

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH BARTLETT, TX

ELW Holy Communion - Thursday, March 28, 2024

Maundy Thursday

Announcements

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness (ELW p. 258)

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.

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.

The assembly is seated. Silence is kept here for reflection and self-examination.

Most holy and merciful God,

we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Tonight, you give us a new commandment. That we should love one another. But we must also confess that we do not always remember and abide by your word. We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We remember your act of love and service in the washing of the disciples' feet. Yet at times, we have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

The apostle denied you three times, and you were handed over by your own disciples. We too fall short. Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

The ways of the world distract and divide us. Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

The anxieties and fears, the lies of scarcity of time and resources, our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt towards those who differ from us, and from whom we might disagree with, in person, online, or in the thoughts of our minds and the deep recesses of our hearts, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Change us, O God. Change our hearts. Change our minds. Let us turn toward you. Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is Great.

Most merciful God,

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Hear our confession.

Change 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.

Laying on of Hands - Healing and Forgiveness

In the spirit of foot washing as Jesus washed and cleaned the disciples' feet, people may come forward to receive the laying on hands from the pastor.

They may stand or kneel on the front step. The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, may say:

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, and may God's love hold you, heal you, and reconcile you. Amen.

While this takes place, the congregation sings the following hymns together:

Song - O Sacred Head, Now Wounded - ELW Hymn #351

Song - Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed - ELW Hymn #337

Greeting (ELW p. 259)

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 (ELW p. 259)

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.

First Reading: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

A reading from Exodus.

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery

from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

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. [⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] 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.

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Refrain: I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)

¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,
²**for the LORD has given ¹ear to me**
whenever ¹er I called.
¹²How shall I re- ¹pay the LORD
for all the good things God has ¹done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup ¹of salvation**
and call on the name ¹of the LORD.

R: I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows ¹to 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.**

R: I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

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." ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ 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.

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 260)

**Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

¹ 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. ² The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ 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. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After 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?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If 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. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ 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.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ 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 (ELW p. 151) - Pastor Jeremy Ullrich
Hymn of the Day - Beneath the Cross of Jesus - ELW Hymn #338

Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.

You make a new covenant with your people. Gather your church around word and table in love and promise as these three holy days enfold us. Open us to behold the mystery of our salvation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You give us our daily bread, fruit of the earth and work of human hands. Bless those who labor and tend to their crops and those who prepare our meals. Strengthen us to advocate for food justice and a fair distribution of resources. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You, our Savior and Teacher, stoop down to us in servant love. Inspire national and local leaders with a renewed sense of public service. Increase in them a humility to serve with equity and fairness. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You incline your ear to us in every need. Befriend all who are lonely. Comfort those who grieve. Soothe any who are anxious. Console all who are distressed. Graciously tend to the hurts of your children who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You inspire your people to praise in word, song, and art. We give thanks for artists whose gifts enrich the church's worship. Kindle in us appreciation for all who beautify our worship space throughout the changing seasons. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Precious in your sight is the death of your faithful ones. We remember and give thanks for the those who have died. With them, we trust your promise to love your own until the end. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Peace (ELW p. 261)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering (ELW p. 152)

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer (ELW p. 152)

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Dialogue (ELW p. 152)

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.

Preface (ELW p. 153)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW p. 153)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, O God of the universe...

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life...

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread...

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places...now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 154)

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 (ELW p. 154)

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

St. John practices open communion. Tonight, first communion students will be invited to come forward with their hand-painted chalices and baked unleavened bread to receive their first communion with family and friends. The congregation will be invited afterwards to also receive unleavened bread and wine.

Communion (ELW p. 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.**

Communion Hymn - Ah, Holy Jesus - ELW Hymn #349

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

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.

Closing

A reading from Mark 14: 48-53

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit?" ⁴⁹ Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." ⁵⁰ All of them deserted him and fled.

⁵¹ A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, ⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked. ⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest.

A brief silence is observed before the Stripping of the Altar.

Stripping of the Altar (ELW p. 261)

The service concludes with the stripping of the altar. The assembly sits or kneels. Following the prayer after communion, the sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners, and books are removed from the worship space. Psalm 22 is read. Lights are dimmed as the worship space is stripped. Upon conclusion, all depart in silence.

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OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 28th- Maundy Thursday

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Pastor Asst: Weldon Kurtz
Communion Asst: Don Bruggman
Lector: Garrett Kurtz
Usher Captain: Darrell Marek
Ushers: April Marek, Dustin & Amanda Marek
Greeters: Robert & Dorothy Marwitz
Altar Care: Judy Gersbach & Joey Saverse
Teller Captain: Imogen Morris
Teller: Deborah Martin and Krisit Dague

OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 29th - Good Friday

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Lector: Coley Bruggman, Weldon Kurtz, Garrett Kurtz
Usher Captain: Darrell Marek
Ushers: April Marek, Dustin & Amanda Harper
Greeters: Robert & Dorothy Marwitz
Altar Care: Judy Gersbach & Joey Saverse
Teller Captain: Imogen Morris
Teller: Deborah Martin and Krisit Dague

OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 31st-Sunrise

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Communion Asst. Glen Janke
Usher: Tim Steglich
Teller: Cedalia Kurtz

OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 31- Easter

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Pastor Asst. Wayne Zieschang
Communion Asst. Weldon Kurtz
Lector: Ronnie Persky
Usher Captain: Michael Kurtz
Ushers: Melinda Kurtz, Garrett Kurtz, Ricky Ranthum
Greeters: Duane and Sharon Kurtin
Altar Care: Frank & Connie Horak
Teller Captain: Jill Marwitz
Teller: Charles Gersbach & David Tschoerner

