

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 2, 2026

PRELUDE

Dave Roos

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we reflected on support, our needs, the community and world's needs, and how God in Jesus Christ is our source of love and support. 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. From long before time God prepared for us an inheritance of grace and mercy. It is kept in readiness for us to receive with thanksgiving.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and granting the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the Three Great Days reconciled with God and one another.

We turn ourselves to God in confession.

Holy God,

We confess that we have rejected the refuge you offer.

We try to hide behind self-sufficiency and pride, but you see us, and love us still.

We confess that we have chosen strife over peace;
we want to be right more than we want to be in right relationship.

**Forgive us for the ways we have rebelled against you
and harmed our neighbors in action, thought, or indifference.**

We confess that we have settled for convenient comforts,
for palm-sized imitations of mercy and justice.

**Your mighty hands break the bow and topple the throne,
yet also gather and shelter us like a mother hen.**

We confess that you know what we need and gladly provide it.

**Grant us the courage, patience, and trust to receive and share your love.
Amen.**

Hear this, beloved children of God:

God rejoices when you turn and return.

Search, that you may find.

Find, that you may be found.

Loosen your grip, that you may be more tightly held, more warmly comforted, and more tenderly nourished. Your stony heart will soften like the river's frozen mouth. Your stiff neck will relax as you accept God's love, allowing you to see more of the world around you. God forgives your sins and remembers them no more. In the name of the Creator, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, receive this divine peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #336 "Lamb of God"

Your only son, no sin to hide
but you have sent him from your side
to walk upon this guilty sod
and to become the Lamb of God.

**Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the Holy Lamb of God.
Oh wash me in your precious blood,
my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.**

Your gift of love we crucified,
we laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble king we named a fraud
and sacrificed the Lamb of God. ***To Refrain***

I was so lost, I should have died,
but you have brought me to your side
to be led by your staff and rod
and to be called a lamb of God. ***To Refrain.***

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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. Amen.**

BIBLE READING 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

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

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Longing for Intimacy”

Pastor Julie Brenden

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW # 708 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Refrain: **Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.**

- 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. **To Refrain**
- 2 Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,
neighbors are nearby and far away. **To Refrain**
- 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. **To Refrain**
- 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you. **To Refrain**

FOOTWASHING/HANDWASHING

(The leader and people may wash one another's hands as an act of humility.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray. Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation,
and all who are in need.

*Each petition ends: God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love,
in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The people may greet one another with a sign of peace.)

OFFERING and HYMN ELW #712 v. 1-2 “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.

- 2 Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power
to our world to make it whole.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious Provider, **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed be God forever!

Blessed be God forever! (refrain repeats)

On the night...this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper...for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Blessed be God forever!

Blessed be God forever! (refrain repeats)

Amen. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. 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. Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR – READING OF PSALM 22

SOLO

“Were You There”

Kirk Lyksett

(When the hymn ends, all may depart in silence.)