



MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 9, 2020

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

100 Lochmere Drive West Cary, NC 27518 919-851-7248 www.RLCary.org

As the Lutheran Church defines it, God has given two sacraments to His Church. They are the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

A sacrament is a personal, tangible way God gives forgiveness and life to His people. There are three things necessary for something to be a sacrament.

- * It must be commanded by Christ.
- * It must use an earthly element, some common item from this world.

 * It brings God's Grace and Forgiveness to people.

In Baptism God makes us His Children, part of His Own Family. In Holy Communion He nourishes us in this family. Both of these Sacraments convey to us the life, forgiveness and salvation which Jesus won for us on the cross. These gifts come to us for the first time in our Baptism and they come to us again each time we celebrate Holy Communion.

PRELUDE

Jesus Christus Unser Heiland – D. Buxtehude

WELCOME

GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3) Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow, or handshake) is welcome.

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO MAUNDY THURSDAY

- P In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's Call to intensify our 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 committed at baptism.
- C God's Forgiveness and the Power of His Spirit to amend our lives continues with us because of His Love for us in Jesus, our Savior.
- P Within the community of the church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution we receive forgiveness as if from God Himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in Heaven, for it comes to us in the Name and by the Command of our Lord.
- C We who receive God's Love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.
- P It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's Body participate most intimately in His Love.
- C Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with His disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal.
- P Together we receive the Lord's Gift of Himself and participate in that New Covenant which makes us one in Him.
- C The Lord's Supper is the promise of the Great Banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- P In our sin and sinfulness we make excuses, squandering and taking for granted the Grace of God and the Banquet He so freely gives.
- C Most Merciful God, we confess that our very nature is sinful.
 We do not love You with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.
 We do not love our neighbors as ourselves.
 It is natural for us to make excuses when You present Your Gifts to us.
 Because of our selfishness, we deserve to be shut out of the Banquet.
 Though You are Generous in Your Love, we deserve only Your Wrath.
 Forgive us, Most Holy God.

ABSOLUTION John 20:21-23

P Almighty God in His Mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His Sake forgives you all your sins.

As a Called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the Grace of God to all of you, and 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.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

SONG

O Lord, We Praise Thee

LSB 617

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee, In thanksgiving bow before Thee.

Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish

Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!

May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry,

And Thy blood for us plead

In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

2 Thy holy body into death was given,

Life to win for us in heaven.

No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;

May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!

Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee

That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.

All our debt Thou hast paid;

Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!

3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor

That we follow Christ our Savior

And live together here in love and union

Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us; Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;

Give Thy Church, Lord, to see

Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with You.
- C And also with you.
- P Heavenly Father, though we are unworthy, You invite us to the Banquet that provides the greatest feast we have ever known.

 Feed us with Your Love and Forgiveness so that, in all we do, we welcome both You and our neighbor into our hearts and lives.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,

"This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.

Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb.

then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb.

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old.

You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. "Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it.

Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts.

And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.

In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand.

And you shall eat it in haste.

It is the LORD's Passover.

For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I Am the LORD.

The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are.

And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

EPISTLE I Corinthians 11:23-32

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this Bread and drink the Cup, you proclaim the Lord's Death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the Bread or

drinks the Cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the Body and Blood of the Lord.

Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the Bread and drink of the Cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the Body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.

But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged.

But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His Hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His Own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His Hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper.

He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around His waist. Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around Him.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" Jesus answered him,

"What I Am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to Him,

"You shall never wash my feet."
Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me."
Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"
Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you."

For He knew who was to betray Him;

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

that was why He said,

"Not all of you are clean."

When He had washed their feet and put on His outer garments and resumed His Place, He said to them,

"Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I Am.

If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. Jesus said,

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him.

If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him at once.

Little children, yet a little while I am with you.

You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.'

A new Commandment I give to you, that you love one another:

just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

By this all people will know that you are My Disciples,

if you have love for one another."

