

Thursday, April 1, 2010  
Maundy Thursday  
Holy Communion

Worship Assistants

**FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1–4[5–10] 11–14**

A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*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.*

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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19**

*Refrain: I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)*

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has <sup>1</sup>heard my voice,  
and listened to my <sup>1</sup>supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given <sup>1</sup>ear to me  
whenev- <sup>1</sup>er I called.**  
<sup>12</sup>How shall I re- <sup>1</sup>pay the LORD  
for all the good things God has <sup>1</sup>done for me?  
<sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup <sup>1</sup>of salvation  
and call on the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD. R**  
<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows <sup>1</sup>to the LORD  
in the presence of <sup>1</sup>all God's people.  
<sup>15</sup>**Precious in your <sup>1</sup>sight, O LORD,  
is the death <sup>1</sup>of your servants.**  
<sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I <sup>1</sup>am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me <sup>1</sup>from my bonds.  
<sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice <sup>1</sup>of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD.**  
<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows <sup>1</sup>to the LORD  
in the presence of <sup>1</sup>all God's people,  
<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of <sup>1</sup>the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, <sup>1</sup>O Jerusalem. R**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26**

A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*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 the meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.*

<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.

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: John 13:1–17, 31b–35**

The holy gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.*

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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Gathered at the foot of the cross, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Loving God, bless people of all faiths and prepare us to walk in your path of service. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, bless the earth and all who depend on its abundance. Bless farmers, cooks, and all those who serve you through stewardship of your creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, bless our neighbors, near and far, recovering from natural or human-caused disasters (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, bless and comfort all who seek healing in body, mind and spirit (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, bless this congregation and hear its prayers. Multiply our love for you, for one another, and for our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, bless and comfort all who grieve (*especially*). As a mourning parent, God, embrace your grieving children in your unconditional love and understanding. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, loving God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

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