

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Thursday, April 6, 2023

## Maundy Thursday



### WELCOME AND GATHERING

**PRELUDE:** *Mandatum* ..... Chamber Choir

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P 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. 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.*

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 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.

**C Amen.**

**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.”

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

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.

**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 12:1–14, 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: <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.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

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

<sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

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

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from

my bonds.

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

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

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

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 11:23–26**

A reading from First Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

*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.*

<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.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## 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.*

<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>31</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."

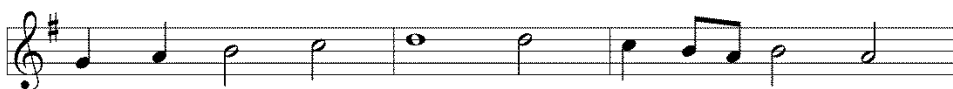
P The gospel of the Lord.  
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON..... Deacon Beka

HYMN: *Love Consecrates the Humblest Act* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 Love con - se - crates the hum - blest act and  
2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ  
3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what



ha - loes mer - cy's deeds; it sheds a ben - e -  
knelt and washed the feet of his dis - ci - ples,  
Christ in love so true has free - ly done for



dic - tion sweet and hal - lows hu - man needs.  
he gave us a sign of love com - plete.  
one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, c. 1902, alt.  
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

You make a new covenant with your people. Gather your church around word and table in love and promise as these three holy days enfold us. Open us to behold the mystery of our salvation. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You give us our daily bread, fruit of the earth and work of human hands. Bless those who labor and tend to their crops and those who prepare our meals. Strengthen us to advocate for food justice and a fair distribution of resources. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You, our Savior and Teacher, stoop down to us in servant love. Inspire national and local leaders with a renewed sense of public service. Increase in them a humility to serve with equity and fairness. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You incline your ear to us in every need. Befriend all who are lonely. Comfort those who grieve. Soothe any who are anxious. Console all who are distressed. Graciously tend to the hurts of your children who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You inspire your people to praise in word, song, and art. We give thanks for artists whose gifts enrich the church's worship. Kindle in us appreciation for all who beautify our worship space throughout the changing seasons. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Precious in your sight is the death of your faithful ones. We remember and give thanks for the those who have died. With them, we trust your promise to love your own until the end. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**ANTHEM:** *Set Me as a Seal* . . . . . Church Choir

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray

**C** **God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

*Pastor* *Congregation*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

*Cong.*  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

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

## HOLY HOLY HOLY

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.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, 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** Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**



*All people are welcome at the Lord's Table to receive Christ's real presence and grace.  
You are invited forward to take a cup and then kneel around the altar as you're able.  
You'll receive the bread and eat, then hold your cup to be filled with wine and drink.  
You'll then return to your seat the way you came forward.*

**FOOT WASHING:** *Once you commune, you are invited but not required to move to one of the foot washing stations and have your feet washed.*

## LAMB OF GOD

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

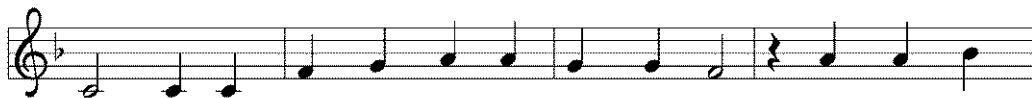
Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

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

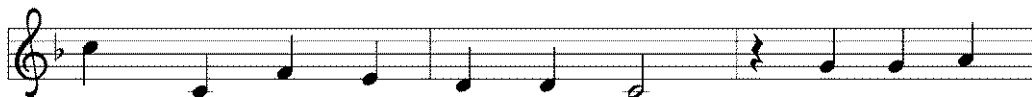
grant us peace, grant us peace.

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](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
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HYMN: *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'rers from your fold; re - store them,  
 4 So, Lord, at length when sac - ra - ments shall cease, may we be



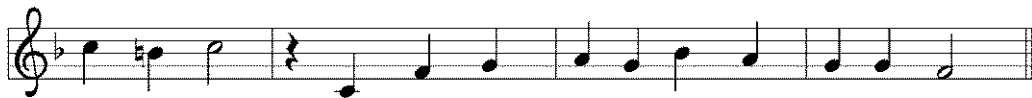
church might be for - ev - er one: help us at  
 sad di - vi - sions soon to cease; draw us all  
 too, Good Shep - herd of the sheep, back to the  
 one with all your church a - bove— one with your



ev - 'ry eu - 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. Turton, 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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C 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 . . . . . Pastor and Choir alternate verses.



## PSALM 22

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you for- | saken 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 prais- | es of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>Our forefathers put their | trust in you;\*  
they trusted, and you de- | livered 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 de- | liver him;\*  
let him rescue him, if he de- | lights 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 ravener 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 potsherd; 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 encircle 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; neither 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 <sup>1</sup>LORD's forever.  
<sup>30</sup>They shall come and make known to a people <sup>1</sup>yet unborn\*  
the saving deeds that <sup>1</sup>he has done.

**LET US GO IN PEACE**



**HOLY WEEK**  
worship schedule

**Maundy Thursday, *April 6th* 7:00PM**

**Good Friday, *April 7th* 7:00PM**

**Easter Sunrise Worship, *April 9th* 7:00AM**

**Easter Worship, *April 9th* 10:30AM**

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**"Journeying through faith in a joyful, safe community, welcoming and serving Belmont and beyond."**

Our core values are: **Embrace, Grow, Connect, and Give**

**Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

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Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Chelsea Spicer, Office Manager