MAUNDY THURSDAY March 28, 2024

PRELUDE "Le Banquet Celeste" - Olivier Messiaen

This piece is based on John 6:54 "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them" Listeners will note the meditative nature of the sonorities played in the hands. The short notes played in the pedal are intended to depict drops of blood.

THE INVOCATION

- P: We have come in the name of the God who loves us, in the name of the Son who gives us new life, and in the name of the Spirit who brings wholeness and healing.
- C: Let us worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May our love for one another be a reflection of the true love of God in Jesus Christ.

HYMN "Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now" (see opposite page)

THE GREETING

- 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.

GOD WELCOMES US IN LOVE

- P: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.
- C: We love because God first loved us.
- P: If someone says, "I love God," yet hates his or her brother or sister, that person is a liar.
- C: For one cannot love God, who is not seen, if one does not love a brother or sister, who is seen.
- P: This, then, is the command that Christ gave us: anyone who loves God must also love one another.
- C: O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. Amen

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: 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 for reflection and self-examination.

- P: 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
- P: 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.

C: Amen

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

"Maundy" is an English form of the Latin word for "commandment mandate," the new commandment to "love one another as I have loved you." The entire period of Lent is a time for reflection and confession, beginning with Ash Wednesday. The emphasis of Holy Thursday is the ending of this time of confession and the beginning of a focus on forgiveness.

THE FIRST READING Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

THE SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE GOSPEL John 13:1-17, 31-35

SERMON

HYMN "My Song is Love Unknown"



- 5 In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might have; in death no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave.
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 6 Here might I stay and sing—
 no story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
 I all my days could gladly spend!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

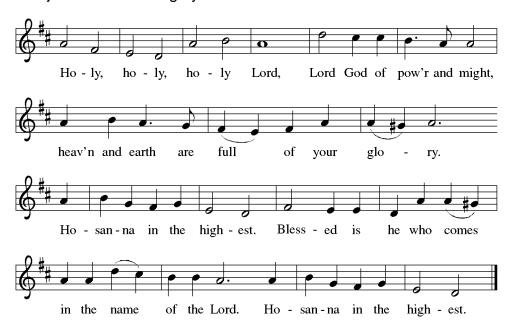
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

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



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

C: Amen

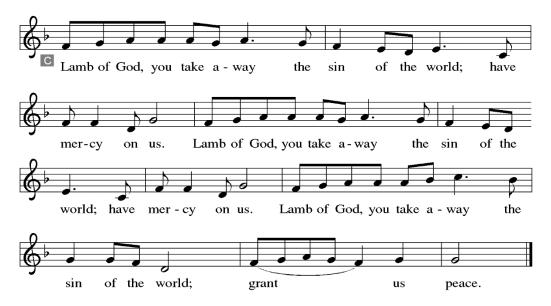
THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

THE COMMUNION

We welcome all who believe that Jesus is Lord and Savior to join us at his table.

The following hymn, "Lamb of God," is sung by the entire congregation as the distribution of communion begins:



CHOIR ANTHEM 642 "Ubi caritas et amor" Where True Charity and Love Abide

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: 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.

C: Amen

Please be seated during the stripping the altar.

Psalm 22 (Intoned by Cantor)

There is no benediction. All leave in silence.

In ministry this evening: pastor: Bob Cheyney, Jr. co-cantors: John Schwandt, MaryAnn Schwabe John Lauby, Organist/Choir Director Emeritus altar stripping: Becky Popio, Liz Nabors communion assistants: Becky Popio, Liz Nabors door greeter: Gary Smith lector: Linda Wagner usher: Harry Rennecker, Doug Nabors

Congratulations to the following children who have completed the First Communion classes and will be celebrating their First Communion today: Colton Lucchesi, Jackson Medal, Reagan Medal

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Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now

