

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
 292 Orange St., New Haven, CT  
 TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521  
 Service of Holy Communion—*Lutheran Book of Worship*, Setting I  
 Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026  
 In-Person at 7:30 pm & Live at Facebook.com/TrinityLutheranNH

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** *"Where Charity and Love Prevail"* **LBW No. 126**

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.  
 Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842  
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**SERMON**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY INSTRUCTION**

In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our 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 committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of

his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

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.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS, LBW p. 194**

Let us make confession to God.

**Almighty God, merciful Father:**

**I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you  
all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you  
and for which I justly deserve your punishment.**

**But I am sorry for them, and repent of them,  
and pray for your boundless mercy.**

**For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being;  
forgive my sins,  
give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life,  
and bring me to life everlasting. Amen**

*The minister stands and addresses the congregation:*

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. 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**

*Those in the congregation may come forward and kneel before the altar. The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, addresses each in turn:*

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

**Amen**

Peace be with you.

**Peace be with you.**

**HYMN DURING ABSOLUTION:****Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound**

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . .

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## **FIRST LESSON: Exodus 12:1-14**

*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's Supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the Lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.*

<sup>1</sup>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>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <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>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. <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.**

## **PSALM 116:1-2, 10-17**

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my | supplication,\*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I | called upon him.

<sup>2</sup> **The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took | hold of me;\***  
**I came to | grief and sorrow.**

<sup>10</sup> How shall I re- | pay the LORD\*  
for all the good things he has | done for me?

<sup>11</sup> **I will lift up the cup | of salvation\***  
**and call upon the name | of the LORD.**

<sup>12</sup> I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD\*  
in the presence of | all his people.

<sup>13</sup> **Precious in the sight | of the LORD\***  
**is the death | of his servants.**

<sup>14</sup> O LORD, I | am your servant;\*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me | from my  
bonds.

<sup>15</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving\***

**and call upon the name | of the LORD.**

<sup>16</sup> I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD\*  
in the presence of | all his people,

<sup>17</sup> **in the courts of | the LORD's house,\*  
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.**

**Gloria Patri (chanted after the psalm)**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the /Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for/ever. Amen.**

## **SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes again.*

<sup>23</sup>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.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
and abounding in steadfast love.**

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. 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 the table, 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 returned to the table, 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, servants 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 the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SILENCE FOR MEDITATION**

### **THE PRAYERS**

D: In our prayers today and this week, please remember: [prayer list]. We also invite your own petitions either aloud or silently in your hearts.

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, adorn your Church with the humble glory of your Son, her Savior and Bridegroom. Wash her from every sin; endow her with every good gift of your Holy Spirit; and unite her to him who gladly suffered death for her sake. Make your Church's words and actions shine with his love, drawing many hearts to Christ and his salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son washed his disciples' feet and then offered himself in service by going to the Cross. Give us humble hearts that are always ready to serve our families, friends, communities, and even our enemies, caring for everyone in your Name and using our lives to do your will. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach our earthly rulers to have a servant's heart. Make them willing to set aside the trappings of power in order to feed and clothe, protect and heal those entrusted to their care. Take this nation under your care, and protect us from dangers and calamities. Watch over those in our military, and all who serve others in our communities, and establish that day when no one need take up sword and shield any more. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Answer our prayers for those who are sick or suffering this day. Since your Son suffered as we do and since you know our needs far better than we do, give to each of them and each of us your gracious care. Grant that Jesus' saving work upon the Cross would bring healing to all for whom we pray, that we may praise you for the day of our redemption. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As we share now in the Holy Communion, the one bread and cup of your Son's body and blood, unite us with each other and with all those who have gone before us in the faith. Feed us with your Life, that we may serve you and love one another, until that day when we eat and drink with you in glory everlasting. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord...

