

Maundy Thursday (virtual worship)

April 9, 2020

Order of Worship



Welcome to this new way of gathering together! While we cannot be physically present with one another, we know that as we gather in God's name, Christ is truly present.

Each Sunday, we will gather at 9:30am via Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Lutheran-Church-Brewster-NY-160570420670756/>) It will later be posted on our YouTube page (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber) and our website <http://trinitybrewsterny.org/wordpress/>.

You may join us live (and comment below the feed to let us know you're there) or worship at whatever time works best for you. Invite others to join us as well!

Listed here is the Order of worship so that you are able to follow along. We have included links to the hymns picked by Franklyn that you may either listen to now or later. We will sing (at least) the first verse of each hymn which are printed in the order of worship if you would like to sing along.

Congregational responses are in bold, which I will still read, but invite you to read aloud wherever you may be worshipping. Though I cannot hear you, we know that we are speaking together from where we all are for God's ears and attention.

At the end of this document, you will find additional links for other service opportunities and brief announcements.

Setting up: As we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples, we gather at our own tables in our homes. We recall the table fellowship that they shared as they partook of the Passover meal, a meal of freedom. Prepare a bowl of water in which we will be washing our hands. Light a candle (or more), set out your Bible and/or a cross. Spend a few moments in silence before you begin.

Offering: *You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity by mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: www.trinitybrewsterny.org)*

Introduction: The disciples were ready for a battle. But on the night of Jesus' arrest, they were unprepared to surrender to truth and love.

Special Music: *“Bach cello suite #4 in E flat Major”* played by Lisa Schuldt
(recording to be post online)

Welcome

As Jesus and his disciples gathered for a meal together, so we gather this night...even though we are apart.

An empty chair reminds us of those who are present with us only in spirit as well as the hope and certainty of the time when we will once again gather around this table of grace....

Name--aloud or in your hearts--those you wish were gathered with you

While we and these loved ones are far from us, still we gather in Spirit, for we are united in and through Jesus.

Preparing for Worship

Today begins the Great Three days marking Christ's passion, death and resurrection

We follow Christ's path with thanksgiving, knowing that he endured all because of his great love for us

Today is the night when Jesus gathered with his disciples in the upper room

Lord, bless us as we gather in a new way

Today is the night when Jesus washed his disciples' feet

Lord, teach us to love and serve one another

Today is the night that Jesus gathered at the table with those closest to him

Lord, we gather at our own tables, mindful of what unites us

Today is the night of Jesus betrayal and arrest, the night which leads to the cross and unimaginable suffering and death

Lord, help us to remain faithful disciples

Tonight we remember again that death did not have the final word,

the cross was followed with resurrection joy

Tonight we affirm again that because Christ lives, we too shall live, and with the great cloud of witnesses we say,

“Amen, Come to us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

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 for reflection and self-examination

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.**

During the reading below: As a sign of Christ's forgiveness, as a reminder that Christ knelt at his disciples feet to tenderly wash them, and as a reminder of our own baptisms, I invite you to wash the hands of each other or to wash your own hands.

A reading from the Gospel of John (13:1-17)

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 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." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." 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? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Silence for reflection

In the mercy of almighty God,
Christ offers of his whole self in love for all people.
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. **Amen.**

Hymn "A New Commandment" (*Listen on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Gy9K7Qpr6K8>*)

*A new commandment I give unto you,
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another;
by this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.*

Prayer of the Day

O Lord, Your disciples were not prepared for the events of your final days. Give us the perspective which they lacked, that we might stay present during this week of sorrows, knowing that you are leading us down the right path. In Jesus' name, amen.

Reading: Ezra 5:19-22

On the fourteenth day of the first month the returned exiles kept the Passover. For both the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were clean. So they killed the Passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves. It was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile, and also by all who had joined them and separated themselves from the pollutions of the nations of the land to worship the LORD, the God of Israel. With joy they celebrated the festival of unleavened bread seven days; for the LORD had made them joyful, and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work on the house of God, the God of Israel.

Word of God, Word of life **Thanks be to God!**

Holy Gospel Mark 14:22-42

The Gospel according to Mark, the 14th chapter **Glory to you, O Lord**

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters; for it is written,

"I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered."

