

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation**

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*Guest Preacher: Pastor Fred Toppe***NOTES ON THE SERVICE FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY**

The theme of Maundy Thursday is found in Jesus' words in John 13:34, "A new command (Latin: *novum mandatum*) I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." That evening, Jesus was celebrating the Old Testament festival of the Passover, in which God's Old Testament people celebrated how God delivered them from the slavery of the Egyptians. It was during this Passover meal that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. While the Lord's Supper was first celebrated that evening, Maundy Thursday is not simply the day when we commemorate this single event. The day rather serves as the "doorway" that takes us from Lent to Jesus offering the once-for-all sacrifice of his body and life and the shedding of his holy blood for the sins of the world.

Following the sermon, the service continues with The Instruction for the End of Lent. The instruction helps us to focus on the next three days of our lives as we focus on the culmination of Jesus' saving work. Jesus did and taught many things on Thursday evening and over the night into Friday. This service will share some of those accounts that are not ordinarily a part of the regular readings of the Passion History.

The service concludes with the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

**MEMBER COMMUNION**

We celebrate the Lord's Supper and freely offer it to our members. If you are a family member or visitor from another congregation of our communion (the Wisconsin Synod or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod), please speak with our ushers about your desire to receive the Lord's Supper prior to the start of the service. If you are visiting from a congregation outside of our fellowship or have no pastor or congregation caring for your spiritual welfare, please refrain from the communing.

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**HYMN 416***When You Woke That Thursday Morning* | stanzas 1-3**SERMON TEXTS****Leviticus 17:10-12 & Luke 22:19-20**

<sup>10</sup>If anyone from the house of Israel or from the aliens who reside among them eats any blood, I will set my face against the person who eats the blood, and I will cut him off from among his people. <sup>11</sup>For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I myself have given it to you to make atonement for your lives upon the altar, because it is the blood

that makes atonement by means of the life. <sup>12</sup>Therefore I have said to the Israelites: None of you shall eat blood, nor shall any alien who resides among you eat blood.

<sup>19</sup>He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>20</sup>In the same way, he took the cup after the supper, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is being poured out for you.

### **“Our Life is in His Blood”**

*Pastor Fred Toppe*

#### **HYMN 416**

*When You Woke That Thursday Morning* | stanzas 4-5

*Please stand.*

#### **INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

#### **RESPONSES**

Now is the time of God’s favor  
**Now is the day of salvation.**

Turn us again, O God of our salvation.  
**That the light of your face may shine on us.**

May your justice shine like the sun;  
**And may the poor be lifted up.**

#### **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

We confess together:  
**Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against you.  
Some of my sin I know—  
the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—  
but some is known only to You.  
In the name of Jesus, forgive my sins.  
Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

By the authority of Christ, I forgive you your sins  
in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

#### **PSALM 116**

I love the Lord, because he hears my voice. He hears my cry for mercy.  
**Because he turned his ear to me, I will call to him all my days.**

The ropes of death entangled me.  
**The walls of the grave hemmed me in.**

I found distress and sorrow. Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
**“Ah, Lord, please save my life!”**

The Lord is gracious and righteous, and our God is compassionate.  
**The Lord protects the inexperienced. In my weakness he saves me too.**

Return, my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has accomplished his purpose for you.  
Indeed, you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eye from weeping, my foot from stumbling,  
so that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

**I believed. Therefore, I have spoken: “I am greatly afflicted.”  
In my haste I said: “All people are deceptive.”**

How can I repay the Lord for all his benefits to me?  
**I will lift up the cup of salvation, and I will call on the name of the Lord.**

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord, now in the presence of all his people.  
**Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his favored ones.**

In the courtyards of the house of the Lord, in the middle of Jerusalem.  
**Praise the Lord!**

*Please be seated.*

#### **HYMN 398**

*Not All the Blood of Beasts*

#### **OFFERING**

*Our rich and generous gifts are gathered for the Lord’s work in our midst and beyond.*

*Please stand.*

## PRAYER

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## READING

**Mark 14:12-26**

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?” He sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and there a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Wherever he enters, tell the owner of the house that the Teacher says, ‘Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.” His disciples left and went into the city and found things just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he arrived with the Twelve. While they were reclining and eating, Jesus said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.” They began to be sorrowful and said to him one by one, “Surely not I?”

