

**Order of Worship
Maundy Thursday
April 17, 2025
7 p.m.**



**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
745 S. Ingraham Ave.
Lakeland, FL 33801
863-686-5585**

The Rev. Jeannine Sweet, Interim Pastor
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Maundy Thursday. 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.

***=ALL STAND for this part of worship**

PRELUDE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Paul Fey

(A time for stillness and reflection)

***INVOCATION**

We begin in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TRIDIUM

+ LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION +

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us pray. God of mercies and all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Let us make confession to God.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

Almighty God, merciful Lord:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, grant me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

Almighty God is merciful and has sent his only Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit, God cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. 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.**

Those who wish may come forward and kneel or stand at the communion rail for individual absolution by the Pastor.

GREETING

The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

+ LITURGY OF THE WORD +

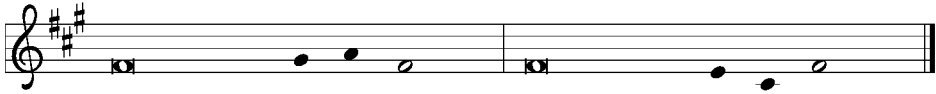
FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14

¹The 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19



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I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,
for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.
How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?
I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD.
I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people.

Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.
O LORD, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me |
from my bonds.
I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.
I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people,
in the courts of | the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 11:23-26

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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(sung first by the choir and then by the congregation)*

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have | loved you. (*John 13:34*)



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GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. John
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. ³¹"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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jeannine Sweet

HYMN OF THE DAY

Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue

ELW 644



1 Al - though I speak with an - gel's tongue, my faith, my
 2 For love is pa - tient, love is kind, and nev - er
 3 For now we peer at dark - ened glass; our vi - sions
 4 The gifts are man - y, the Bod - y one, and in - to



knowl - edge all sur - pass, but have no love, my gifts are
 vain with boast - ing pride; love bears all things, all things en -
 end; our tongues all cease. In part we know, in part now
 one are all bap - tized. Be - lov - ed, share one heart, one



vain as clang - ing gong or blar - ing brass.
 dures. All things must end; love will a - bide.
 see; then we will see love face to face.
 mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

+THE WASHING OF HANDS +

Those who would have their hands washed should come and sit in one of the front pew. Then one by one come to the front for the washing. Hold your hands over the large bowl as water is poured. When they have been dried, return to your pew. No words are spoken during this time.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Ah, Holy Jesus

arr. Franklin Ritter

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought, fire or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need *especially Mary, Mabel, Doris, June, Barbara, Ann, Julie, Brooklyn, Carol, Anne, Judy, Tom, Lydia, Brian, James & Grace, Wil, Amy, Bob & Jane, Barbara, Scott, Ron & Flo, Mac, Monica, Tom & Leona, Avery, Doris, Natalie, John, Tim, Betty, Linda, Jeff, Henry, Gary, Mary, Greg, Helen & Ron, and Max..* God of grace,
hear our prayer.

In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead. Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
Amen.

+ LITURGY OF THE MEAL +

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Lord, I Come to Your Table

Weston

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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

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.

PREFACE

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:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW 192

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, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Gracious God, in Jesus you became the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world, and the living bread, broken for the life of your children.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Blessed and broken God, be among your people who taste the bitter herbs of slavery and oppression; be close to your children who are poured out in grief and despair; remake the church, your Son's body, where it is broken by discord and dispute; and renew your creation in the joy of thanksgiving. Spread your table in the face of friends and enemies, that all may know your peace and gather in the company of your saints, where you, in the presence of Christ and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, are all in all, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

Angus Dei

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

COMMUNION

The baptized children of God are invited by the Lord to the Lord's Table where we receive Jesus' very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. We commune at the communion rail where we receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Gluten free bread and grape juice are available. If you wish to commune, but cannot come forward, let an usher know and Pastor will come to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. You may wish to remain at the rail for a time of personal prayer following which you may return to your pew down the side aisle.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Stay with Us
A New Commandment
(next page)

WOV 743
 WOV 664

Stay with Us



1 Stay with us, till night has come: our praise to
 2 Walk with us, our spir - its sigh: hear when our
 3 Walk with us, the road will bend: make all our
 4 Talk with us, till we be - hold a joy - ful
 5 Stay with us, till day is done: no tears nor



you this day be sung. Bless our bread, o - pen our
 wea - ry spir - its cry. Feel a - gain our loss, our
 weep - ing, wail - ing end. Wipe our tears, for - give our
 life you will un - fold. Heal our eyes to see the
 dark shall dim the sun. Cheer the heart, your grace im -



eyes: Je - sus, be our great sur - prise.
 pain: Je - sus, take us to your side.
 fears: Je - sus, lift the heav - y cross.
 prize: Je - sus, take us to the light.
 part: Je - sus, bring e - ter - nal life.

