

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

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April 2, 2026

6:30 PM

### MAUNDY THURSDAY



*This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.*

## GATHERING

*Rise and face the entrance as the service begins when the Sanctus bells ring.*

## SILENT PROCESSION

## 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 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.*

- ☞ 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, 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.

- ☞ **Amen.**

*(sit)*

## ABSOLUTION AT THE RAIL

*Gabriel's Oboe*

Mark Jones, organ

*Those who so desire may come forward at this time and kneel or stand before the altar for individual absolution.*

*The pastor or deacon, laying both hands on your head, saying:*

- ☞ In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.  
 ☞ **Amen.**

*(rise in body or Spirit)*

## APOSTOLIC 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.**

## 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 on 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

*(sit)*

### READING

**Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>“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.”

℣ The word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

### READING

**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, <sup>24</sup>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.” <sup>25</sup>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.” <sup>26</sup>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.**

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- ℣ Return to the Lord your God,
- ☩ **for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**
  
- ℣ The Holy Gospel according to St. John.
- ☩ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

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

<sup>12</sup> 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? <sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup> If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

<sup>31b</sup> "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> 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.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

℣ The Gospel of our Lord

☩ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(sit)*

## SERMON

*Pastor Wynard*

- 1 Great God, your love has called us here  
as we, by love, for love were made.  
Your living likeness still we bear,  
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.  
We come, with all our heart and mind  
your call to hear, your love to find.**
- 2 We come with self-inflicted pains  
of broken trust and chosen wrong,  
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,  
by social forces swept along,  
by powers and systems close confined  
yet seeking hope for humankind.**
- 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name  
and then receive us as your own  
not through some merit, right, or claim,  
but by your gracious love alone.  
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat  
and find you kneeling at our feet.**
- 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread,  
and humble us, and call us friends.  
Suffer and serve till all are fed,  
and show how grandly love intends  
to work till all creation sings,  
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.**
- 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free  
your life to live, your joy to share.  
Give us your Spirit's liberty  
to turn from guilt and dull despair,  
and offer all that faith can do  
while love is making all things new.**

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Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

- Response:  Hear us, O God.  
 **Your mercy is great.**

**THE PEACE IS SHARED**

- The peace of Christ be with you always.  
 **And also with you.**

**MEAL**

*(sit)*

**THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED**

*We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. You may use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!*



**THE TABLE IS PREPARED**

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Ubi Caritas*

Victor C. Johnson  
Kountze Adult Choir

Ubi caritas et amour,  
Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
Ubi caritas et amour,  
Deus ibi est.

*Where there is charity and love,  
God is there.  
The love of Christ has gathered us together.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
And from a sincere heart let us love one another  
Where there is charity and love,  
God is there.*

*(rise in body or Spirit)*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

ELW 359 vs. 1-3

**1 Where charity and love prevail,  
there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love,  
by love we thus are bound.**

**2 With grateful joy and holy fear,  
God's charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and soul  
now love God in return.**

**3 Let us recall that in our midst  
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;  
as members of each body joined,  
in him we are made one.**

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.  
Text © 1960 World Library Publications. 3708 River Rd., Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131. All rights reserved.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ 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.**

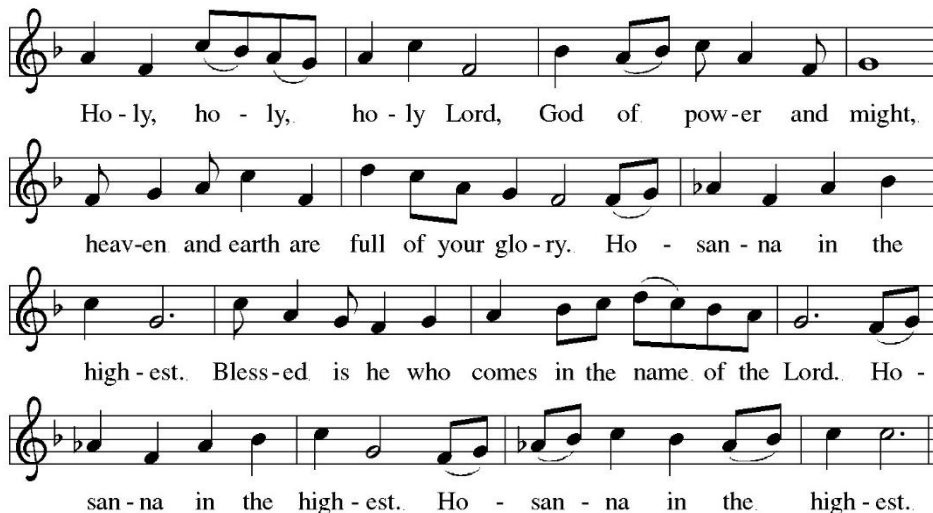
## HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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

