



Church At Home
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church – Pembroke, Ontario
Holy Week
Maundy Thursday **April 2, 2026**

Invocation

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.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

Greeting

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

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 Lesson: Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10), 11-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell 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. If 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. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 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. 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. 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. 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.

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!

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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.

Gospel Acclamation

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

The Gospel – John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John.

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 put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. 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 the table, 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 returned to the table, 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, servants 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.

"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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ.

Silence for Reflection

As you meditate on the Gospel reading, reflect on this question:

What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you?

Hand Washing – at the end of the service

Out of love and service, Jesus humbly washed the feet of the disciples. Tonight, you are invited to have your hands washed. They are more often the instruments of service today, much like walking feet were instruments of service in Jesus' time. Come and remember Christ's love in the washing.

Holy Communion

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.

Stripping of the Altar

The stripping of the altar symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. May your reflection be of this time in the life of Jesus and the sacrifice that was made for our eternal life.

Psalm 22 – A Lament sung by the cantor

- ¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?
- ²My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;
by night, but I find no rest.
- ³Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴Our ancestors put their trust in you,
they trusted, and you rescued them.
- ⁵They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- ⁶But as for me, I am a worm and not human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- ⁷All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.
- ⁸“Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver;
let God rescue him if God so delights in him.”
- ⁹Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb,
and kept me safe on my mother's breast.
- ¹⁰I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- ¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.
- ¹²Many young bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- ¹³They open wide their jaws at me,
like a slashing and roaring lion.
- ¹⁴I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

¹⁵My 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.
¹⁶Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;
 they pierce my hands and my feet.
¹⁷I can count all my bones
 while they stare at me and gloat.
¹⁸They divide my garments among them;
 for my clothing, they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not far away;
 O my help, hasten to my aid.
²⁰Deliver me from the sword,
 my life from the power of the dog.
²¹Save me from the lion's mouth!
 From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.
²²I will declare your name to my people;
 in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.
²³You 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.
²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face
 hidden from them;
 but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.
²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
 I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.
²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied.
 Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
 all the families of nations shall bow before God.
²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
 who rules over the nations.
²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
 all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
³⁰Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
 whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.
³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
 saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

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