A New Commandment



A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as



I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.



By this shall peo - ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if



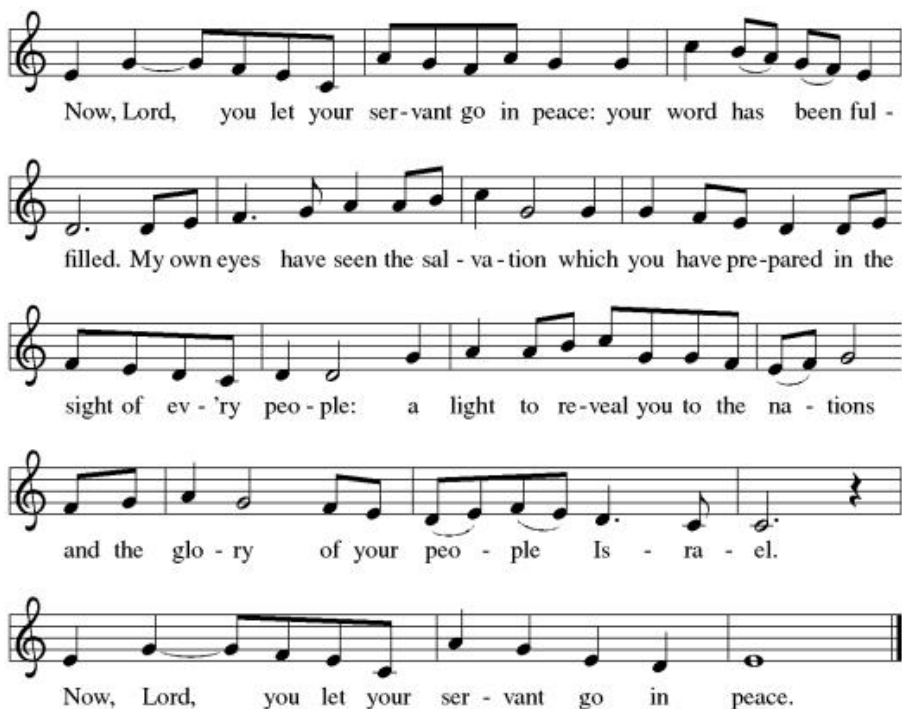
you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know



you are my dis - ci - ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

*BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

Nunc Dimitis



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

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.

+ THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR +

The assembly sits.

While Psalm 88 is read, the altar is stripped. We remain until the conclusion and then depart silently. There is no benediction until the Easter Festival of the Resurrection.

PSALM 88

A Song. A Psalm of the Korahites. To the leader: according to Mahalath Leannoth. A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.

¹O LORD, God of my salvation,
when, at night, I cry out in your presence,
²let my prayer come before you;
incline your ear to my cry.
³For my soul is full of troubles,
and my life draws near to Sheol.
⁴I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;
I am like those who have no help,
⁵like those forsaken among the dead,
like the slain that lie in the grave,
like those whom you remember no more,
for they are cut off from your hand.
⁶You have put me in the depths of the Pit,
in the regions dark and deep.
⁷Your wrath lies heavy upon me,
and you overwhelm me with all your waves.

Selah

⁸You have caused my companions to shun me;
you have made me a thing of horror to them.
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;
⁹my eye grows dim through sorrow.
Every day I call on you, O LORD;
I spread out my hands to you.

¹⁰Do you work wonders for the dead?
Do the shades rise up to praise you?

Selah

¹¹Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,
or your faithfulness in Abaddon?

¹²Are your wonders known in the darkness,
or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?

¹³But I, O LORD, cry out to you;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.

¹⁴O LORD, why do you cast me off?
Why do you hide your face from me?

¹⁵Wretched and close to death from my youth up,
I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.

¹⁶Your wrath has swept over me;
your dread assaults destroy me.

¹⁷They surround me like a flood all day long;
from all sides they close in on me.

¹⁸You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me;
my companions are in darkness.

The service continues on Good Friday.

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♦ Parish News:

- **Presiding Minister:** The Rev. Jeannine Sweet
- **Music:** Gene Hodges, Organist
- **Assisting Minister:** Mary Flekke
- **Ushers** – Glen Van Benschoten & Naomi Thomsen
- **Altar Guild:** All

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Rusty Washburn	President	The Rev. Jeannine Sweet	<i>Interim Pastor</i>
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	Rec. Secretary		(863) 686-5585
Mary Flekke	Financial Secretary		churchgracelakeland@gmail.com
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Marty Lewis	Worship/Music	Gene Hodges	<i>Organist</i>
Jon Thiele		Rita Fandrich	<i>Pianist</i>
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