



MAUNDY *Thursday*

Central & United Lutheran
April 2, 2026
7:30pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY EUCHARIST

With nightfall our Lenten observance comes to an end. Tonight we gather with Christians around the world to begin the Triduum (Three Days), remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life. Once again, we hear Jesus give his disciples a new command to love one another as humble servants. And we remember the last meal he shared with his disciples on the night in which he was betrayed. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love and service for the life of the world.

The Assembly gathers in silence

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

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 night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor and let us enter into the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

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.**

The congregation is invited to come forward to kneel (or stand) at the altar rail for the laying on of hands as the minister says:

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

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

Let us pray. Holy God, source of all love, **on the night of his betrayal, Jesus shared a meal of bread and wine with his disciples saying, “Do this in remembrance of me.”** Now, as we remember Christ’s passionate suffering and death, and the love he poured out on us and all people, for the forgiveness of sin, give us the courage to follow him by way of the cross. **This we pray through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SOLO *Come Thou and with Us Dwell* – Byrd Honora Mathisen-Lund

FIRST READING Exodus 1-4, [5-10] 11-14

¹ 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. ³ Tell 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. ⁴ If 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. [⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ 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. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire.] 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.”



PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

(assembly sings all stanzas)

**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.**

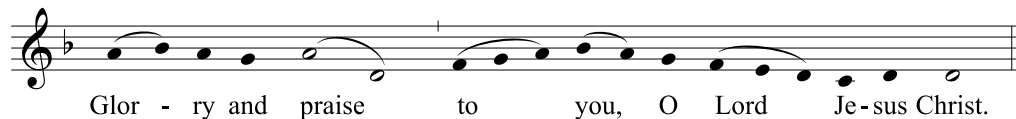
**I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the Lord.**

**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 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

¹ 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. ² The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then 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. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus 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." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." ¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If 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. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little 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.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

HOMILY

Vicar Joel Timmons

HYMN #359 Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

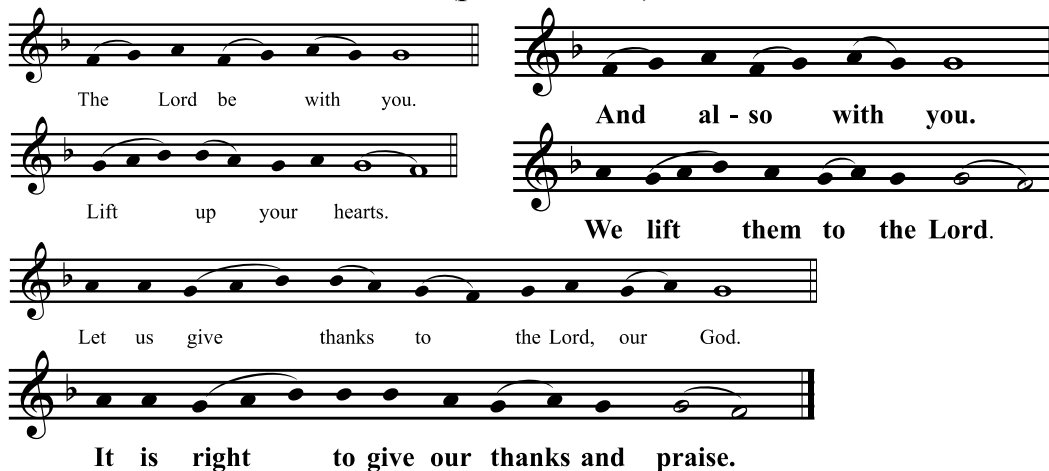
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please be seated)*

PEACE

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

SOLO *O Divine Redeemer* – Charles Gounod David Gustafson, Tenor

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand)*



The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

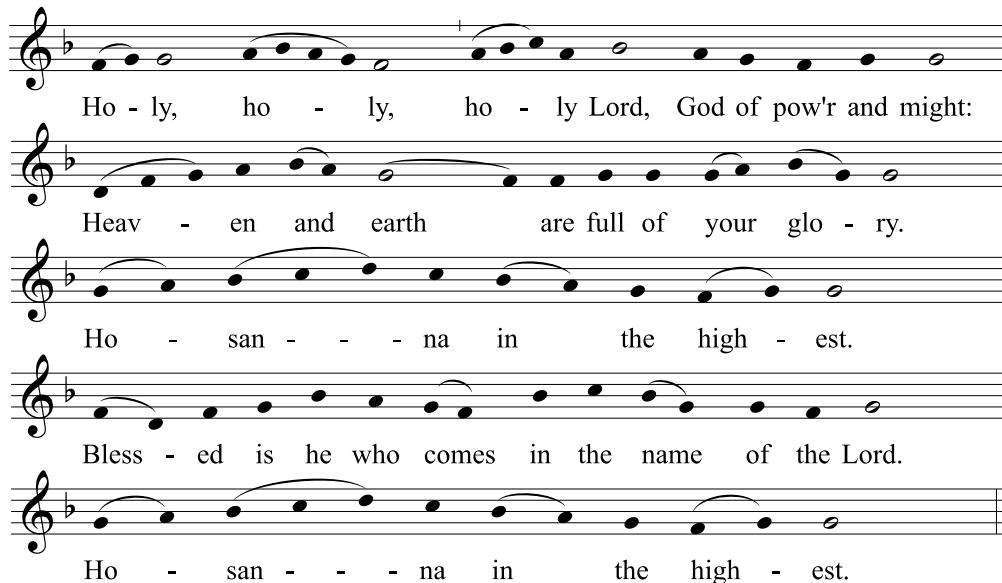
And al - so with you.
We lift them to the Lord.

The musical score consists of two columns of music. The left column contains four staves of music, and the right column contains two staves. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, melodic style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C).

PROPER 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, then gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray as Je - sus taught us.

Our - Fa - ther in heav - en hal - lowed be - your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for - give those who sin - a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil, For the king - dom, the pow'r

and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men. _

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

ANTHEM *The Bride of Christ* - Jacobson & Lange

Cantors

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 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.**

TAIZÉ RESPONSE *(repeated)*

Stay with us, O Lord Je-sus Christ, show us your love. Then

stay with us, O Lord Je-sus Christ, light in our dark - ness.

Taizé Chant

A moment of silence is kept.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

As our cantors chant Psalm 22, the altar is stripped. This action is reflective of Christ being stripped of all dignity as he journeyed to the cross. This is the only time in the church year the altar is stripped. Inscribed on the top of the altar are five crosses representing the five wounds of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

There is no benediction.

Please depart the church grounds in silence.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR CENTRAL & UNITED

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 3RD

Introduction: Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

✝ Stations of the Cross from noon to 3pm in Central's Chapel
(self-guided meditation, reflection, and prayer)

✝ Good Friday Worship Service at United begins at 7pm

✝ Tenebrae Worship Service at Central begins at 7:30pm

EASTER VIGIL – SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

Introduction: This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

✝ The Easter Vigil begins at 7pm at United

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER SUNDAY FESTIVAL WORSHIP

✝ Central
8:30am and 11am

✝ United
9:30am