



SERVICE OF THE WORD

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 1, 2021 † 6:30 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are listening this evening.

During the season of COVID-19 pandemic, St. John's will continue to follow state and federal guidance for public gatherings. We deeply miss seeing our community in person and eating at the Lord's table together. We hold fast to the knowledge that we are not the first generation to experience fear of deadly disease, and we are not the first community separated unwillingly by circumstances.

We know that the resources of our faith can sustain us as we are apart.

Our prayer is that in this broadcast you can hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you through the Word; that you can sing along and join in fervent prayer for our world, and that as we share the peace, you can set an intention to reach out, in whatever ways this moment allows, to share God's love with someone else.



St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement, political affiliation, or religious background.

While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together, believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.

We warmly welcome you here.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Today 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. The heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — on WONDROUS LOVE

Daniel Kallman

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity ✝ one God,
the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

C Amen.

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ.
Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,

C **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the
world you so love. Amen.**

P Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

C Amen.

*We offer forgiveness to one another with these words,
"In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins."*

*Gathering Hymn — “What Wondrous Love Is This” (#666)

WONDROUS LOVE



What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down be -
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my
neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

*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.

*Prayer of the Day

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

First Reading — Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴If 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. ⁵This 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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. ¹⁴This 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.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Antiphon: Iona Community

Antiphon: Listen Lord, not to our words but to our prayer.

You alone understand and care.



¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,

²for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.

¹²**How shall I re- | pay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?**

¹³**I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the LORD. Antiphon**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people.

¹⁵Precious in your | sight, O LORD,
is the death | of your servants.

¹⁶O LORD, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, you have freed me | from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people,

¹⁹in the courts of | the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem. *Antiphon*

***Gospel Acclamation** — “Where Charity and Love Prevail” (#359) TWENTY-FOURTH

Where char-i - ty and love pre-vail, there God is ev - er found;
brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf

***Gospel** — John 13:1-17, 31b-35

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now 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. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus 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." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After 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? ¹³You call me Teacher and

Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

^{31b}“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenschner

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn — “Oh, Love, How Deep” (#322)

O WALY WALY

Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er
 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of God, should
 or of low - er place, but wore the robe of hu - man
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion sharp he
 dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and ac - tions
 take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.
 knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

Text: Thomas à Kempis; tr. Benjamin Webb; Music: English traditional

*Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

- ℣ Lord, in your mercy,
- ✠ **hear our prayer.**

*Peace

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

You are invited to share God's peace with those around you.

Offering of Our Gifts

Music at the Offering:

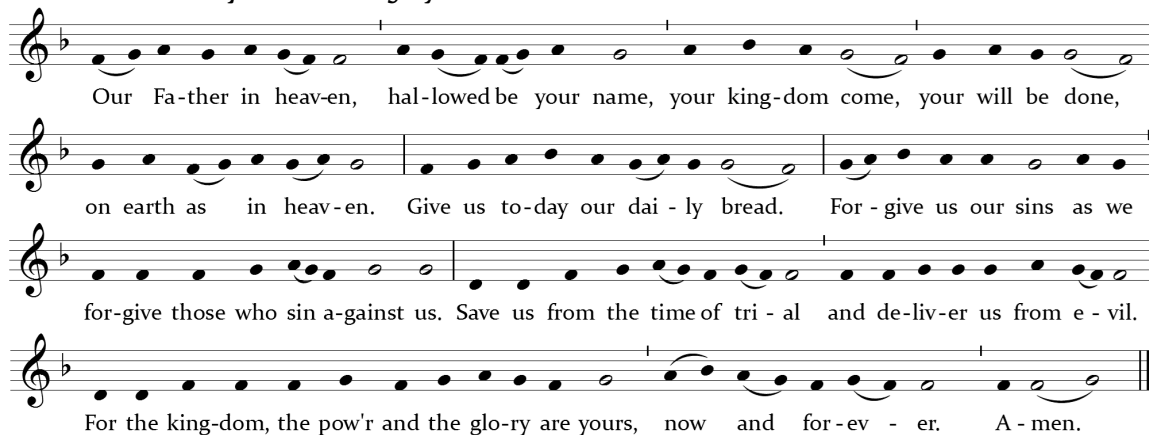
“O Bread of Life from Heaven”

Johannes Brahms

*Thanksgiving for the Word

- ℣ Let us pray.
Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,
✠ **we give you thanks and praise.**
- ℣ By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,
✠ **we give you thanks and praise.**
- ℣ Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
✠ **we give you thanks and praise.**
- ℣ Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
✠ **Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer** — *Sung by all.*



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al and de-liv-er us from e - vil.
For the king-dom, the pow'r and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev - er. A - men.

Stripping of the Altar

As Psalm 22 is sung by the cantor, the table and pulpit are stripped of their paraments and the chancel is made bare. The altar and chancel furnishings are removed, preparing the sanctuary for Good Friday. Through this stark and ancient ritual we recall that Jesus was abandoned by his followers, stripped of his dignity, and left to face the cross alone. The psalm setting is by Rev. Joseph Crippen.

Psalmody — Psalm 22:1-19

Antiphon: Oh, my God, why have you forsaken me?

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?

My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm and not human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads.

“Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver;
let God rescue the one in whom he delights.”
Yet it was you who took me from the womb,
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.
On you I was cast from my birth;
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.
Many bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
They open wide their mouths at me,
like a slashing and roaring lion.
I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.
My heart is like wax,
it is melted within my breast;
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled.
I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.
But you, O Lord, be not far away;
O my help, come quickly to my aid.



On this night we have heard our Lord’s commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God’s love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

We invite you this evening, if you are able, to wash the feet of those gathered with you as a sign of our worship together.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Becker Nelson Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	David Sims, Nathan Proctor

Holy Week and Easter

Friday, April 2 - Good Friday

Radio and Livestream service at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 3 - Holy Saturday

Stop by the columbarium for a time of prayer and candle lighting between 6:30-8:30 p.m. as we prepare for Easter. A brief devotion will be held every 30 minutes.

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday

Radio and Livestream service at 9:00 a.m. with communion via Zoom to immediately follow.

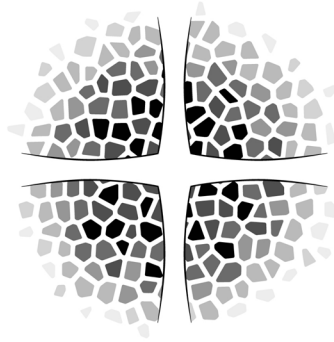
Today's Radio Broadcast is given by friends of St. John's.

Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1 FM from 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Dates available: August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television (NTV) - cable channel 187, Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Carol Benson, *Director of Jubilate Choir*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Tim Byers, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*

Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*

Christy Hall-Holt, *Welcome Ministry Coordinator*

Emmanuel Kaghondi, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Director of Alleluia Choir*

Zachery Pelletier, *Director of Rejoice Rings*

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, *Security and Custodial Assistants*

Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

Call the church office or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.