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

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

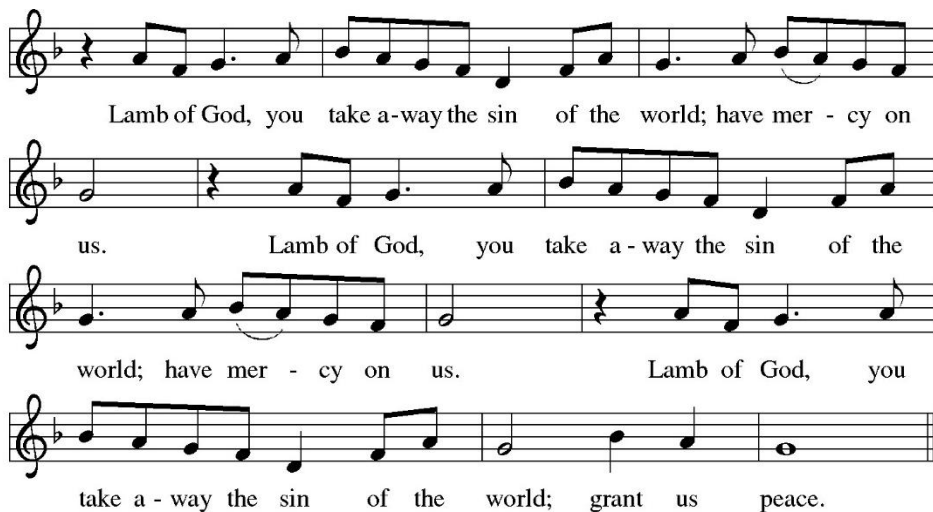
## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- Ⓔ Blessed are you, O God of the universe. ...  
... 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 your self to us in the breaking of the bread. ...  
... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.
- Ⓒ **Come, Holy Spirit.**
- Ⓔ With your holy ones of all times and places, ...  
... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- Ⓒ **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

- ☐ 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.**

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.
- ☑ **We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own goodness, but in your all-embracing love and mercy. We are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs under your table, but it is your nature always to have mercy. So feed us with the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your Son, that we may forever live in him and he is us. Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION

*All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. **The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine.** Gluten free bread is available upon request. If you cannot or choose not to receive the wine, know that the sacrament and God's promised forgiveness are complete in either element.*

First Communion received by

Mason Alexander Burton

Everett Nosal

Henry Nosal

Isabelle Nosal

Prin KhunDum Weigel

(sit)

## HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

*Around You, O Lord Jesus*

**ELW 468**

**1   Around you, O Lord Jesus,  
your own you gather still  
to share the feast you give us  
with grace our lives to fill.  
You say to us so lovingly,  
“Take, eat! This is my body!  
Take, drink! This is my blood!”**

**2   We hear your invitation,  
and heed, O Lord, your call;  
your word of consolation  
is spoken here to all.  
It draws us to your loving heart;  
it brings to us your blessing,  
which never will depart.**

**3   We are your own forever;  
until our final breath  
we will be true and never  
in joy, in grief, in death  
depart from you, for you are still  
among your people dwelling,  
as you have said you will.**

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. composite  
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive  
 2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning  
 3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing  
 4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the  
 tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to  
 fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as  
 End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all  
 dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing  
 kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y  
 form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor  
 down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise  
 days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from  
 love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.  
 in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.  
 fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.  
 ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*(rise in body or Spirit)*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☐ 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.**

# SENDING

*Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now*

ACS 930

HYMN



1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing  
2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -  
3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you



feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and  
vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry  
ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in



life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.  
is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.  
praise pro - claim: "You are the Lord of all. A - men."

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

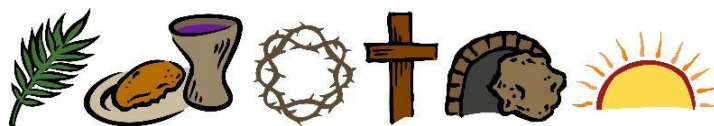
*After all have communed, the altar is stripped. This symbolic action reminds us of Christ's humiliation at the hands of his captors as he is abandoned by his disciples, beaten, and stripped of all human dignity and power. There is no benediction in this service. This suggests the continuity with Good Friday and the Easter Vigil -- one extended service lasting three days (the Triduum).*

## PSALM 22

music by David Cherwin  
Janet Campbell, *soloist*

*The clergy and worship leaders depart through the north door.  
Worshippers may leave in silence or remain for silent meditation.  
This service continues with the Good Friday Adoration of the Cross.*





### **Good Friday, April 3**

- 12-3 PM Ecumenical Good Friday Service: Seven Words from the Cross with Guest Speakers, String Quartet and Kountze Choir
- 6:30 PM Tenebrae (Veneration of the Cross and Service of Shadows) (Nursery)

### **Holy Saturday, April 4**

- 10 PM Easter Vigil (Fire, Word, Water, Eucharist) (There will be no 5:00 PM Saturday service)

### **Easter Sunday, April 5**

- 7:30 AM Festival of the Resurrection in the Link
- 8 - 10:45 AM Easter Breakfast & Bake Sale
- 9 & 11:00 AM Festival of the Resurrection
- 10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt in the Green Space after the 9 AM service



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