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.' Peter said to him, 'Even though all become deserters, I will not.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' But he said vehemently, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.' He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn "Eat This Bread" (Listen on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/jZhn9Gk3E38>)

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

Apostle's creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord God,
on this, the night he was betrayed,
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.
We commit ourselves to follow his example
of love and service.

Lord, hear us
and humble us.

On this night, Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one.
We pray for the unity of your Church...

Lord, hear us
and unite us.

On this night, Jesus prayed for those who were to believe
through their ministry.
We pray for the mission of your Church...

Lord, hear us
and renew our zeal.

On this night, Jesus commanded them to love,
but suffered rejection himself.
We pray for the rejected and unloved...

Lord, hear us
and fill us with your love.

On this night, Jesus reminded them that if the world hated them,
it hated him first.
We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith...

Lord, hear us
and give us your peace.

On this night, Jesus calls us to remember that we may be re-connected in faith
And as we pray as our Lord taught us, we may share in Christ's loving presence...

Lord's prayer

We let these familiar words sink into our hearts and rise before us as we pause after each phrase.

Our Father, who art in heaven, (pause)
hallowed be Thy name, (pause)
Thy kingdom come, (pause)
Thy will be done (pause)
on earth as it is in heaven. (pause)
Give us this day our daily bread; (pause)
and forgive us our trespasses (pause)
as we forgive those who trespass against us; (pause)
and lead us not into temptation, (pause)
but deliver us from evil. (pause)
For thine is the kingdom (pause)
and the power (pause)
and the glory (pause)
forever and ever. (pause)
Amen.

Stripping of Altar (symbolic)

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you for-^l saken me?

Why so far from saving me,
so far from the words^l of my groaning?

My God, I cry out by day, but you^l do not answer;
by night, but I^l find no rest.

Yet you are the^l Holy One,
enthroned on the prais-^l es of Israel.

Our ancestors put their^l trust in you,
they trusted, and you^l rescued them.

They cried out to you and^l were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not^l put to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm^l and not human,
scorned by all and despised^l by the people.

All who see me laugh^l me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they^l shake their heads.

"Trust in the LORD; let the^l LORD deliver;
let God rescue him if God so de-^l lights in him."

Yet you are the one who drew me forth^l from the womb,
and kept me safe on my^l mother's breast.

I have been entrusted to you ever since^l I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my^l mother's womb.

Be not far from me, for trou-^l ble is near,
and there is no^l one to help.

SENDING

No further words are said: no benediction, no postlude. The church is left in semi-darkness and all leave in silence. Thus the continuity with the services of Good Friday is suggested. Join us tomorrow for Good Friday worship at 12 noon (Stations of the Cross) and/or at 7pm (Tenebrae service)

Worship notes: All readings are from the New Revised Standard Version (unless noted otherwise); Prayers of Intercession (posted on the **Oremus** website. <http://www.oremus.org/>)

Wash My Hands, by Lucy Nanson

*Wash my hands on Maundy Thursday not my feet
My hands peel potatoes, wipe messes from the floor
change dirty diapers, clean the grease from pots and pans;
my hands have pointed in anger and pushed away in tears.
In years past they've smacked a child and raised a fist
fumbled with nervousness, and shaken with fear.
I've wrung them when waiting for news to come
crushed a letter I'd rather forget
covered my mouth when I've been called out;
my hands have touched forbidden things...
childhood memories do not grow dim.
These hands have dug gardens, planted seeds
picked fruit and berries, weeded out and pruned trees;
found bleeding from the rose's thorns...
dirt and blood mix together
when washed before a cup of tea.
Love expressed by these hands
asks for your respect
in the hand-shake of warm greeting,
the gentle rubbing of a child's head
the caressing of a lover, the soft touch upon a baby's cheek;
sounds of music played by them in tunes upon a flute.
My hands have held a frightened teenager,
touched a mother in her death;
where cold skin tells the end of life has come
but not the end of love...
they've comforted a sister losing agility and health.
With my hands outstretched before you
I stand humbled and in awe
your gentle washing in water, the softness of the towel
symbolizing a cleansing
the servant-hood of Christ.
Wash my hands on Maundy Thursday
and not my feet.*