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE

	Worship Attendance	Offering	YTD
Mar 3	62	\$4,167.00	\$27,264.75
Mar 6	12	\$ 186.00	\$27,450.75
Mar 10	65	\$3,908.00	\$31,358.75
Mar 13	26	\$ 121.00	\$31,479.75
Mar 17	75	\$2,660.00	\$34,139.75
Mar 20	20	\$ 640.00	\$34,779.75
Mar 24	102	\$4,178.00	\$38,957.75

IN OUR PRAYERS

Garland Wentrcek	Stanley Glaser	Janie Barron Lange	Eldon Lange
Celeste Gamrod	Pansy Lange	Janelle Janke	Risa Steglich
Darrell Kurtz(Twin Brother of Harold Kurtz)		Ruth and Ray Janke	
Monica Blane(Pastor Daniel Blane's daughter)		Gayle Biels	
The Bartek family (friends of Alan and Retha)		Sharon Randig	
James Chapman(Dorothy Marwitz's Brother-in-law)		Kim Ferguson	
Josh Ramirez & Sheena Woods(friend of Sharon Randig)		Garland Townsend	
Margie & Jeff Burton Family-Deborah Martin's friend		Allen Persky's Family	
Jimmy Dubose-grandfather of Kendal & Jr Gersbach and Great-grandfather to Cayson & Barrett			

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

Monday: Dominoes each Monday in TRC @ 2:00 pm
 Wednesday: Men's Bible Study each Wednesday in the TRC @ 7:30 am
 Thursday: Piece Makers meet each Thursday in the TRC @ 1:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Piecemakers Request

The Piecemakers have asked for any sewing, crocheting, knitting, and supplies for sewing quilts. This would include sewing machines, scissors, rotary cutters, fabric, thread, pins and needles or anything that pertains to quilting.

Pastoral Visits

We are encouraging those hospitalized, nursing home residents (or, their family members), and the homebound members and friends who wish to schedule an in-person pastoral visit or phone call to contact Pastor Jeremy Ullrich @ 979-421-3303 or the church office @ 254-527-3341.

NOTE: Pastor Ullrich will need to be listed as a "visitor of choice" in hospitals or nursing homes. This will need to be established by a family member.

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is at 9:15am in the TRC
 Youth Sunday School starts February 11 @9:30am.

Articles for the Newsletter

Please submit your articles for the monthly newsletter before the 19th of the month, as they are mailed out the following week. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

When you make a prayer request for a non-member, please provide the church office with contact information so that we can send them a card. Thank you.

Will-O-Bell Nursing Home Worship

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the residents of our local nursing home! Through communion and a 30-minute hymn sing-along, please show these residents they are not forgotten by joining us on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Granger and on the third Thursday of each month at 10AM in Bartlett. Please come and make a resident smile.

Live Stream Learning

St. John has purchased a camcorder to help with our live stream. We are looking for tech-inclined volunteers interested in testing out different settings. We will use an apprenticeship model for training, so you will have a mentor helping as long as you wish. For more information, contact the church office (254-527-3341).

Martha's Circle Bible Study

Martha's Circle Bible Study 4th Wednesday of every month @ 10am, for more information contact Janice Atchison (254-721-8477).

Flag Donations

3x5 U.S. Flags with grommets are appreciated for our church. In memory of loved ones, you may donate flags, or make cash donations, at the church office. For further information contact Walt Saverse @ 254-770-8381, or contact the church office @ 254-527-3341.

Sisters in Christ Bible Study

The Sisters in Christ Bible study (Saturday Bible Study) is every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10am. They are studying a new series titled "Fierce" by Jennifer Cowart. The study covers lesser known ladies in the Bible and the ways they changed the world by living into God's calling.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets each Wednesday at 7:30am in the TRC..

Congregation

I want to thank everyone for their continued prayers, words of encouragement, cards and love sent to me. My family at St. John is amazing, as you continue to lift me up in prayer. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for making my days brighter and easier. God Bless You All, Celeste Gamrod .

Dominoes

Every Monday @ 2PM in the TRC– Domino games (42 and Straight)

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School every Sunday. Class will begin at 9:30am and end at 10:15am. Youth ages 3 through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. We will sing, hear a Bible story and work on crafts. There is a need for volunteers. Anyone who can help in any way, please text Sharon Randig at 512-713-4433.

Childcare for Pastor's Children

My family is looking for childcare help. Specifically, we seek trustworthy and caring individuals to sit with the kids (7/5/3) for two to three hours while they watch their age-appropriate shows in our home. Our biggest needs are during the week, especially for Wednesday nights in Lent (Feb 14 to March 27). \$20 per hour. Super friendly family dog. Please call or text your interest or potential leads at 979-421-3303. Thank you in advance for blessing my family! -Pastor Jeremy

Rose Garden

We will be celebrating Betty Wendler's 90th Birthday with the Rose Planting Ceremony on April 14 after the Worship Service with a light meal afterwards.

Candy for Easter

We have a request for wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning.

Flowers for Easter Cross

We need fresh flowers for Easter Sunday's Cross. Please bring them to Church on Saturday March 30.

Heart of Texas (HOT) Spring Gathering

The Spring Gathering will be held at Covenant Lutheran Church in Temple Texas on Saturday April 27, 2024 from 9 am to 1 pm. Registration forms are available in the TRC and are due April 1st. WELCA will cover the registration fees for those who attend. Please turn forms into the church office.