**Zion Lutheran Church, Woodland, MI**

**Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023**

**pRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord’s call to 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 called at baptism. [We have shared this discipline of Lent with new brothers and sisters in Christ who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil.]

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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.

**Amen.**

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together

**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.**

**MEDITATION Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**First Reading  Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

A reading from Exodus.

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.

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 judgments: 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.**

**Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

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.**

**Gospel 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 “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.**

**Hymn of the Day “What Wondrous Love Is This” ELW 666**

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**Prayers of Intercession**

In these holiest of days, we offer prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and our world.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church around the world. Write your new commandment of love on the heart of every believer and strengthen pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in humble service for your people. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the good earth you have made. Protect fields, orchards, local farms, and gardens. Inspire us with the new life budding around us, that we show more care for plants and all living creatures. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for leaders in every land. Kindle compassion and equity in all who are called to administer justice. Guide all in positions of power away from the temptations of abuse and toward work for the common good. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, especially those who are incarcerated or unjustly accused. Illuminate paths to end oppression and form supportive communities gathered around a common commitment to justice and peace. We especially for peace in Ukraine. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and all who gather to receive your body and blood this night. Fill us at this shared table and nourish us well to heed your example of grace. Send us in love to those who cannot be with us due to illness. We pray especially for the family of Diane Ayers, Margie Makley Dawn Brodbeck, the family of Karen Van Epps, Chloe Makley, Erik Anderson, Janine Kaufman, Brian Smith, Cort Zylstra, Vi Aho, Chris and Charles Farlee. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for those who have died in the faith. Teach us by their example and comfort us as we mourn. Renew us by the promise of life together with you. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We offer to you these petitions and those we carry in our hearts, trusting in your abundant and ever-present mercy.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you**

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

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**Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**Invitation to Communion**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**communion**

\**continuous*

*\*People are welcome to kneel at the altar rail for a time of prayer after they receive their communion elements*

**SongS During Communion**

**“Where Charity and Love Prevail” ELW 359**



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**Lord’s Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.

**Communion**

You may now receive your communion elements

**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BEGINNING OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**HYMN: “Go to Dark Gethsemane” ELW 347**

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**PRAYER:**

**Leader**: Lord of Life, be present among us as we ponder your passion and death. Be present among us as we affirm your life-giving and comforting presence among all who suffer and hunger for healing, safety, and peace. Be present among us and reveal to us Your power, a power that manifests itself in self-sacrifice and acts of love.

**All: Amen**.

# **First Station: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane**

**Reader*:***

36Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." 37He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. 38Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." 39And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." 40Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? 41Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

*(Matthew 26:36-41*)

*(Candle is extinguished)*

# **Second Station: Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, is Arrested**

**Reader*:*** .

43Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. 44Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." 45So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. 46Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.

. *(Mark 14: 43-46*)

*(Candle is extinguished)*

**Stripping of the Altar Psalm 22**

1My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
 Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
 2O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
 and by night, but find no rest.  
 3Yet you are holy,  
 enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
 4In you our ancestors trusted;  
 they trusted, and you delivered them.  
 5To you they cried, and were saved;  
 in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.  
 6But I am a worm, and not human;  
 scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
 7All who see me mock at me;  
 they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
 8"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —   
 let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"  
 9Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
 you kept me safe on my mother's breast.  
 10On you I was cast from my birth,  
 and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
 11Do not be far from me,  
 for trouble is near  
 and there is no one to help.  
 12Many bulls encircle me,  
 strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
 13they open wide their mouths at me,  
 like a ravening and roaring lion.  
 14I am poured out like water,  
 and all my bones are out of joint;  
 my heart is like wax;  
 it is melted within my breast;  
 15my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
 and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
 you lay me in the dust of death.  
 16For dogs are all around me;  
 a company of evildoers encircles me.  
 My hands and feet have shriveled;  
 17I can count all my bones.  
 They stare and gloat over me;  
 18they divide my clothes among themselves,  
 and for my clothing they cast lots.  
 19But you, O LORD, do not be far away!  
 O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
 20Deliver my soul from the sword,  
 my life from the power of the dog!  
 21Save me from the mouth of the lion!  
 From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
 22I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters  
 in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
 23You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
 All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
 stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
 24For he did not despise or abhor  
 the affliction of the afflicted;  
 he did not hide his face from me,  
 but heard when I cried to him.

25From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
 my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
 26The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
 those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
 May your hearts live forever!  
 27All the ends of the earth shall remember  
 and turn to the LORD;  
 and all the families of the nations  
 shall worship before him.  
 28For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
 and he rules over the nations.  
 29To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
 before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
 and I shall live for him.  
 30Posterity will serve him;  
 future generations will be told about the LORD,  
 31and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
 saying that he has done it.

**The congregation leaves in silence**

**Thank you to all who served in worship today!**

**Presider: Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Dan Utterback**

**Trustee: Mike Johnson**