



Our Savior's Lutheran Church – Cleveland, MN

Maundy Thursday

April 02, 2026

We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.



Flow

by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

Inspired by John 13:1-35

11"x14" Acrylic on paper

The Good News is... *even Judas gets his feet washed!*

Welcome

Welcome! Welcome to this place and to this community. Here we are reminded again that the love of God awaits you and that we are the expression of God's love to one another. We come to church not to forget this love. We are here to remind ourselves: God's love is like birds singing every day. That is the good news we have: the love of God!

When we feel we have nothing else, we can lean on the love of God.

As we gather today, we are called to listen to the new commandment by Jesus:

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

To love is to listen—to listen to each other, to the signs of life everywhere. Listen to our hearts, listen to God's voice, listen to each other.

Opening Hymn

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Red #349

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.

2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

3. Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded, God interceded.

4. For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

5. Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

Sermon and Instructions

Confession & Forgiveness

We come to worship feeling the burdens of life that only God knows.

We come feeling weary, tired, sad, frustrated, angry, exhausted, spent, not knowing what to do, how to live our lives fully, or how to fix things. Our world is so confusing right now, and we are feeling lost.

It is time to confess to God the things we carry and don't tell anybody, the things that we feel we can't speak, and the things we don't know how to speak.

Let us pray: God of love, we come to you feeling a thousand feelings. There is too much going on, and we don't know how to handle it all. We don't even know how to put words to all that we are going through. **Hear our prayers.**

God of love, we come to you wanting total control over our lives, the stories we live, the people around us, and our own desires. **Hear our prayers.**

God of love, we also come to you feeling numb. **Hear our prayers.**

God of love, we come to you in silence. **Hear our prayers.**

God of love, we come to you because you are the source of life. **Hear our prayers.**

Hear this good news: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

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.**

First Reading – 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 *The new covenant in Christ*

Response: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

I love the LORD because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD;

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my

bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

Gospel Verse

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Red #666

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

Gospel – John 13:1-17, 31b-35 *The service of Christ: foot washing and meal*

Before: The holy Gospel according to . . . **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After: The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Prayer Around the Cross

Hymn

“Touch That Soothes and Heals”

Insert

1. Touch that soothes and heals the hurting,
hands that break a loaf of bread;
steps that walk beside the weary,
bearing burdens in their stead:

Refrain

“See my hands and feet,” said Jesus,
love arisen from the grave.

“Be my hands and feet,” said Jesus,
“live as ones I died to save.”

2. Feed the hungry, clothe the naked,
visit ones in need of care,
give the homeless warmth and shelter:
Christ will find a welcome there. **Refrain**
3. Love and serve without distinction
all earth’s people, first and least.
Know within each act of kindness
hope and wholeness are increased. **Refrain**
4. Hands that beckon little children,
bind a wound, prepare a meal,
feet that rush to share good tidings,
Christ arisen, still reveal. **Refrain**

Offering

Giving Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

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.

Lamb of God

Red page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Hymn

"Abide with Me"

Red #629

1. Abide with me, fast falls the even tide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless oh, abide with me.
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.
3. I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!

5. Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord abide with me.

Benediction

Today we have received a difficult commandment from Jesus Christ: to go out and wash another's feet, to care for the vulnerable, and to offer our presence to our community. **This is not easy, and alone we fail.**

But together, **we will continue to serve each other and find strength. Together! Yes, together!**

May the love of God, the service of Jesus Christ, and the healing power of the Holy Spirit be upon us all + now and forever. **Amen.**

Stripping of the Altar *My soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.* **Psalm 88**

*The congregation leaves in silence,
to reassemble tomorrow for Good Friday.*

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