

What would it look like
to let Christ's love wash
over the places where you
resist being vulnerable or
close to others?

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UNBOUND
Longing for Wholeness



EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On this night, Jesus kneels with a basin and towel, embodying a love that unbinds his disciples from pride, hierarchy, and self-protection. At the table, he reveals that wholeness is not abstract—it is born in shared meals, mutual tenderness, and the vulnerability of letting ourselves be served.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- A: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard the call to unbind ourselves from things that hold us captive—all that keeps us from living the whole, abundant life that God has promised us. As we confess this day, let Christ's love wash over the places in which we resist closeness so that we may experience a wholeness that is shaped by compassion, humility and belonging.
- A: Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. 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.

Silence For Reflection

- A: Most merciful God,
- C: 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.**
- A: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

THE PEACE

We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. You may greet one another and say "peace be with you" or similar words.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together,

C: 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.

THE WORD

A RESPONSIVE READING PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

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

L: I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

C: for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.

L: How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

C: I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

L: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

C: Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.

L: O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

C: I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.

L: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people,

C: in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

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.

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, 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." 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." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Holy Gospel of St. John, beginning in the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.



PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION ON THE GOOD NEWS



- 1 Love con - se - crates the hum - blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;
 2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet
 3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true



it sheds a ben - e - dic - tion sweet and hal - lows hu - man needs.
 of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.
 has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

A: 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.

A brief silence.

A: Gracious host, you knelt to wash your disciples' feet. Cleanse us from pride and self-centeredness, and teach us to love one another as you have loved us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Creator God, the earth is yours and everything in it. Awaken us to care for all you have made and conserve the rich diversity of your good creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of the nations, guide the world's leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Where they wield power unjustly, confront them. Where they are indifferent to suffering, awaken their conscience. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Compassionate One, embrace all who are lonely or in captivity, comfort the grieving, and relieve those in pain. Draw near to all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Blessed redeemer, we give you thanks for this community of faith, and for all who gather around your table of grace. Unite us in love for you and for one another. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Eternal God, we praise you for the great cloud of witnesses who now rest from their labors. At the last, gather us with them at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Amen.

THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

C: 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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!

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

*We practice "Open Communion," acknowledging that Jesus welcomes all persons, sinners and saints alike, to the table. All means ALL. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Sacrament in a continuous line, exiting by the side aisles. **Communion is by intinction.** We offer a chalice of wine and a chalice of white grape juice in which you may dip the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask for them at the altar, if needed. The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.*

Infants who are not yet ready to receive food will receive a blessing. Parents who have questions about the practice of open communion may instruct their children to receive just a blessing.

Communion can be served to those who are not physically able to join us for worship. Please speak with an usher if you know of someone who would desire communion from Sunday's table brought to them.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Remembrance (The Communion Song)

Words and Music by Matt Maher and Matt Redman



1. Oh, how could it be that my God would wel - come me in -
(2. See His) bod - y, His blood; know that He has o - ver - come ev - 'ry



to this mys - ter - y, say, "Take this bread, take this wine?" Now the
tri - al we will face. And none too lost to be saved, none too



sim - ple made di - vine for an - y to re - ceive. By Your mer -
bro - ken or a - shamed. All are wel - come in this place.



cy we come to Your ta - ble. By Your grace You are mak - ing us faith - ful. Lord, we re -

§

mem - ber You, and re - mem - brance leads us to wor - ship. And as we
 wor - ship You, our wor - ship leads to com - mun - ion. We re - spond

1

Last time to Coda ⊕

to Your in - vi - ta - tion. We re - mem - ber You.

(1) | 2

2. See His tion. We re - mem - ber You. Dy - ing, You de - stroyed our
 death. Ris - ing, You re - stored our life. Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry.

1

2

G

D

G2

D.S. al Coda

Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry. Lord Je - sus, come in Lord, we re

⊕
Coda

tion, we re - spond to Your in - vi - ta - tion. We re - mem - ber You.

~



COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace until life everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

THE SENDING

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✝ , and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

A READING FROM

JOHN 31b-35

“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 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.’ 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.”

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

(PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE)





What if the opposite of being bound is being whole? Our world is filled with things that hold us captive. These things that bind us prevent us from living the whole, abundant life that God has promised us. Through the stories of regular people encountering Jesus, and being drawn to the wholeness that Jesus provides, we can learn about our own longings and be drawn into wholeness.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday (April 2) - Longing for Intimacy - John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday (April 3) - Longing for Solidarity - John 18:1-19:42

Easter Sunday (April 5) - Longing for New Life - John 20:1-18

Holy Week Service Times

Maundy Thursday: April 2, Noon & 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday: April 3, Noon & 7:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5

Sunrise Service at Suwanee Town Center Park 7:00 a.m.

Worship at Epiphany 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast in the Epiphany Café at 10:00 a.m.

Worship at Epiphany 11:00 a.m.



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am (in-person and online)

Ministers: The People of God

Pastor: Chris Hermansen

Minister of Youth: Kris Perkola

Director of Worship and Music: Steve Belfield, Interim

Worship Production: Steve Belfield

Worship Accompanist: Anna Keiserman, Ph. D.

Church Administrator: Bonnie Bradberry

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate (ELW 722)

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Remembrance (The Communion Song)

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- ◆ Text EPIPHANYGA to 73256
- ◆ Use your bank's online bill pay feature to set up recurring giving
- ◆ Mail a check to Epiphany
- ◆ Drop it in the offering plate on Sunday

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