

Thursday in Holy Week
Maundy Thursday
in the 168th Year of the Parish
April 1, 2021

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
142 Market Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

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Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor
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Our mission: "To know Christ and to make Christ known."

An Order of Holy Communion, 7 pm
***Congregation is asked to please stand.**

PRELUDE *Ach Herr, mich armen Sunder, BuxWV 178* Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/CALENDAR

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **We confess that we are in bondage 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.**

C Amen

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

C Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.

C Amen

***HYMN Great God, Your Love Has Called Us**

**Great God, your love has called us here
as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.**

**Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.**

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Tune: RYBURN

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A READING FROM EXODUS.....Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

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.

11 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. 12 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. 13 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.

14 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

1 I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

**2 for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenever I called.**

12 How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?

**13 I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD.**

14 I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people.

**15 Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.**

16 O LORD, truly I | am your servant;

**I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me | from my
bonds.**

17 I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.

**18 I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people,**

19 in the courts of | the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.

A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS.....1 Corinthians 11:23-26

23 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, 24 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.” 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 ACCLAMATION**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C **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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

***HYMN Where Charity and Love Prevail**

**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.**

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

Tune: TWENTY-FOURTH

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***THE NICENE CREED**

P Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

***THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

After each petition: Hear Us, O God/Your Mercy is Great

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace with masks in place, avoiding physical touch and consciously staying six feet apart from one another.

***THE GREAT THANKSIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

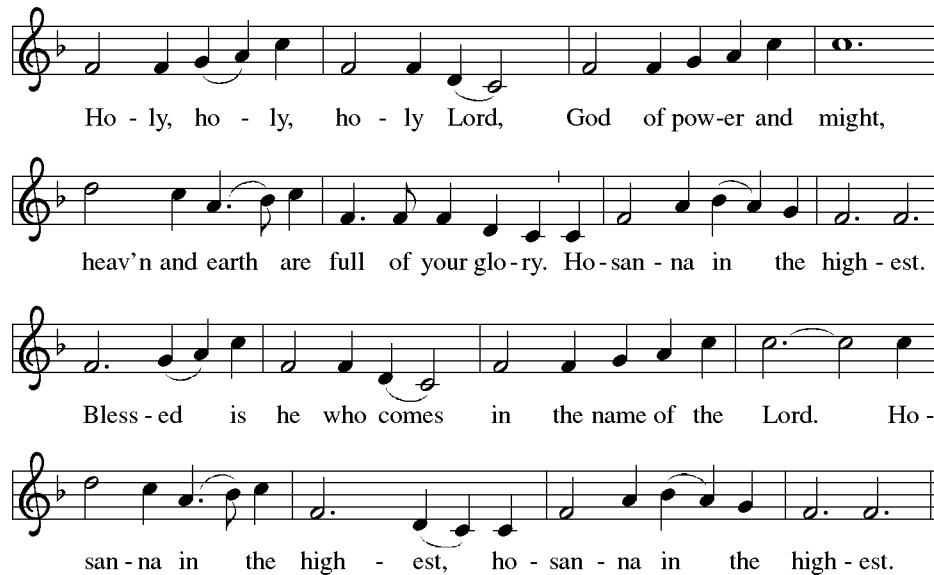
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.

You gather your people around the tree of the cross,
transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P 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.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us.

**C 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

*THE INVITATION

P Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

C Amen

THE COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in this wonderful sacrament
you strengthen us with the saving power
of your suffering, death, and resurrection.

May 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.

C Amen

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR.....Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?

Why so far from saving me, so far from the words | of my groaning?

**My God, I cry out by day, but you | do not answer;
by night, but I | find no rest.**

Yet you are the | Holy One,
enthroned on the prais- | es of Israel.

**Our ancestors put their | trust in you,
they trusted, and you | rescued them.**

They cried out to you and | were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.

**But as for me, I am a worm | and not human,
scorned by all and despised | by the people.**

All who see me laugh | me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they | shake their heads.

**“Trust in the LORD; let the | LORD deliver;
let God rescue him if God so de- | lights in him.”**

Yet you are the one who drew me forth | from the womb,
and kept me safe on my | mother’s breast.

**I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my | mother’s womb.**

Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,
and there is no | one to help.

**Many young bulls en- | circle me;
strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.**

They open wide their | jaws at me,
like a slashing and | roaring lion.

**I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint;
my heart within my breast is | melting wax.**

My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof | of my mouth;
and you have laid me in the | dust of death.

**Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers | circles round me;
they pierce my hands | and my feet.**

I can count | all my bones
while they stare at | me and gloat.

**They divide my gar- | ments among them;
for my clothing, | they cast lots.**

But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
O my help, hasten | to my aid.

Deliver me | from the sword,

my life from the power | of the dog.

Save me from the | lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

**I will declare your name | to my people;
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.**

You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the
LORD's face hid- | den from them;**

but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.

From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

The poor shall eat | and be satisfied.

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

For dominion belongs | to the LORD, who rules o- | ver the nations.

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.

**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,

saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

Please leave the nave as quietly and as quickly as possible.

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Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Ruth Pile, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Gladys Knauss, Patricia Alexander, Joann Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bernadette Jones, Gregg, Kay Poliska, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, George Kissinger, the Family of Ed. Cioffi.

Leading Us in Worship this Evening:

Lector Gary Weber

Cantor Ray Huff

Organist Sam Robinson

**Join us for worship and Sunday Church School on Easter Sunday:
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am**