



WHAT

wondrous love

IS THIS,

O my soul!

**Maundy Thursday Worship**  
**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**April 9, 2020**

**Focus:** *This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.*

*Known as the "Great Three Days," we will not experience a benediction till the conclusion of our Easter Celebration! During these weeks we have heard and sung – "What Wondrous Love Is This" which is appropriate as Jesus shared his love both in the meal and washing of feet. Psalms have also been integral for our time of worship. Therefore as part of our call to worship and confession we will open with Psalm 91.*

**Opening Call to Worship and Confession – Psalm 91**

**Assurance of God's Protection**

<sup>1</sup> You who live in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>2</sup> will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress;  
my God, in whom I trust."

<sup>3</sup> **For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence;**

<sup>4</sup> **he will cover you with his pinions,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**

<sup>5</sup> You will not fear the terror of the night,  
or the arrow that flies by day,

<sup>6</sup> or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

<sup>7</sup> **A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand at your right hand,  
but it will not come near you.**

<sup>8</sup> **You will only look with your eyes  
and see the punishment of the wicked.**

<sup>9</sup> Because you have made the LORD your refuge,  
the Most High your dwelling place,

<sup>10</sup> no evil shall befall you,  
no scourge come near your tent.

**11 For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.**

**12 On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

**13 You will tread on the lion and the adder,  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.**

**14 Those who love me, I will deliver;  
I will protect those who know my name.**

**15 When they call to me, I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble,  
I will rescue them and honor them.**

**16 With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.**

## Gathering Hymn – “What Wondrous Love Is This” ELW #666

### Prayer of Love

A: Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal,

**C: Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us.**

A: Write this commandment in our hearts,

**C: 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.**

### Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

**Hymn – “Great God, Your Love Has Called Us” ELW #358 Vss.1-3**

**Prayer for the Evening**

**L:** Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service.

**C:** Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

**The Word**

**Old Testament Reading – Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover.*

12 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>For 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 judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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

*I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.*

**<sup>1</sup>I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.**

<sup>2</sup>Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

**<sup>12</sup>What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?**

<sup>13</sup>I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,

**<sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.**

<sup>15</sup>Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

**<sup>16</sup>O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.**

<sup>17</sup>I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

**<sup>18</sup>I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,**

<sup>19</sup>in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

### Epistles Reading - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood.*

<sup>23</sup>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, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>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." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### Return to the Lord

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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## Holy Gospel – John 13:1-17, 31b-35

*The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.*

13 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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." <sup>12</sup>After 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? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>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.' <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

**Calling on the Name of the Lord – No Matter What! – Pastor Barnes**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nec6hIN3-PM&feature=youtu.be>

**Hymn of the Evening – "Where Charity and Love Prevail" ELW #359**

### Prayers of Intercession

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of love, unite your church in its commitment to humble service. Make us your faithful disciples. Speak words of truth and grace through us. Encourage us in self-giving acts of kindness. Let us love one another as you have loved us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, tend to flocks, fields, and vineyards. Bring favorable weather for crops to grow. Guide the hands of those who cultivate, farm, and garden. Let the earth flourish so that all may eat and be satisfied. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you give us a new commandment, to have love for one another. We give thanks for organizations that respond to disasters and for agencies that offer relief and humanitarian aid to populations in need. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, give ear to all who call upon you for any need of body or spirit. Provide for those who do not have enough to eat, those who are unemployed or underemployed, and those who rely on the generosity of others. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you invite us to your table of mercy. Heal all divisions between members of this assembly. Extend the hospitality of this table beyond these walls, that your love and welcome be made known to all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, glorify your servants who walked by faith in this life and who now feast with you. Inspire us by the sacrifice of those who were imprisoned, persecuted, or martyred for their faith, especially Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Holy Communion**

### **Preface – For The Church Today**

L: We search the horizon of the past, Holy God.

**C: There we see blood-spattered doorways. There we smell the aroma of roasted lamb. There we hear wailing as firstborn children are mourned.**

L: We search the horizon of the future, Holy God.

**C: There we see a banquet spread. There we hear heavenly choruses. There we join the eternal celebration.**

L: In the meal your Son provided this night, we are given a glimpse of the past –

**C: a vision of your anticipated salvation.**

L: In the meal your Son provided this night, we are given a glimpse of our future –

**C: a vision of your anticipated salvation.**

L: And so, with our eyes set on your Son, Holy God,

**C: we pray that his meal may work in us.**

L: Make us ready to proclaim:

**C: “God is our salvation!” Amen and Amen!**

## **The Words of Institution**

### **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.

### **"Psalm 34 – Taste and See" – Shane & Shane**

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Psalm-34-Taste-and-See-by-Shane-Shane-Lyric-Video--Christian-Worship-Music-18.mp4>

*This service is by far the most intimate with communion and as we did last year "hand washing." Unfortunately we are held at a distance, but our hearts beat together. The Music above reminds us of two things: First, that Christ Jesus gave freely his Body and Blood for us. Second, we are one Body in Christ caring and loving during this difficult time.*

### **Post Communion Blessing**

May the new commandment to love one another permeate your heart and mind as God renews your spirit. May your baptismal promise and remembrance of our communions shared, keep you strong in your faith and hope.  
**Amen.**

**Hymn: "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" ELW #335**

### **Maundy Thursday Devotion**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrUrGSCzqtU&feature=youtu.be>

### ***Stripping of the Altar***

*Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane prayed to his Heavenly Father with tears of grief and fear...*

*"Then he withdrew from the (disciples) about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.'" Luke 22:41-42*

*This grief in prayer, yet obedience is what we see as the Altar area is stripped of those things we use to celebrate. This evening is a time to join with Jesus saying, "thy will be done." All that will remain is the lit Christ Candle and the Altar stripped bare. Good Friday of the three days is now yet to come.*

### **"My God, My God" Psalm 22 by the Psalm Project**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaJ-moljATU>

A reminder of what Jesus was facing and yet to face, is beautifully sung as our worship ends.