SONG

Behold the Lamb

- Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us and we remember
 The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
 So we share in this Bread of Life, And we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of peace, around the table of the King.
- The body of our Savior Jesus Christ,
 torn for you eat and remember
 The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
 So we share in this Bread of Life,
 And we drink of His sacrifice
 as a sign of our bonds of love,
 around the table of the King.
- 3. The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you drink and remember
 He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God. Refrain
 So we share in this Bread of Life,
 And we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of grace, around the table of the King.
- 4. And so, with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond, and to remember our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.
 As we share in His suffering,
 We proclaim Christ will come again!
 And we'll join in the feast of heav'n,
 around the table of the King.

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SERMON

"Washed, Forgiven, and Forgiving" *John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

APOSTLES'CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the Life & Everlasting. Amen.

SONG

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 637

- Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured; Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.
- He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 To all believers life eternal yields;
 With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
 Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

- P Lord, in Your Mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Into Your Hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Mercy for the Sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your Only-Begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute.

We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His Life as a ransom for many.

We believe that we receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine in this sacrament; and we look forward to the day when we again will eat and drink His Body and Blood in unity with the Your family of believers everywhere – and here in this congregation.

Grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promises fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, for our forgiveness, life and salvation.

C 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.

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His Face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ♥ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

LSB 922

- Go, My children, with My Blessing, Never alone.
 Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.
 In My Love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.
 Go, My children, with My Blessing—You are My own.
- Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
 Here you heard My dear Son's story;
 Here you touched Him, saw His Glory.
 Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

- Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
 Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
 Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His Tender Comfort stilled you.
 Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.
- I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
 I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:
 I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
 Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

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STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

- P After the Last Supper, less than 24 hours remained in the earthly Life of our Lord. Events moved rapidly:
 - ♦ Prayer in Gethsemane
 - ♦ Betrayal by Judas
 - ♦ Arrest, mock trial, painful beating
 - ♦ The trudge to Golgotha and Execution on the Cross
- P As His Life was stripped from Him, so we strip our altar of the signs of life to symbolize Christ's purposeful, redemptive Suffering and Death for us.
- P Jesus said, "I Am the Light of the World.
 Whoever follows Me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."
 The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human Life of Jesus, the Light of the World.
- P As even creation was dark when He suffered, so we extinguish our candles and remove them.

(Candles are extinguished and removed.)

P Our offerings represent one way of serving God and others.
They reflect God's Greatest Offering to the world and to us in sending His Son,
Jesus, in human form. As the offered Body of Jesus was removed from sight in
burial, so we remove our offerings.

(Offerings are removed.)

P Jesus' offered Body and His shed Blood have been given to us in, with, and under the form of bread and wine in the mystery of Holy Communion. As He was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of this Sacrament.

(Communion vessels are removed.)

♦ HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:30, 36-38

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and He said to His disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray."

And taking with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, He began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then He said to them, "My Soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me."

(After the reading, all may depart in silence. The Holy Week devotion continues tomorrow, April 10, Good Friday.)

OFFERING

(The offerings of God's people will be received through mail and electronic giving.)

Maundy Thursday (most likely from the Latin, *mandatum*, meaning a new commandment) or Holy Thursday begins a single service that spans three days, called the Triduum. What is begun tonight is not concluded until the Easter Vigil or the first Eucharist of Easter Sunday. This is one story told in three parts over three days. This is the story that Jesus began on Palm Sunday when He entered Jerusalem to complete all He had come to accomplish.

The Triduum starts with Passover, the last of the Passovers Jesus would celebrate and the last of the Passovers appointed by God. Things are changing. This final Passover becomes the introduction to the new covenant meal of Jesus' Body and Blood. The joy of this most sacred meal is tinged with sadness. Someone will betray Jesus---someone close to Him. But this sadness is transformed into joy because this meal points to the eternal banquet which Jesus will eat with us and all His saints in Heaven. The betrayal is for a purpose. Jesus will use the events of the next three days to end the reign of sin and death and prepare a whole new future for us, His people. This Holy Supper connects us to what Jesus did and sustains us until we are with Him in Heaven for all eternity.

Servants in Worship

Preacher – Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke

Liturgist – Vicar Alan Shaw

Organist/Pianist - Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry

Pianist - Christopher Anderson Reed, Praise Worship Leader

Vocalists - Rebecca Melland-Kuo, Deb Oesterling

Acknowledgments

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