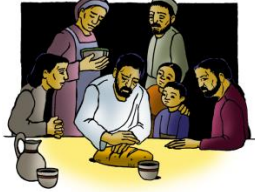


Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

P.O. Box 666 • 216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Thursday, April 17, 2014

Maundy Thursday



John Propst
Interim Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

WELCOME AND GATHERING

PRELUDE: *I To The Hills Live Up Mine Eyes* Chamber Choir

HYMN: *It Happened on That Fateful Night* All Stand & Sing

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 that 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, "til 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.

Issac Watts, 1674-1748; hymnal version, 1978
W. Hauser, Hesperian Harp, 1848

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Friends in Christ,

C 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 is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C 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.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1–4[5–10] 11–14

A reading from Exodus, the twelfth chapter.

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.



The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ² This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ 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. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ 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.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19 . . . Read Alternately, Women Start, Men **Bold verses**

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

**²for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

¹²How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

**¹³I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

**¹⁵Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from
my bonds.

**¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

**¹⁹in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

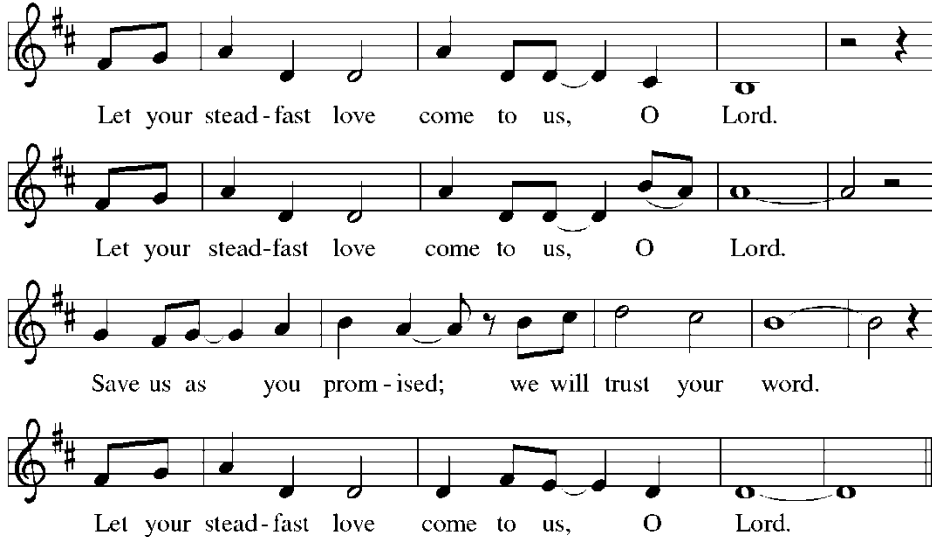
In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another, because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in the meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

²³ 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, ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

GOSPEL

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.

¹Now 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. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸



Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² 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?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ³¹ Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ 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.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ 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.

SERMON: *"Come to the Table - a Holy Invitation"* Pastor John

HYMN: *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* All Stand & Sing



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time, All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered around Christ crucified and risen, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

A brief silence.

For the church around the world; for those preparing for baptism; for deacons, diaconal ministers, and deaconesses; and for all whose humble service reveals the love of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For all who long for deliverance from oppression; for regions of the world torn by strife or violence; and for national and local leaders, that they may be servants of those most in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For rain that nourishes the earth; for oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams; and for the gifts of spring that bring renewal and rebirth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those enslaved by forces within or powers without; for those whose pride keeps them from acknowledging their need for others; and for those hospitalized or sick, that the gift of holy communion strengthen their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For oneness in the body of Christ; for all who do works of charity in this community; and for all who live out their baptismal calling through faithful and humble service. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for your holy ones who feasted on the bread of life and cup of salvation, and now dwell in your eternal love. Bring us, with them, to the joy of the paschal feast. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING ANTHEM: *Lamb of God* Church Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Praise and Thanks and Adoration* All Stand & Sing



1 Praise and thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, Son of God, to you we give,
2 Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing, com - fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live.
through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day
Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol - low where your steps are lead - ing, find ad - ven - ture, joys ex - ceed - ing!
in your birth, your life and pas - sion, in your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: FREDERICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. . .

C God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives.

As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

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 our thanks and praise.

