

*As I have
Loved You,
so you must
love one another*



A Commemoration of the Love of Jesus

Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUR ONLINE IN-HOME WORSHIP SERVICE

Thank you for joining us today for this online, in-home worship service. The words of this service will be provided on screen as you worship with us, but printing out copies of this service will allow you to ponder the words we say perhaps a few moments after they leave the screen, or even in the hours or days that follow. Printing off or providing digital copies for your children who can read or are learning to read will help them engage in the Word and promises of God.

Before watching, it may be helpful to remove distractions from the room such as pets, loud toys, etc. Parents might explain to children that we will be worshipping Jesus while the video is playing, listening and responding just like we usually do at church. It might feel a little odd at first to worship this way, but if you explain the situation beforehand, you can expect better participation in your home.

ABOUT MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maudy is a word derived from the Latin *mandatus*, meaning “mandate” or “command.” This holy Thursday receives its name from the Thursday of Holy Week on which Jesus taught, “*A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another*” (John 13:34). Jesus not only taught love on this day but demonstrated it “to the end” (John 13:1), including the institution of the sacrament of holy communion. Today we cherish the love he gives us in the new covenant for the forgiveness of our sins, life, and salvation.

HOLY COMMUNION

Because we are not able to gather together in person this evening, there will be no holy communion as part of our service. Although this is not ideal, we are freely refraining from the supper for a time until when it is both wise to do so and in the spirit of honoring our government’s guidelines. In the meantime, we remember that the same spiritual blessings given us in baptism and holy communion are given us through the spoken and sung Word. Although holy communion will be conspicuously absent from this service, by God’s good grace may our temporary abstention move us to treasure the Supper’s frequent use when we are able to do so again! May our ears listen and our hearts treasure the spoken and sung means of grace today. Private communion with one of the pastors is available upon request.

TODAY’S THEME

This evening as we gather together virtually, we commemorate the love of Jesus with a sampling of the ways he demonstrated the “I have loved you” of John 13:34 which compels us to love others willingly like he has. We worship under the theme:

A Commemoration of the Love of Jesus

Part 1: Jesus Shows His Love in Service (John 13:1-15,34-35)

Part 2: Jesus Shows His Love in Supper (Matthew 26:26-30)

Part 3: Jesus Shows His Love in Solitude (John 16:32-33)

Part 4: Jesus Shows His Love in Supplication (John 17:20-26)

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, teach me to love others as you have loved me. Through your holy Word and gracious gospel given to me today, help me to be more patient and alert to the needs of others, always ready to serve them with the gifts you have given me. Amen.

INVOCATION

Minister: Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of + Christ our King:

Congregation: **Born of one Father, We are his children; joyfully now *God's praise we sing.***

INTRODUCTORY RESPONSES

M: God's people *sing his praise* by coming to him in every need. God's people sing his praise by believing and sharing his holy Word.

C: **God's people sing his praise by living the life of love our Savior Jesus taught us on that Thursday evening which we commemorate this holy day.**

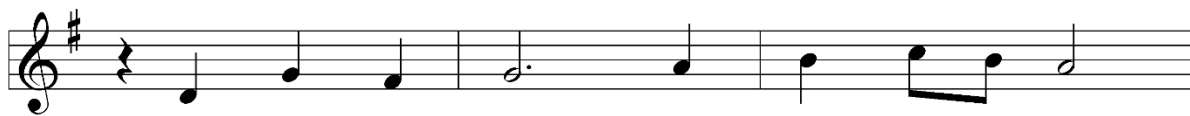
CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

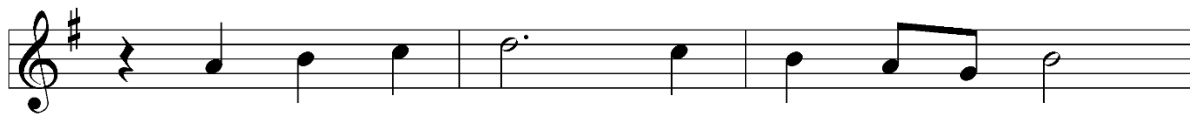
Christian Worship #498 (video by Koine)



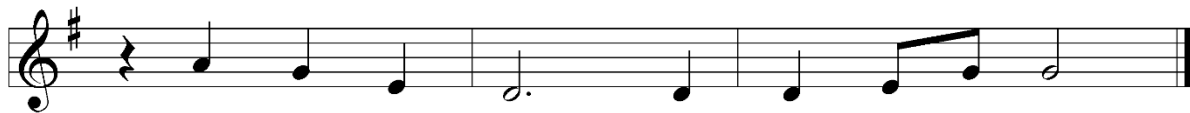
1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire
2 Though I may give all I pos - sess
3 Come, Spir - it, come; our hearts con - trol.



And have the gift to all in - spire
And, striv - ing so, my love pro - fess
Our spir - its long to be made whole.



And have not love, my words are vain—
But not be giv'n by love with - in,
Let in - ward love guide ev - 'ry deed;



As sound - ing brass— and hope - less gain.
The prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
By this we wor - ship and are freed.

PART ONE: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE IN SERVICE

DEVOTION

John 13:1-15, 34

13 Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved those who were his own in the world, he loved them to the end.

²By the time the supper took place, the Devil had already put the idea into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus.

³Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God. ⁴He got up from the supper and laid aside his outer garment. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who asked him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus answered him, "You do not understand what I am doing now, but later you will understand."

⁸Peter told him, "You will never, ever, wash my feet!"

Jesus replied, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with me."

⁹"Lord, not just my feet," Simon Peter replied, "but also my hands and my head!"