## **INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL DEACONS**

### **PEACE**

**OFFERING** *The ushers collect the offering. You can also give electronically through our website, Facebook page, or by [clicking here](#).*

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "Thee We Adore" *Adoro te*

**OFFERTORY:** "What Shall I Render"

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

D: Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

**We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**THE COMMUNION** *To all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord, are baptized, and confess Jesus' real presence in the Holy Communion, we invite you to join us in the Holy Eucharist. At the usher's invitation you may come forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail. Please take an empty individual cup from the tray and bring it with you to the rail. The host wafer will be placed into your open hands to eat. Your cup will be filled from the pouring chalice, take and drink. Individual cups filled with non-alcoholic grape*

*juice are also available, please point to receive one. Sealed pre-consecrated Communion packages are also available. Please remain at the altar rail until all have finished and a blessing is given.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN: WOV (Blue) No. 661**

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

D: Let us pray...

Lord God, in a wonderful Sacrament you have left us a memorial of your suffering and death. May this Sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption you have brought; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

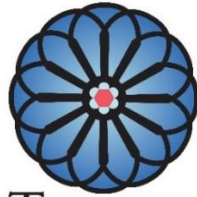
**Amen**

### **PSALM 22**

*Psalm 22, Christ's words as he is betrayed to the Cross, is spoken by all as the altar is stripped bare. There is no benediction – all leave in silence.*

- <sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me\*  
and are so far from my cry, and from the words of | my distress?**
- <sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you | do not answer;\*  
by night as well, but I | find no rest.**
- <sup>3</sup>Yet you are the | Holy One,\*  
enthroned upon the prais- | es of Israel.**
- <sup>4</sup>Our forefathers put their | trust in you;\*  
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.**
- <sup>5</sup>They cried out to you and | were delivered;\*  
they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.**
- <sup>6</sup>But as for me, I am a worm | and no man,\*  
scorned by all and despised | by the people.**
- <sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh | me to scorn;\*  
they curl their lips and wag | their heads, saying,**
- <sup>8</sup>“He trusted in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;\*  
let him rescue him, if he de- | lights in him.”**
- <sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me out | of the womb,\*  
and kept me safe upon my | mother's breast.**
- <sup>10</sup>I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;\*  
you were my God when I was still in my | mother's womb.**
- <sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,\*  
and there is | none to help.**
- <sup>12</sup>Many young bulls en- | circle me;\*  
strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.**
- <sup>13</sup>They open wide their | jaws at me,\*  
like a ravening and a | roaring lion.**

- 14**I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint;\*  
my heart within my breast is | melting wax.
- 15**My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof | of my  
mouth;\*  
and you have laid me in the dust | of the grave.
- 16**Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers cir- | cle around me;\*  
they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count | all my bones.
- 17**They stare and gloat | over me;\*  
they divide my garments among them; they cast lots | for my clothing.
- 18**Be not far a- | way, O LORD;\*  
you are my strength; hast- | en to help me.
- 19**Save me | from the sword,\*  
my life from the power | of the dog.
- 20**Save me from the | lion's mouth,\*  
my wretched body from the horns | of wild bulls.
- 21**I will declare your name | to my brethren;\*  
in the midst of the congregation | I will praise you.
- 22**Praise the LORD, | you that fear him;\*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's | line, give  
glory.
- 23**For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he  
hide his | face from them;\*  
but when they cry to | him he hears them.
- 24**My praise is of him in the | great assembly;\*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who | worship him.
- 25**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the | LORD shall  
praise him:\*
- "May your heart | live forever!"
- 26**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,\*  
and all the families of the nations shall | bow before him.
- 27**For kingship belongs | to the LORD;\*  
he rules o- | ver the nations.
- 28**To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow | down in worship;\*  
all who go down to the dust | fall before him.
- 29**My soul shall live for him; my descend- | ants shall serve him;\*  
they shall be known as the | LORD's forever.
- 30**They shall come and make known to a people | yet unborn\*  
the saving deeds that | he has done.



TRINITY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*To joyfully share God's Word and Sacrament in order to  
serve our Greater New Haven neighbors with the love of Christ.*

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