



## THE LITURGY OF MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 9, 2020 + 7:00 p.m.

*With nightfall 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. We glory in the cross of Christ, for he is our joy and our resurrection.*

*At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. Maundy is the word for "command." As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved.*

*At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.*

The Communities of  
the First United Methodist Church  
& the Lutheran Church  
of the Holy Trinity, Saranac Lake  
and Potsdam

63 Church Street  
Saranac Lake, NY



# The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020

## + Gathering +

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

### Welcome

Pastor Eric W. Olsen

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

Most merciful God,  
**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.**

\*Gathering Hymn: "What Wondrous Love is This"

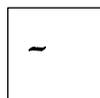
### \*Greeting:

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

**P:** And also with you.

### \*Prayer of the Day

**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.**



**Communion Hymn:** "The Old Rugged Cross"

**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.**

+ Silence +

*On this night the disciples betrayed, denied, and abandoned Jesus.  
From his last supper Christ walked to his humiliation and death.*

+ Silence +

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness." The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the Light of the world. As even creation was dark when He suffered, so we extinguish our candles.

**Song:** "Stay with Me"



+ Word +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**First Reading:** Exodus 12:1-14

*At the Seder meal of Passover, Jews tell the story of Exodus 12. Christians remember the old Passover as a parallel to the new Passover. Over the Three Days we keep the Christian Passover: Jesus is the lamb whose blood saves the people from death.*

**Reader:** Word of God, word of life.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19**

O love the Lord, who has heard my voice and my supplications

**And has inclined his ear to me whenever I called.**

What shall I return to the Lord for all my benefits?

**I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,**

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

**Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.**

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid.

You have loosed my bonds.

**I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving**

**and call on the name of the Lord.**

I will pay my vows to the Lord, in the presence of all his people,

**in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

**Praise the Lord!**

**Dramatic Gospel Reading:** John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

*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.*

**Reader:** The Holy Gospel according to John. **All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Meditation Song:** "Song of the Lord's Command"



**Pastoral Prayer:**

Pastor Eric Olsen

+ Meal +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.  
You gather your people around the tree of the cross,  
transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

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.



With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's passover  
from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*The 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.**

This is the Table, not of the church but of the Lord.  
It is made ready for those who seek Him, those who love Him,  
those who are devoted to Him.

Come, you who have great faith, you who have little faith,  
and you who are questioning your faith.

To you who have been here often, and you who have not been here  
for a long time or ever before, the Table is set for you.

Come you who have tried to follow and you who have failed,  
come not because the Church invites you,  
it is Christ who invites you to be known, fed and loved here.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

