



## Maundy Thursday

*Eucharist*

Thursday, April 2, 2026, 7 p.m.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Exploring the promise of God for all*

# You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image.

We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people and work toward racial equity. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all.

## Worship



**Bold print** indicates responses spoken by all.



Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).



You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand or remain seated at any point in the service.



Masks are welcome, but not required.



Children are welcome and celebrated in worship. Each Sunday there are Children's Bags at each of the ushers' tables at the entrances to the sanctuary. Inside each bag is a worship activity and snack. Many families sit near the children's tables next to the baptismal font, but you are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary that is comfortable to you.



All are welcome to receive communion at Central. At the ushers' invitation, you will proceed toward the altar where there are regular and gluten-free wafers served with wine or grape juice. Your server will offer bread and wine for all, including children. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please let your server know.



Offering can be made online using the QR code in the bulletin or left in the offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors.

### MEMBERS OF:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

Align Minneapolis | [www.alignmpls.org](http://www.alignmpls.org)

ReconcilingWorks | [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org)

MNIPL Climate Justice Congregation | [www.mnipl.org](http://www.mnipl.org)



Welcome to worship at Central Lutheran Church. As you arrive for worship, you are invited to prepare your hearts and minds while listening to the prelude before the service begins today.



The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on this Maundy Thursday.

## PRELUDE

“The Celestial Banquet”

Olivier Messaien

“Whoever eats of my flesh and drinks of my blood abides in me, and I in them” -Words of Jesus from John 6:56

(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font.)

## Gathering

### 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.**

## GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## Word

### FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

<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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Leader sings once, then all repeat*



Glo - ry and praise to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

*Leader: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you.*

**All: Repeat acclamation**

*(Please be seated)*



*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*



## GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> 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 decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. 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 supper, 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 reclined again, 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, slaves 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>31b</sup> "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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*(Please stand)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn 359

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard the lessons of God's abiding with us in Jesus Christ. God has made God's home in your life and mine. God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this commanded Thursday let us confess our sin against God and our neighbors, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

*(Please be seated)*

## ACTS OF LOVING SERVICE

"Thy Perfect Love"

K. Lee Scott

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Hymn 708

*(Please stand)*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

On this night when Jesus gave us a new commandment to love one another, let us bring our prayers before the One whose love knows no bounds.

*Each petition concludes:*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, confident that you will strengthen us by your Spirit to love one another as Christ has loved us. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*



*There are three opportunities tonight as Acts of Loving Service:*

*You may come forward and kneel for the laying on of hands and individual absolution at the altar rail with a pastor.*

*You may move to the station for hand washing, a tradition that comes to us from the Lutheran Church in Tanzania, an act of hospitality and welcome.*

*You are invited to the two stations at the Font for the foot washing on this holy night.*



Scan to make a financial offering.



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Meditation on *Ubi Caritas et Amor*

Improvisation

### Meal

*(Please stand)*

#### PRESENTATION HYMN

“Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now”

1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing  
 2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -  
 3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you

feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and  
 vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry  
 ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in

life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.  
 is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.  
 praise pro - claim: “You are the Lord of all. A - men.”

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
 Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.  
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#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

It is indeed right...and join in their unending hymn...

## SANCTUS

Gregorian Mass 18

*Sung in Latin:*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.*

*Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.*

*Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Benedictus qui venit in nomine  
Domini.*

*Hosanna in excelsis.*

Translation:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Creating, Healing and Sustaining God, you provide a home for all, built around common elements...All glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught:

**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.**

*(Please be seated)*

*All are invited to receive these  
gifts of God.*

*Children are welcome to  
come forward and receive  
communion or a blessing.*

## COMMUNION

“Agnus Dei”

Gregorian Mass 18

*Sung in Latin:*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
dona nobis pacem.*

Translation:

Lamb of God, who takes away the  
sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the  
sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the  
sins of the world: grant us peace.

“Take, Eat”

Fred Bock

“Thee We Adore, O Savior”

Hymn 476

*(Please stand)*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 88

Plainchant, Tone I

*Antiphon: I cry to you for help, O Lord; do not hide your face from me.*

- <sup>1</sup>O Lord, my God, my Savior,  
by day and night I cry to you.
- <sup>2</sup>Let my prayer enter into your presence;  
incline your ear to my lamentation.
- <sup>3</sup>For I am full of trouble;  
my life is at the brink of the grave.
- <sup>4</sup>I am counted among those who go down to the pit;  
I have become like one who has no strength;
- <sup>5</sup>lost among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave,  
whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand.
- <sup>6</sup>You have laid me in the depths of the pit,  
in dark places, and in the abyss.
- <sup>7</sup>Your anger weighs upon me heavily,  
and all your great waves overwhelm me.
- <sup>8</sup>You have put my friends far from me; you have made me to be abhorred  
by them;  
I am in prison and cannot get free.
- <sup>9</sup>My sight has failed me because of trouble;  
Lord, I have called upon you daily; I have stretched out my hands  
to you.
- <sup>10</sup>Do you work wonders for the dead?  
Will those who have died stand up and give you thanks?
- <sup>11</sup>Will your lovingkindness be declared in the grave,  
your faithfulness in the land of destruction?
- <sup>12</sup>Will your wonders be known in the dark  
or your righteousness in the country where all is forgotten?
- <sup>13</sup>But as for me, O Lord, I cry to you for help;  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- <sup>14</sup>Lord, why have you rejected me?  
Why have you hidden your face from me?
- <sup>15</sup>Ever since my youth, I have been wretched and at the point of death;  
I have borne your terrors and am helpless.
- <sup>16</sup>Your blazing anger has swept over me;  
your terrors have destroyed me;
- <sup>17</sup>they surround me all day long like a flood;  
they encompass me on every side.
- <sup>18</sup>My friend and my neighbor you have put away from me,  
and darkness is my only companion.

*Repeat Antiphon*

*(Congregation departs in silence)*

*During the Psalm, the altar is stripped in preparation for tomorrow's Good Friday service, which is a continuation of our service this evening. There is no final blessing or dismissal. After the altar is stripped, the lights are dimmed and the music ended, the congregation departs in silence. You are invited to remain in the sanctuary for a time of quiet meditation.*

*There is no final blessing or dismissal, since the service continues tomorrow with Good Friday. The congregation departs in silence. You are invited to remain in the sanctuary for a time of quiet meditation.*

## Serving Today

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>preacher</i>
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>presider</i>
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>assisting</i>
Pastor Brian Gutzmann	
Bill Pederson	<i>soloist</i>
Isaac Drewes	<i>organist</i>
Henry Rye	<i>organ scholar</i>
Mark Kieffer	<i>video/sound</i>

*Thanks to:*

Sacristans, Usher, Hospitality Ministry Teams.

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### Join Central for Worship in Holy Week and Easter

**Good Friday, April 3, noon and 7 p.m.:** Meditating on the death of Jesus, with candles at the cross, the same service is offered at noon or 7 p.m.

**Holy Saturday, April 4, 5 p.m.:** The service of light, readings, baptism, and Holy Communion with dessert following.

**Easter Sunday, April 5, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.:** Festival worship with donut holes and coffee between services.





Central Lutheran  
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

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