He said to them, “It is one of the Twelve, one who is dipping bread with me in the dish. Indeed, the Son of Man is going to go just as it has been written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

While they were eating, Jesus took bread. When he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “Take it. This is my body.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them. They all drank from it. He said to them, “This is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many. Amen I tell you: I will certainly not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

## HYMN 397

*My Song Is Love Unknown | stanzas 1-2  
(st. 3-7 will be sung after the next three sections)*

## READING

**John 13:1-17** *(note the responsive readings)*

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. By 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.

Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God. He got up from the supper and laid aside his outer garment. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then 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 asked him,  
**“Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”**

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

Peter told him,  
**“You will never, ever, wash my feet!”**

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

Simon Peter replied,  
**“Lord, not just my feet, but also my hands and my head!”**

Jesus 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.” Indeed, he knew who was going to betray him. That is why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

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

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

## READING

John 14:1-7, 18-21, 25-27 (note the responsive reading)

“Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to be with me, so that you may also be where I am. You know where I am going, and you know the way.”

Thomas replied,

**“Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”**

Jesus said to him, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me. If you know me, you would also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him.”

“I have told you these things while staying with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I told you. Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, and do not let it be afraid.”

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN 397

*My Song Is Love Unknown* | stanza 5  
(note the “murderer” who is saved is certainly Barabbas, but also us)



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

On this holy night in which our Lord communed with His disciples, we come to you, O Lord, in his name with the concerns of our hearts for ourselves and all people.

Grant to us zeal for your house, O Lord, and love for the things of your Kingdom. Give Your Church harmony and peace to confess Your Word with one voice before the world. Cover us with the blood of Christ, and grant us Your Spirit, that we may walk in Your ways and do the good You desire.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from every temptation, and lead us to know and do what is holy and right according to your Word. Bless those preparing for Baptism and those being catechized into the faith, that they would be steadfast in faith in Christ, our Lord.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

As generously as you have given to us, O Lord, teach us to be generous in giving, that the poor may not suffer want nor your Church be deprived of the resources to serve your purpose both here and across the world.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, your Son instituted this most blessed Sacrament to eat and to drink, that what is promised in his testament may be truly received by his friends and heirs.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

You know, O Lord, what we need, and you have promised never to abandon us. Help us to endure in faith and, with a joyful countenance, receive the blessings of your grace and the answers to our prayers; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## HYMN 397

*My Song Is Love Unknown* | stanzas 6-7  
(the elements of the Lord’s Supper are made ready at this time)

## FOR WHOM IS THE LORD’S SUPPER?

*The Lord’s Holy Supper is for our members, who have studied and have publicly committed themselves to our confession and practice of the true Christian faith. If you are not a member, we rejoice that you are here, but ask you to please refrain from coming forward at this time.*

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."  
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:  
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.  
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

**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.**



Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, 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, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
Amen.



1 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Christ, who takes a - way  
2 Je - sus, in your mer - cy, make us pure with - in;  
3 Let your end - less mer - cy ev - er - more in - crease;



all the world's trans - gres - sions, lis - ten as we pray:  
cleanse us by your per - fect sac - ri - fice for sin.  
com - fort us with par - don, calm us with your peace.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Hymn 658

*With All My Heart I Praise You, Lord*

Hymn 662

*Draw Near*

*After the distribution is complete, please stand.*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

O Lord Jesus, since you have left us a memorial of your Passion in this holy Sacrament, grant, we pray, that we may so use this new testament of your body and blood that the fruits of your redeeming work may continually be manifest in us; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING VERSES

**Hebrews 9:12,15; Psalm 111:9-10**

He entered once into the Most Holy Place  
**and obtained eternal redemption by his own blood.**

For this reason, he is the mediator of a new covenant.  
**so that those who are called would receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

He sent redemption for his people. He commanded his covenant forever.  
**Holy and awesome is his name.**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.  
**All who do his precepts have good understanding.**

O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation quietly departs in peace to return for tomorrow's Good Friday service.*

*The special Maundy Thursday bulletin covers are given to the glory of God by  
Ken & Jo Wendorff in memory of their daughter Laurie, with Praise to Jesus.*