

 **St. Paul Lutheran Church**

 **Pontiac, IL**

 **April 1, 2021**

 **Maundy Thursday**

**We gather to worship, reach out, and serve the Lord.**

**Welcome**

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Whether you have worshipped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

God’s Peace be with you.

**Introduction to the day**

**Introduction**

This evening 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. Tonight we remember Christ’s last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples’ feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

L: Most merciful God,

A: **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.**

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us,

 Even when we 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.

**A:** **Amen.**

***All who desire may come forward and kneel at the altar. You may also remain in your seat if you prefer. To each person, one at a time, the pastor will say:***

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

(The person may respond) **Amen.**

*during this time “Ubi Caritas” is sung by a soloist.*

*Translation: Where true love and charity abide,*

*God is dwelling there; God is dwelling there*

**Greeting**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the

 Holy Spirit be with you all**.**

**A: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

L: 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.

**A: Amen**.

 **WORD**

**First Reading –** **Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14**

L: A reading from Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3Tell 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. 4If 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. [5Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ] 11This 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. 12For 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. 13The 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.
  14This 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.

L:Word of God, word of life.

A**: Thanks be to God.**

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

L: A reading from Psalm.

1I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
  and listened to my supplication,
 2**for the Lord has given ear to me**
  **whenever called.**
 12How shall I repay the Lord
  for all the good things God has done for me?
 13**I 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.
 15**Precious 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.
 17**I 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,
 19**in the courts of the Lord‘s house,**
  **in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

L: Holy Wisdom. Holy word.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26**

L: A reading from 1 Corinthians.

23For 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, 24and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 25In 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.” 26For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

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*Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Holy Gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

(spoken responsively)

L: I give you a new commandment,

**A: that you love one another just as I have loved you.**

**Gospel–John 13: 1-38**

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.” 8Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” 9Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” 10Jesus 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.” 11For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”
  12After 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? 13You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

18I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfil the scripture, “The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.” 19I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he. 20Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.’

21 After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, ‘Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.’ 22The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. 23One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; 24Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. 25So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, ‘Lord, who is it?’ 26Jesus answered, ‘It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.’ So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. 27After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, ‘Do quickly what you are going to do.’ 28Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. 29Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, ‘Buy what we need for the festival’; or, that he should give something to the poor. 30So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

 31When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33Little 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.’ 34I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

36 Simon Peter said to him, ‘Lord, where are you going?’ Jesus answered, ‘Where I am going, you cannot follow me now; but you will follow afterwards.’ 37Peter said to him, ‘Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.’ 38Jesus answered, ‘Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.

L: The gospel of the Lord.

**A: Praise to you, O, Christ.**

**Sermon Pastor Mathew Berger**

**Hymn of the Day Go to Dark Gethsemane ELW 347**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Each petition ends “Hear us, O God.” The congregation is invited to respond with words from tonight’s psalm, **“we call upon your name.”**

**Sharing the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with your neighbors by saying or typing, “Peace be with you.”*

**MEAL**

**Offering**

*Offerings can be placed in the offering box at the back of the sanctuary, made by mail or online. You can send a check to St. Paul Lutheran Church 210 Deerfield Rd Pontiac, IL 61764 or give online at* [*stpaulpontiac.org*](http://www.stpaulpontiac.org/)

**Offertory Music Where Charity and Love Prevail ELW 359**

**Offering Prayer**

L: Faithful God,

 You walk beside us in desert places,

 And you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.

 Accompany us in this meal,

 That we may pass over from death to life

 With Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**A: Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

L: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**A: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Preface**

L: 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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts

and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,

that, renewed in the gift of baptism,

we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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 saying

**A: Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**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.**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

L: Blessed are you O God,

for you made the earth and all that is, and declared it good.

Blessed are you,

for in Christ you entered into creation,

into our humanity, into our vulnerability, into our mortality.

You stayed with us through conflict, through suffering, through death.

Blessed are you for raising Jesus from the dead,

in him promising new life to us all.

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.

Come, Lord, Jesus, in this meal,

and make us alive again.

By your Spirit,

bind us to that holy communion of saints in every time and place,

and make us your body in the world,

bringing light and healing to all.

**Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

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

**A: 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**

L: Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

**Communion Hymn Remembrance Matt Maher**

**Prayer After Communion**

*a blessing is given, a prayer follows*

L: 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**

***The service concludes with the stripping of the altar. The sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners, and books are removed from the worship space.***

***During this time Psalm 22 is read. Lights may be dimmed as the worship space is stripped.***

***The service ends in silence to resume on Good Friday at 6:00pm.***

**Postlude**

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Thank you to all those who contributed to today’s service: Worship Slides: Julie Mehlberg, Lector: Rosemary Sutton, Ushers: Rosemary Sutton, Musician:, , Livestream: Louis Kehinde, Sound: John Mehlberg