

THE BLESSING

The Body of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His precious blood, strengthen and preserve you in true faith unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

For the body given, for the blood shed, for the new life that you have given: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we will praise you.

For the life of Christ within us, turning all our fears to freedom; helping us to live for others, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we will praise you.

For the strength of Christ to lead us, in our living and our dying, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we will praise you. **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my own peace I give to you. It is not as the world gives its peace that I give you peace. Set your troubled hearts at rest, and banish your fears." Peace to you all who belong to Christ.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: Let us go in peace and love one another as Christ has loved us.

People: **It shall be so. Amen**

THE STRIPPING OF THE SANTUARY

\* The "Stripping of the Sanctuary" is symbolic of Christ being stripped of His power and glory in the hands of His captors.

Note however, that the Bible is not removed as the Word can never be taken from the sanctuary.

\* When the stripping of the Sanctuary has been completed, the Congregation will depart in **silence.**

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

7:00pm

Sanctuary

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

6:45 am Sunrise Service -Columbarium

8 - 10 am Flowering of the Cross -Front Lawn

10:00am Festival of the Resurrection -Sanctuary

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. Keith Copeland

Ami-Luise Vucovich, Organ button pusher

Assisting Minister: Tracey Perez

Greeter:

Reader:

Communion

Assistants:

Audio/Video: Ami-Luise Vucovich

Ushers:

Altar Guild:

Altar Flowers:

Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church

3200 Park Road  
Charlotte, NC 28209  
(704) 523-7981

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2024  
7:00pm



FELLOWSHIP AT THE TABLE

Maundy Thursday is filled with powerful themes and events:

- Jesus gathering with his disciples in the Upper Room to celebrate the Old Testament meal of the Passover
- Jesus taking the bread and wine of that Old Covenant meal and creating the New Covenant meal of Holy Communion
- The *"Farewell Discourse"* of Jesus as he spoke His final words to the disciples before His death
- The servant example as Jesus washed the feet of the disciples and told them to serve one another
- The giving of the New Commandment to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

Welcome to this night, when all of these powerful themes surround us; as we too gather at the table, as did the disciples.

THE WELCOME

THE INVOCATION

THE HYMN

“WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”

ELW 803

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| <p>1     <i>When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.</i></p> <p>2     <i>Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.</i></p> | <p>3     <i>See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?</i></p> <p>4     <i>Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.</i></p> |
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THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Tonight in our prayers we remember the twelve disciples who shared a meal with our Lord.

People: **We remember Peter, and pray for all the leaders of your church.**

Pastor: We remember John, and pray for all young people, that they be guided by their love for you.

People: **We remember Matthew, and pray for all in government service.**

Pastor: We remember Thomas, and pray for all who doubt your life.

People: **We remember Andrew and James, and pray for all who have left jobs or family or pleasures to follow you.**

Pastor: We remember Philip and Bartholomew, James and Jude, and pray for all your inconspicuous people, who without fanfare perform their Mission to the best of their ability.

People: **We remember Simon the Zealot, and pray that all people will make you the goal of their energies.**

Pastor: We remember Judas Iscariot, and pray for all whose lives are misdirected and whose hopes are scattered.

People: **O Lord, hear and accept our prayers and praises as we join with the saints above to praise your covenant of love, through Christ our Lord. Amen**

FIRST READING: JOHN 13 (NRSV NT p.131)  
*Read in parts by members of the Choir*

THE HYMN “I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME” ELW 325

SECOND READING: JOHN 14:1-11, 15-17, 25-27 (NRSV NT p. 132)  
*Farewell Discourse of Jesus to the Disciples*

HYMN “WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT”

<i>We are one in the Sprit, We are One in the Lord. We are one in the Spirit, We are One in The Lord. And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.</i>	<i>And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our Love. Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.</i>
<i>And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our Love. Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.</i>	<i>We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand. We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand. And together We’ll spread the news that God is in our land.</i>
<i>We will work with each other, We will work side by side, We will work with each other, We will work side by side. And we’ll guard each man’s dignity and save each</i>	<i>And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our Love. Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.</i>

THE SERMON

PRAYERS OF CONFESSIONS

Pastor: Tonight was the night, O Lord, when the disciples were silent and Peter betrayed you, denying he ever knew you.

People: **On this night, we too make confession of our betrayals and denials.**

Pastor: Tonight was the night, O Lord, when the disciples walked away from you rather than to stand with you and for the truth.

People: **On this night, we too make confession of our times of weakness and half-hearted commitment to discipleship.**

Pastor: In spite of our many confessions of faith, we have tried to make your Gospel convenient and comfortable for us.

People: **We have professed to know you when that was an acceptable thing to do, but at other times, we too, have remained silent.**

Pastor: We have obeyed your commandments when it was convenient for us to do so. But when we realize how difficult and demanding the disciplines of the Christian life are, we are tempted to claim they should not be taken literally or seriously.

People: **O Lord, forgive us. Remove the dividing line in our lives between the Christian faith into which we were baptized and our everyday lives. Heal us. Make us whole. Enable us to dedicate every moment of our lives to you. In the name of Christ, we humbly pray. Amen**

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION (TOGETHER)

It is our duty and our delight, Lord God our Father, to give you thanks and praise for all that you have done for the world. Our hearts are full of gratitude to you, because you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in Him may not die but have eternal life.

We thank you that Jesus was born among us; that He lived our common life on earth; that He suffered and died for us; that He rose again; and that He is always present through the Holy Spirit.

Remembering these things, we celebrate once again the supper of our Lord. As through bread and wine we are given the body and blood of our Lord, strengthen us through the power of His presence in our lives now and throughout all of eternity.

We thank you that we do not celebrate this supper alone, but in company with all your people, past, present, and to come. With them and all creation we praise you. Amen

THE COMMUNION HYMN “LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER” ELW 471

1	Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.	2	Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. Refrain
Refrain	When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.	3	Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. Refrain

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.

COMMUNION AT THE RAIL

*All are welcome to God’s table of Grace! There are gluten free wafers and grape juice available.*