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**Leading our community into a deep connection in Christ**

**Maundy Thursday Prayer Service for April 1, 2021 at 7 PM**

**Welcome**

**Opening Song:**Abide with Me (vs 1 and 2)

1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.

The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,

Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

2 I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;

What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?

Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

**Invocation**

**Introit:**

P: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

**C: our God is merciful.**

P: I love the LORD, because he has heard

**C: my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

P: Because he inclined his ear to me,

**C: therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

P: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**C: I suffered distress and anguish.**

P: Then I called on the name of the LORD:

**C: “O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

P: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

**C: our God is merciful.**

**Reading -**John 13:3–17; 34–35

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus replied, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”

“No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.”

“Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!” Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.” For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them….

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

**Prayers** (Congregational Response: **Hear our Prayer**)

**Reading -**Matthew 26:17-30

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

He replied, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. And while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely you don’t mean me, Lord?”

Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”

Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me, Rabbi?” Jesus answered, “You have said so.”

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”

Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olive

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Lord, we have all betrayed you with our sin. We come to You, now, in repentance and confess our sins.

*(A moment of silence to reflect and personally confess)*

C: Heavenly Father, we confess that we are sinners.  We have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your punishment.  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.

P: The Lord is gracious and merciful. He promises to forgive our sins. Therefore, upon this, your confession, as a called and ordained servant of the Lord, in the stead and by the command of my Lord, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

**Message** “Love That Wants To Be With You”

**Song:** Lamb of God

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but You have sent Him from Your side

to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

Chorus:

Oh Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.

Oh wash me in His precious blood.

My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love they crucified

They laughed and scorned Him as he died

The humble King they named a fraud

And sacrificed the Lamb of God

*(Chorus)*

**Reading -**Matthew 26:31-35

Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

 “‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

Peter replied, “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.” “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the other disciples said the same.

**And John 14:1-4**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

**Prayers** (Congregational Response: **Hear our Prayer**)

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

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**And John 17:13-19**

“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

**Prayers** (Congregational Response: **Hear our Prayer**)

**Reading -**John 17:20-23

[Jesus said,] “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**Prayers** (Congregational Response: **Hear our Prayer**)

**The 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

**Benediction**

**Closing Song:**Abide with Me (vs 5 and 6)

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;

Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.

Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?

I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;

Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.

Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;

In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

**About Maundy Thursday**

**What does the name mean?**

The term “Maundy” comes from the Latin “mandatum;” it is from a verb that means “to give” or “to order” — command. After Jesus and the disciples finished the Last Supper and walked toward Gethsemane, Jesus taught them a new commandment — “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” (John 13:34).

**The Last Supper**

On the first Maundy Thursday, after they had eaten, Jesus gave the disciples his body and blood together with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of their sins. Called Holy Communion or the Eucharist, Lutherans believe this to be one of two sacraments — gifts from God. Most worship services focus on the meal and communion as a way to commemorate this day.

**Foot washing**

The story of the Last Supper in John’s Gospel records a remarkable event that is not mentioned in the other Gospels — to illustrate humility, Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another. Some Lutheran congregations incorporate this act of humility into their Maundy Thursday services.

**Stripping of the altar**

After Communion is celebrated it is customary to “strip the altar,” which symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. It represents the humiliation of Jesus and the consequences of sin as a preparation for the celebration of new life. In many congregations, Psalm 22 is read or sung while the paraments are being removed.

**Upcoming Events**

**Friday, April 2, 7pm – Good Friday Service**Song and Dance &
Online – Facebook, YouTube, FaithWesleyChapel.com

**Sunday, April 4, 11am – Easter Sunday Service**Song and Dance &
Online – Facebook, YouTube, FaithWesleyChapel.com

**Sunday, April 11, Noon – Fellowship and Games**Song and Dance

**Sunday, April 11, 3pm – Youth Beach Trip**Sand Key Beach

