

(We gather in prayer and silence)

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Our Lenten Season began with the Ash Wednesday extended confession of sin. Absolution was deferred until tonight on Maundy Thursday, which we receive communally and then individually with the laying on of hands. Our sermon coming first serves as an invitation for confession and absolution. With this accomplished, the last three days of Lent begin.

The name of this day is from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means command. It refers to Jesus' words at the Last Supper, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34) Jesus' love is demonstrated both in his example of servant-hood and in his gift of himself in Holy Communion.

At the end of Holy Communion, we strip all the worship items from the Altar and Chancel area and the Pastors' stoles and chasuble are placed at the foot of the cross. Symbolically, Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors. After this, no words are said as we leave in silence. There is no benediction or postlude. This gives us continuity with Good Friday. The transition is made from the Eucharistic celebration to Jesus' crucifixion and death.

THE SILENT PROCESSIONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(We Stand)

GATHERING HYMN

"Where Charity and Love Prevail" (Stanzas 1-3)

TFBF 84

Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love,
by love we thus are bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
God's charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul
now love God in return.

Let us recall that in our midst
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;
as members of each body joined,
in him we are made one.

(We Sit)

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 12:1-14

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

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For 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, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁵In 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.' ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(We Stand)

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now 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}When he had gone out, Jesus said, '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.

(We Sit)

THE SERMON

"Unveiling the Christ: The Last Supper/Foot Washing"

Pastor Ralph

(We Stand)

THE INSTRUCTION

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; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of His Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the word of absolution we receive forgiveness as 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.

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.

It is in the gift of Holy Eucharist that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist 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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our Lord Jesus knelt to wash the feet of his disciples. Let us come before God to confess our need for cleansing.

(We observe silence for reflection and self-examination)

God of love and mercy,

you know the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts; you know our coming in and our going out. We confess to you all our sins - those things done and left undone. We have not loved one another as you have loved us. We have not served others as you have served us. Hear our cry, O Lord, Accept our repentance. Cleanse us, restore us, and lead us that we may love and serve in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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 the 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.

(We Sit)

LAYING ON OF HANDS

As a completion of our confession of sin on Ash Wednesday the congregation is invited to come forward to the chancel entrance, proceeding down the center aisle and returning to your seats by way of your respective side aisle, for the laying on of hands and these words of individual absolution:

In the obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

(We Stand)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(We Sit)

OFFERING

God calls us to be generous stewards for the sake of our ministry near and far. You can support our ministry by putting your offering in the offering plate, mailing it to the church, giving online (sslc.org or use the QR Code) or through the Givelify app. If you would like more details on direct deposit giving please contact our Parish Administrator, Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, at (803) 359-6562.



Anthem

(12:30)

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

Christopher Uehlein

(7:00)

"God So Loved the World"

Aaron D. Miller

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
For God sent not his Son to the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through him might be saved. Amen.

(We Stand)

OFFERTORY

ELW 188

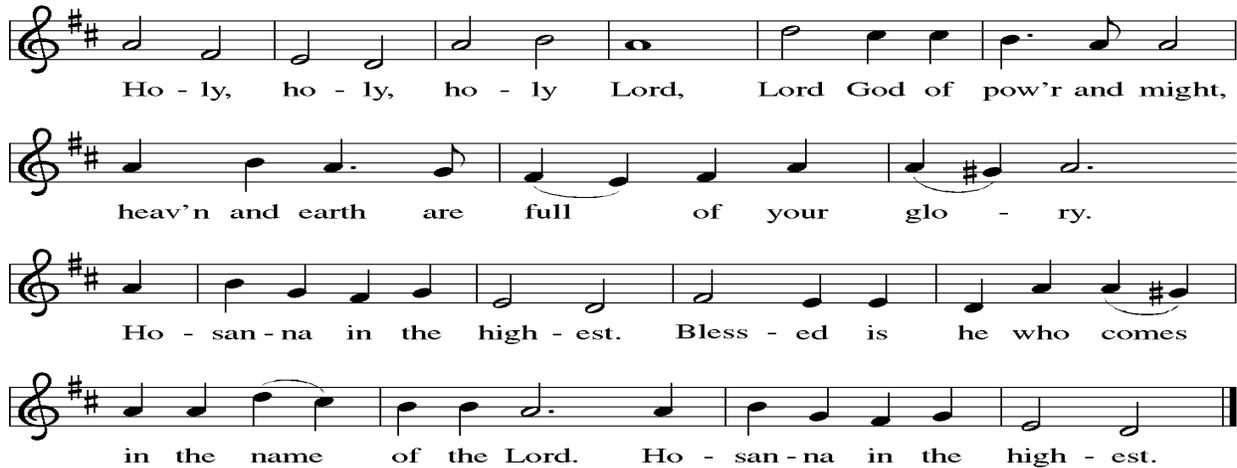
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE 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.

PREFACE

SANCTUS



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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

(We Sit)

RECEPTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Christ welcomes you to this Holy Meal of the Baptized! We receive communion today at the head of the center aisle. Communion will be brought to the front pews for those who wish to remain seated. Children who commune should be assisted by adults near them. Those unable to partake of wine or unleavened bread are assured of our Lord's presence in, with, and under each element alone. For those with a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music

"Restore in Us, O God"

Christopher Uehlein

(We Stand)

BLESSING

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.

For love excludes no race or clan that names the Savior's name;
his family embraces all whose Father is the same.

We now forgive each other's faults as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.

(We Sit)

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 22

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me and are so far from my cry, and from the words of my distress? ² O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest. ³ Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel. ⁴ Our forefathers put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them. ⁵ They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame. ⁶ But as for me, I am a worm and no man, scorned by all and despised by the people. ⁷ All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying, ⁸ "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, if he delights in him." ⁹ Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, and kept me safe upon my mother's breast. ¹⁰ I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb. ¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. ¹² Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me. ¹³ They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion. ¹⁴ I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax. ¹⁵ My mouth is dried out like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of the grave. ¹⁶ Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me; they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count all my bones. ¹⁷ They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing. ¹⁸ Be not far away, O LORD; you are my strength; hasten to help me. ¹⁹ Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog. ²⁰ Save me from the lion's mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls. ²¹ I will declare your name to my brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. ²² Praise the LORD, you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory. ²³ For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them. ²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him. ²⁵ The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your heart live forever!" ²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. ²⁷ For kingship belongs to the LORD; he rules over the nations. ²⁸ To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him. ²⁹ My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the LORD's forever. ³⁰ They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

Father, when your Son was handed over to torture and felt abandoned by you, he cried out from the cross. Then death was destroyed, and life was restored. By his death and resurrection save the poor, lift up the downtrodden, break the chains of the oppressed, that your Church may sing your praises; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Pastors Depart in Silence)

(Congregation Departs in Silence)