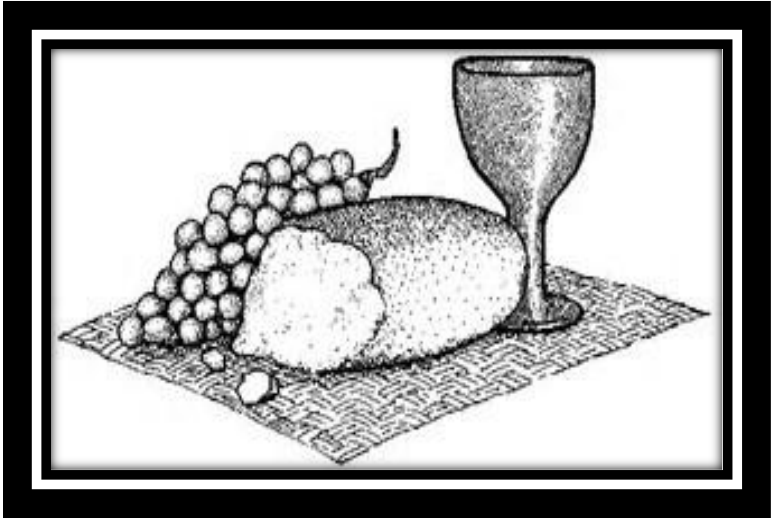


HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sermon Series: “Experiencing Lent”



**“EXPERIENCING A SOLEMN YET
JOYOUS FEAST”**

Maundy Thursday

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

209 Broad Street
Anderson, SC 29621

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

“Experiencing a Solemn Yet Joyous Feast”

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *“What Wondrous Love Is This”* -arr. Marilyn Thompson

GATHERING

***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 day/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 is kept for reflection and self-examination. We kneel as able.

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.**

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. **Amen.**

[we stand]

***Greeting**

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

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.

[we sit]

WORD

First Reading

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This 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.

¹¹ 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. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ 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.

¹⁴ 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.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹ I love the LORD because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

² **Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

¹² What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

¹³ **I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD;**

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵ **Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.**

¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!**

Second Reading

I Corinthians 11:17-34

¹⁷ Now in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. ¹⁸ For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. ¹⁹ Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine. ²⁰ When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. ²¹ For when the time comes to eat, each of you proceeds to eat your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. ²² What! Do you not have households to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!

²³ 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, ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ 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.”²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.²⁷ Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord.²⁸ Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup.²⁹ For all who eat and drink without discerning the body eat and drink judgment against themselves.³⁰ For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.³¹ But if we judged ourselves, we would not be judged.³² But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.³³ So then, my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.³⁴ If you are hungry, eat at home, so that when you come together, it will not be for your condemnation. About the other things I will give instructions when I come.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[we stand]

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:26-30

The gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 26th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”

²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Message **“EXPERIENCING A SOLEMN YET JOYOUS FEAST”**

***The Hymn**

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Hymn # 349

***Prayers of Intercession**

United by the servant love of God in Christ, we pray this holy day/night for the needs of the world. [We kneel as able.]

A brief silence.

You call Your people to hand on what we receive from You. From all the baptized into teachers of faith. From one generation to the next, give Your church hunger for Your promises in the sacraments and joy in receiving and sharing Your word. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your creation provides all that we need. Cleanse and protect the water You have given for washing and drinking, water on which all life depends. Sustain crops and herds that provide food; teach us how to live so that there is enough for all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You redeemed Your people from slavery. Preserve people throughout the world who flee violence and oppression. Establish just leadership in place of tyranny and peace in place of war. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus loved His followers to the end. Grant assurance of that love to all who need it: those living with guilt, those struggling to forgive, those who are lonely or overlooked. Heal the sick and embrace the dying. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed Him. Inspire this congregation's ministries of service that we love as Jesus loved us. Give us renewed courage to serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your glory shone in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We thank You for generations of the faithful who have proclaimed our Lord's death. Unite us with them in hope until He comes again. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the One who loves us to the end. Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

*The Peace Is Shared

THE OFFERING

The Offering is Received (All Mid-Week offerings will be given to Haven of Rest)

Anthem “A Lenten Meditation” - Ingrid N. Gardner

Under an eastern sky, amid a rabble cry,
A man went forth to die for me, for me!

Thorn crowned His blessed head – bloodstained His ev’ry tread,
Cross laden on He sped for me, for me!

Pierced His hands and feet, three hours o’er Him did beat,
Fierce rays of noontide heat for me, for me!

Thus were Thou made all mine. Lord, make me wholly Thine,
Give grace and strength divine to me, to me!

In thought, word and deed, Thy will to do, oh! lead
My feet e’en tho’ they bleed to Thee! to Thee!

Tho’ Christ, Thou suffered so in painful silence, Oh,
That I could ever go with Thee, with Thee.

*Offertory Hymn *“Let the Vineyards”* **Hymn #181**

*Offering Prayer (The congregation responds with **AMEN.**)

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

*The Great Thanksgiving (spoken)

L. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

L. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

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

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*The Words of Institution

page 130

***The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Version)**

L. Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C. 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.**

***Communion Hymn**

"Lamb of God"

page 135

The Communion

Invited to commune at this altar are all baptized believers. Children not yet receiving Holy Communion are invited to come with their families to receive a blessing. On the way up, you are to pick up a cup and bring it to the altar.

Prefilled cups in the center of the tray contain grape juice; otherwise wine will be dispensed at the altar into empty cups. *Gluten free wafers are available as needed. Please notify the Pastor.*

To have the elements brought to you for communion, please notify an Usher. It would be helpful if you would sit on the front pew or on the aisle.