THE DIALOGUE

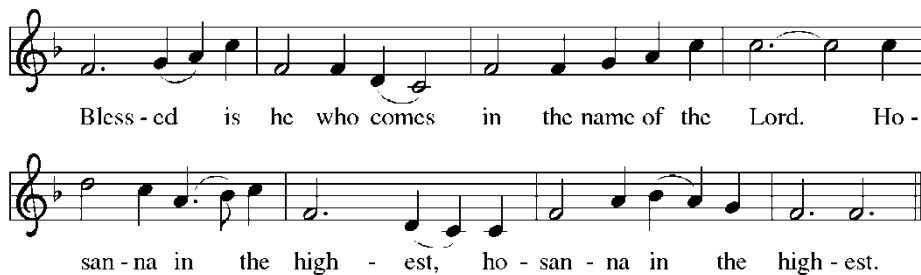
...We praise your name and join their unending hymn...



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Where charity and love abide, there is God. Rejoice in this holy communion.



(**An Invitation to Commune** is extended to everyone who believes in the presence of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper and repents of his or her sins. If it is difficult for you to climb the steps to receive Holy Communion, please let an usher know and they will escort you to a front pew where a communion assistant will bring the elements to you.)

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG: *Jesus, Lamb of God* All Sing

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert, 1797-1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937.
 Adapt. © 1985, 1999 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:

Shepherd's Peace Handbell Choir

Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed All Sing



1 Lord, who the night you were be - trayed did pray that all your
 2 For all your church on earth, we in - ter - cede; Lord, make our
 3 And hear our prayer for wan-d'ers from your fold; re - store them,
 4 So, Lord, at length when sac - ra - ments shall cease, may we be



church might be for - ev - er one: help us at
 sad di - vi - sions soon to cease; draw us all
 too, Good Shep - herd of the sheep, back to the
 one with all your church a - bove— one with your



ev - 'ry cu - cha - rist to say with will - ing heart and
 clos - er, each to each, we plead, by draw - ing all to
 faith your saints con - fessed of old, and to the church still
 saints in one un - bro - ken peace, one with your saints in



soul, "Your will be done." Oh, may we all one bread, one
 you, O Prince of peace; thus may we all one bread, one
 pledged that faith to keep, Soon may we all one bread, one
 one un - bound - ed love; more bless - ed still, in peace and



bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
 bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
 bod - y be, through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
 love to be one with the Trin - i - ty in u - ni - ty.

Text: William H. Burton, 1856–1938, alt.
 Music: SONG 1, Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625

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

C Amen

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

(Chancel is cleared; All depart in silence after the Chancel is cleared)

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye, Julia Gunter

ACOLYTES: Becca Gatlin
Matthew Carr, Alec Via

CRUCIFERS: Hannah Carnes
Molly Koehler
Noah Rogers

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:
Shelia & Tim Kelly

USHERS: Shelia & Tim Kelly

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)
Bev Mauney, Co-Captain
Brad Milton, Co-Captain
Carmen De Nicholas
Brandy Milton

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team A)
Cynthia Buchanan Shelia Kelly
Jo Singleton Jack Tench

GREETER: Need Volunteer

THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TONIGHT are given to the glory of God by Dianne Lail and family in memory of infant Mason Abernathy.

Those who have placed flowers on the altar may use the containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church.

Greg Byrum, Worship & Music Committee

Musical Rehearsal Schedule for Easter Sunday

- Handbell Choir Rehearsal After The Sunrise Service
- Breakfast after the Service
- Chamber Choir at 10:05 am in Choir Room
- Church Choir at 10:10 am in Choir Room

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2014 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24292.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Easter Worship Services/Activities Schedule



- **Tenebrae, Good Friday Service, Crucifixion Mime at 7:00 pm.**



- **All children, Toddler-Grade 5, are invited to the *Rock-n-Roll* Easter Event with Egg Hunt, 10:00 am – 12 Noon, Saturday, April 19. No lunch.**



- **Easter Sunrise Service begins at 7:30 am.**

Breakfast follows the service in the fellowship hall.

NO CHILDRENS' SUNDAY SCHOOL



- **Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of Our Lord, Service 10:30 am with Holy Communion and Flowering of the Cross**

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm

John Propst, Interim Pastor; email: JohnCPropst@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Clanton, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager