



**Maundy Thursday
Service of Holy Communion and Foot-washing
First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania
April 2, 2026**

THE LITURGY FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

PRELUDE

"Air"

- Alessandro Scarlatti

"Herzlich tut mich verlangen"

- Georg P. Telemann

"Adagio in D Minor"

- James F. Konkel

The congregation may stand as able.

GATHERING HYMN

"Great God, Your Love Has Called Us"

Red Book #358

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us kneel and make confession to God.

The congregation may kneel or sit as able.

We confess that 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, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name, Amen.

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he 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.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Those who desire to receive the laying on of hands as a personal sign of Christ's forgiveness may come forward and, as you are able, to kneel or stand before the altar.

HYMN DURING THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Ostinato Refrain

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-
joice! Look to God, do not be a-fraid; lift up your
voices, the Lord is near; lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

The congregation may stand as able.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment on our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation may sit.

FIRST LESSON Exodus 12:1-4; 11-14

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. 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.

GOSPEL John 13:1–17, 31b–35

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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. 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. ^{31b}"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

EXPERIENCING THE WORD

During this time, the congregation is invited to move around the sanctuary to various prayer stations or sit in quiet meditation. The prayer stations can be found as follows:

- ❖ *Foot-washing, front center aisle, all welcome*
- ❖ *Under the anniversary banner*
- ❖ *At the table near the choir loft*
- ❖ *Main Street vestibule*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each portion of the prayers, the assembly is invited to sing the refrain:

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
 OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The congregation may greet one another with a handshake or other greeting, saying, "Peace be with you."

OFFERING SONG

"Create In Me A Clean Heart"

Red Book #188

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

GREAT THANKSGIVING

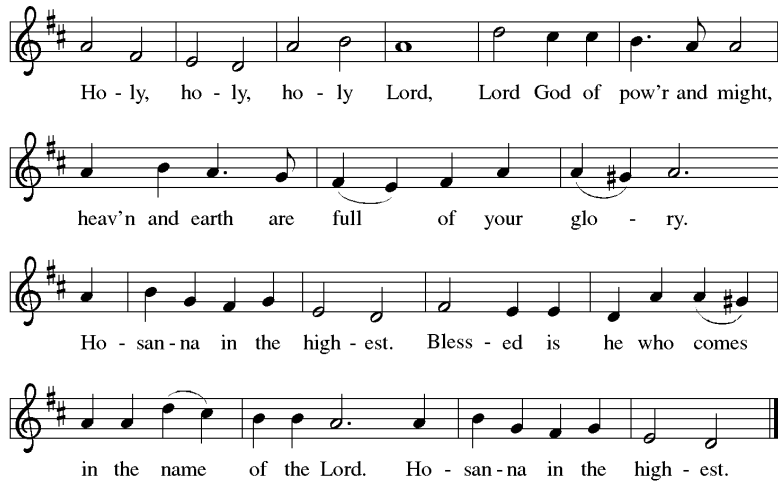
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places (*the presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding...*) we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe...With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

The prayers conclude:

We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever,

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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,

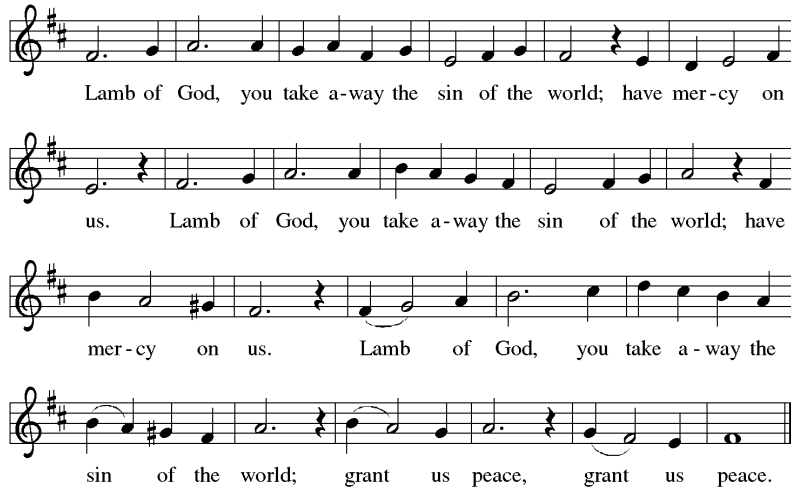
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts, with thanksgiving.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The congregation may sit.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

You are invited to receive Holy Communion. Lutherans believe that the body and blood of Christ are present with the bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available for those who cannot consume wheat; please let the pastor know. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may still come forward and kneel for a blessing from the pastor.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

“Love Consecrates the Humblest Act”

Red Book #360

“Eat This Bread”

Red Book #472

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord God, in a wonderful Sacrament you have left us a memorial of your suffering and death. May this Sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption you have brought; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please sit.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

During the stripping of the altar, the cantor chants Psalm 88.

The congregation departs in silence.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Jim Cunningham	Assisting Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Communion Assistant
Amy Beiler	Reader
Sandy Lefebvre	Crucifer
Claudia van Driel	Acolyte
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Sr. Choir Director
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Gracie Love	PowerPoint Minister
Bill & Judy Vilcheck, Jake Stevens	Ushers
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

Liturgical portions of today's service are reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS028762.

All hymns reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #A-734698. All Rights Reserved.