As you go to the altar for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers into the water of the Baptismal Font and make a sign of the cross on your forehead in remembrance of your baptism.

*The Communion Blessing

Pastor Fischer

*Prayer after Communion

For the 12:00 Noon Service:

(Silence is observed for meditation as candles are extinguished.)

There is no benediction. The omission of benedictions at the end of the liturgies of both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicate their continuity with each other and with the Vigil of Easter.

All leave in silence to show the connection to Good Friday.

For the 7:00 p.m. Service:

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Stripping of the Altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldier's hands. As the linens, paraments, worship ornaments, and candles are removed, Psalm 22 will be sung by members of the choir.

PSALM 22 (sung by Amy Goodson and Joshua Fischer)

- ¹My God, my God,
why have you for-'saken me?
Why so far from saving me so far
from the words' of my groaning?
- ²My God, I cry out by day,
But you' do not answer;
by night, but I ' find no rest.
- ³Yet you are the ' Holy One,
enthroned on the prais- 'les of Israel.
- ⁴Our ancestors put their ' trust in you,
they trusted,
and you ' rescued them.
- ⁵They cried out to you
and ' were delivered;
they trusted in you
and were not ' put to shame.
- ⁶But as for me,
I am a worm ' and not human,
scorned by all
and despised ' by the people.
- ⁷All who see me laugh ' at me to scorn;
they curl their lips;
they ' shake their heads.

⁸“Trust in the Lord;
let the ' Lord deliver;
let God rescue him
if God so de-'lights in him.”

⁹Yet you are the one
who drew me forth ' from the womb,
and kept me safe
on my 'mother's breast.

¹⁰I have been entrusted to you
ever since ' I was born;
you were my God when I was still
in my ' mother's womb.

¹¹Be not far from me,
for troub-' ble is near,
and there is no ' one to help.

¹²Many young bulls en-' circle me;
strong bulls of Ba-' shan
surround me.

¹³They open wide their ' jaws at me,
like a slashing and ' roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water;
all my bones are ' out of joint;
my heart within my breast
is ' melting wax.

¹⁵My strength is dried up
like a potsherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof
' of my mouth; and you have laid me
in the ' dust of death.

¹⁶Packs of dogs close me in,
a band of evildoers
' circles round me; they pierce my hands ' and my feet.

- ¹⁷I can count ' all my bones
while they stare at ' me and gloat.
- ¹⁸They divide my gar-' ments
among them; for my clothing, ' they cast lots.
- ¹⁹But you, O Lord, be not ' far away;
O my help, hasten ' to my aid.
- ²⁰Deliver me ' from the sword,
my life from the power ' of the dog.
- ²¹Save me from the ' lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls
you have ' rescued me.
- ²²I will declare your name ' to my people;
in the midst of the assembly ' I will praise you.
- ²³You who fear the Lord, give praise!
All you of Jacob's ' line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the Lord,
all you off-' spring of Israel.
- ²⁴For the Lord does not despise
nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither is the Lord's face
hid-'den from them;
but when they cry out,
' the Lord hears them.
- ²⁵From you comes my praise
in the ' great assembly;
I will perform my vows
in the sight of those
who ' fear the Lord.
- ²⁶The poor shall eat ' and be satisfied.
Let those who seek the Lord
give praise!
May your hearts ' live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn ' to the Lord;
all the families of nations
shall bow ' before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs ' to the Lord,
who rules o-' ver the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth
shall bow ' down in worship;
all who go down to the dust,
though they be dead,
shall kneel be-' fore the Lord.

³⁰Their descendants
shall ' serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim
to genera-' tions to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance
to a people ' yet unborn,
saying to them,
"The ' Lord has acted!"

All leave in silence to show the connection to Good Friday.

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Presiding Minister	Rev. J. Chris Fischer
Organist/Music Director	Jill Helgeson
Acolytes	(12:00 noon) Nancy Korn (7:00 p.m.) Cathy Rudisill
Lectors	(12:00 noon) Beth Cribbe (7:00 p.m.) Sandi Dickson
Assisting Ministers	(12:00 noon) Beth Cribbe (7:00 p.m.) Sandi Dickson
Ushers	(12:00 noon) Mike Oates, Mike Cox (7:00 p.m.) Mike Metz, Chris Caldwell

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy is an English form of the Latin word for commandment. The overarching theme of the day is Jesus' new mandate to "love one another even as I have loved you," a love sharply focused by the contrast of the betrayal which followed. Jesus' love is demonstrated both in His example of servanthood and in His gift of Himself in Holy Communion.

2025 LENTEN WORSHIP AND SUPPER SCHEDULE

Sermon Series: "Experiencing Lent"

Note: Both Maundy Thursday Services, and Good Friday Services will be identical (except for the Stripping of the Altar which will take place at the Evening Service for Maundy Thursday).

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday

[no meal] **Maundy Thursday Worship Services** 12:00 Noon and 7:00 p.m.

Message: "Experiencing A Solemn Yet Joyous Feast"

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday

[no meal] **Good Friday Worship Services** 12:00 Noon and 7:00 p.m.

Message: "Experiencing Death"



Sunrise Worship with Holy Communion
7:00 a.m.
Breakfast to follow.

Worship Service with Holy Communion
11:00 a.m.

Note: There will not be an Adult or Children's Sunday School class or nursery.

CROSS OF FLOWERS

Again, this year the cross will be outside in front of the church. Please remember to bring your flowers Easter Sunday morning from your garden or from the grocery store to cover the cross. This is a great opportunity for family photos. What a beautiful way to celebrate our risen Lord!

