forty days, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

# STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

(Pastor will read the psalm as items from the Altar to be taken to the sacristy. )

## Psalm 22

- <sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me\*  
and are so far from my cry, and from the words of my distress?
- <sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;\*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- <sup>3</sup>Yet you are the Holy One,\*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- <sup>4</sup>Our forefathers put their trust in you;\*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- <sup>5</sup>They cried out to you and were delivered;\*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup>But as for me, I am a worm and no man,\*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- <sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh me to scorn;\*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- <sup>8</sup>“He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him;\*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”
- <sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me out of the womb,\*  
and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.
- <sup>10</sup>I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;\*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.
- <sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is near,\*  
and there is none to help.

- <sup>12</sup> Many young bulls encircle me;\*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- <sup>13</sup> They open wide their jaws at me,\*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;\*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- <sup>15</sup> My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the  
roof of my mouth;\*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- <sup>16</sup> Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around  
me;\*  
they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count all my bones.
- <sup>17</sup> They stare and gloat over me;\*  
they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my  
clothing.
- <sup>18</sup> Be not far away, O LORD;\*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- <sup>19</sup> Save me from the sword,\*  
my life from the power of the dog.
- <sup>20</sup> Save me from the lion's mouth,\*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- <sup>21</sup> I will declare your name to my brethren;\*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- <sup>22</sup> Praise the LORD, you that fear him;\*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's  
line, give glory.
- <sup>23</sup> For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; nei-  
ther does he hide his face from them;\*

but when they cry to him he hears them.

<sup>24</sup>My praise is of him in the great assembly;\*

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

<sup>25</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him:\*

“May your heart live forever!”

<sup>26</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,\* and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

<sup>27</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD;\* he rules over the nations.

<sup>28</sup>To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;\* all who go down to the dust fall before him.

<sup>29</sup>My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;\* they shall be known as the LORD’s forever.

<sup>30</sup>They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn\* the saving deeds that he has done.

## Silence

