

Maundy Thursday Lectionary
St. John's Lutheran Church
March 28, 2024

Prayer of the Day

Holy and eternal God, you call us to follow the example of your Son, to serve as he served, to love as he loved. You call us to his table of bread and wine, his body, his blood. Though he was innocent of all sin, his body was broken, and his blood spilled out in death. In this, O God, you were glorified. And you glorified him, the one in whose name we pray, Jesus our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-8

⁶Here on Mount Zion the Lord Almighty will prepare a banquet for all the nations of the world — a banquet of the richest food and the finest wine. ⁷Here he will suddenly remove the cloud of sorrow that has been hanging over all the nations. ⁸The Sovereign Lord will destroy death forever! He will wipe away the tears from everyone's eyes and take away the disgrace his people have suffered throughout the world. The Lord himself has spoken.

... "Word of God, Word of Life."

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For I received from the Lord the teaching that I passed on to you: that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took a piece of bread, ²⁴gave thanks to God, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in memory of me." ²⁵In the same way, after the supper he took the cup and said, "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. Whenever you drink it, do so in memory of me." ²⁶This means that every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

... "Word of God, Word of Life."

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel: John 13:4-5, 12-17, 34-35

⁴[During supper, Jesus] rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. ⁵Then he poured some water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. ¹²After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. "Do you understand what I have just done to you?" he asked.

¹³"You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. ¹⁴I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. ¹⁶I am telling you the truth: no slaves are greater than their master, and no messengers are greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷Now that you know this truth, how blessed you will be if you put it into practice!"

³⁴And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

...The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, holy and immortal, we pray that your church would faithfully proclaim your message of good news and love to all the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray that, as disciples, we would fully embrace and live the commandment to love one another as our Savior has loved us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray that you would make us into instruments of peace wherever we find conflict. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for your protective hand upon the poor, the homeless, the oppressed, those who are being exploited, victims of violence and abuse. Send them the help they need, O Lord. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for regions of the world torn by strife or violence. We pray for national and local leaders, that they would grow into humble, caring, foot-washing servants of those in their charge. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the sick and the suffering, that the life-giving presence of Jesus would bring them healing. We pray for all those on our personal and congregational prayer lists. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Remembering those we love who have entered their eternal home, we pray for divine comfort and nourishment of soul, that God's resurrection-life would enter the hearts of all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We bring you our prayers in the name of the one who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.