

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God
and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.*

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar

GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

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 are called at baptism.

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.

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.

God, who is rich in mercy...Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn "Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now" ACS #930

Greeting

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.**

Kyrie (p. 138)

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.

WORD

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

First Reading Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142) **Return to the Lord, your God...**

The Gospel according to John the thirteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us" ELW #358

Handwashing Hymn "God Is Love" ACS #1041 (repeat 8x)

Handwashing

Prayers of Intercession Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Passing of the Peace The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory Prayer

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Jesus Christ, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 144)

Words of Institution

Hymn "The Lord's Prayer" Green Binder #134

Communion (ELW p. 146) **O Lamb of God...**

Communion Hymn "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken" ACS #966

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Stripping of the Altar

Psalms 88

Depart in Silence