¹⁰Jesus told him, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet, but his body is completely clean. And you are clean, but not all of you." ¹¹Indeed, he knew who was going to betray him. That is why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After Jesus had washed their feet and put on his outer garment, he reclined at the table again. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me Teacher and Lord. You are right, because I am. ¹⁴Now if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵Yes, I have given you an example so that you also would do just as I have done for you.

...

³⁴"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

SERVANT SONG¹

selections from Isaiah 42:1-7

M: Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. I am placing my Spirit on him.

C: He will announce a just verdict for the nations. He will not cry out. He will not raise his voice. He will not make his voice heard in the street.

M: A bent reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not snuff out. He will faithfully bring forth a just verdict.

C: He will not burn out, and he will not be broken until he establishes justice on the earth. The coastlands will wait for his teaching.

SILENT REFLECTION

¹ Four sections in the second half of Isaiah have commonly been designated *Servant Songs*. They speak of a Servant who would be instrumental in fulfilling God's plan for his people (42:1-7, 49:1-10, 50:4-11, and 52:13-53:12). This Servant is not explicitly called the Messiah or the Christ by Isaiah, but the language used in these prophecies and the New Testament interpretation of these passages confirm this identification. These four sections of Isaiah are sampled throughout our service this evening. *Adapted from the EHV Study Bible © 2019.*

PRAYER

M: Lord Jesus, when on this holy evening you washed and dried your disciples' feet, you modeled true servant leadership. You humbled yourself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

C: Let each of us look carefully not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others. As you have loved us, help us to love one another.

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love. Amen.

PART TWO: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE IN SUPPER

DEVOTION

Matthew 26:26-30

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, "Take, eat, this is my body." ²⁷Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

SERVANT SONG

selections from Isaiah 49:1-9

M: ...The LORD called me from the womb. When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name. He made my mouth like a sharpened sword...

C: He said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will display my glory.

M: "...I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth."

C: This is what the LORD says. "In the time of favor, I will answer you. In the day of salvation, I will help you. I will guard you, and I will appoint you to be *a covenant for the people...*"

SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER

M: Lord Jesus, when on this holy evening you instituted holy communion, you gave us the lasting gift of your body and blood together with the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and to drink as the precious covenant of your love.

C: By this supper, let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love. Amen.

PART THREE: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE IN SOLITUDE

DEVOTION

John 16:32-33

³²“Listen, a time is coming, in fact it is here, when you will be scattered, everyone to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not going to be alone, because the Father is with me. ³³I have told you these things, so that you may have peace in me. In this world you are going to have trouble. But be courageous! I have overcome the world.”

SERVANT SONG

selections from Isaiah 50:4-11

M: The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue, so I know how to sustain the weary with a word.

C: I myself was not rebellious. I did not turn back. I submitted my back to those who beat me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard. I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit.

M: The LORD God will help me, so I will not be disgraced. Therefore I have made my face hard like flint. I know that I will not be put to shame.

C: The one who will acquit me is near! Who can accuse me? Let us take our stand. Who can pass judgment on me? Let him approach me. Look, the LORD God will help me. Who then can declare me guilty?

SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER

M: Lord Jesus, when on this holy evening you were left alone by your closest friends, you willingly endured suffering and death in order that we might have the peace of forgiveness and fellowship with God.

C: My Savior, then be near me When death is at my door, And let your presence cheer me; Forsake me nevermore! When soul and body languish, Oh, leave me not alone, But take away my anguish By virtue of your own!

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love. Amen.

SONG

When My Flesh Is Weak

This song will be sung by the soloist.

When my flesh is weak and my heavy soul would sleep: Saviour, keep me watching and praying.

When my eyes grow dim and I'm fooled by the lures of sin: Saviour, keep me watching and praying.

Chorus: Jesus, would you come to me, lead me through Gethsemane, so my heart will always be with you.

When my fears abound and my sorrows drag me down: Savior, keep me watching and praying.

When my spirit breaks and my courage fades away: Savior, keep me watching and praying.

Chorus: Jesus, would you come to me, lead me through Gethsemane, so my heart will always be with you.

Jesus, would you call my name, fan these embers into flame, so that I can rise and follow you.

PART FOUR: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE IN SUPPLICATION

DEVOTION

John 17:20-26

²⁰“I am praying not only for them, but also for those who believe in me through their message. ²¹May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. May they also be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. ²²I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one: ²³I in them, and you in me. May they become completely one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

²⁴“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am so that they may see my glory—the glory you gave me because you loved me before the world’s foundation. ²⁵Righteous Father, the world did not know you, but I knew you, and these men knew that you sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that the love you have for me may be in them and that I may be in them.”

SERVANT SONG

selections from Isaiah 52:13-53:12

M: Surely he was taking up our weaknesses, and he was carrying our sufferings. We thought it was because of God that he was stricken, smitten, and afflicted, but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced.

C: He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserved. The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

M: Therefore I² will give him an allotment among the great, and with the strong he will share plunder, because he poured out his life to death, and he let himself be counted with rebellious sinners.

C: He himself carried the sin of many, and he intercedes for the rebels.

SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER

M: Lord Jesus, when on this holy evening you prayed for us, you showed a heartfelt love for us and our world, that we might know you, that we might be one with our heavenly Father, and that we might share in your glory.

C: May our petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for all those who are in authority, in order that we might live a quiet and peaceful life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

² God the Father

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Worshippers are invited to sing along with the duet.

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss –
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life –
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart –
His wounds have paid my ransom.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Minister: Pastor Dave Backus

Music: Brianna Neuberger, Grant Colling, Linda Clarey, Lisa Neuberger,
Lydia Witthuhn, John Gomoll

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

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When My Flesh Is Weak

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How Deep the Father's Love for Us

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Holy Bible

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