

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

7:00 pm Worship Service • April 17, 2025

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.

Welcome members and guests to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex. Please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information.

The nursery is available, however since there are no attendants at this time, feel free to use it as needed.

Trinity offers an induction loop for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T." If you are unsure if your hearing aid is compatible, please contact your audiologist.

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607
(757) 245-7861 – <http://trinitylutheran-nn.com>
Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



REV. TINA MELUSKY – Pastor (tina.melusky@gmail.com)

GEOFFREY BELL – Director of Music Ministries (music@trinitynn.org)

SHARON MATHISON – Administrative Assistant (admin@trinitynn.org)

CAROL BESSOM – Treasurer (cbessom@trinitynn.com)

THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN – Ministers of the Word
FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS: <http://facebook.com/TrinityNN>
TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://trinitynn.org>

PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday 9-10:30am, 11:30am-12:15pm;

Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm

Times are flexible with monthly meetings, but feel free to call for an appointment.

Pastor's Cell: (734) 239-4013

Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center,
LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower.

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The Upper Room: We Gather with Family & Friends

Use this time to eat, relax, and converse with those around you, remembering that on the night of his betrayal, this is what Jesus did first. He lounged around a table with friends, sharing stories and laughter, all the while knowing what the night, the coming days would bring.

MARK 14.12-21 (NRSVUE)

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Surely. I would never betray you, never deny you. Surely?

Beloved, give me the faith to doubt my righteousness.

Give me the assurance to question, to examine myself honestly, to ask.

Give me the confidence to wonder how I might betray your perfect love.

Give me grace to confess how my promises are broken, my heart broken.

Give me the peace to be troubled by my smugness, and repent.

Open my eyes to see that you see, you know, and knowing, you keep right on eating with me. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Merciful God,
we confess that so often our discipleship has been weak, when we have failed to serve as Jesus served; forgive us.
When we have failed to love one another as Jesus loves us; forgive us.
When we have been happy to proclaim our devotion to Jesus with our lips and then denied him by our actions; forgive us.

Merciful God,
empower us by your Spirit to be steady and true
to you in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Jesus said: "*I came not to judge the world, but to save the world*"
and "*having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end*"

The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN

Change My Heart, O God

ELW 801

Sing the first time in the library, sing the second time as we move to the parlor

Refrain



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

End



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Refrain

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
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JOHN 13.1-17 (NRSVUE)

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

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

FOOTWASHING OR HAND-WASHING

Pastor Tina will be at the station by the fireplace offering footwashing. There are also two stations for hand-washing that you are welcome to use individually or with your family. You are also welcome to meditate on the images of footwashing on the table beneath the mirror.

PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord God.

The basin and the towel are signs to us of your Son's servanthood.

You have made us partakers of Christ and of one another

As we go forth, give us grace

to count others more important than ourselves,

to love our enemies,

to make peace.

Send the Spirit of truth to keep alive in us
 what Jesus taught and did,
 that our words may carry his good news, and
 that our lives may bear the shape of the cross
 of the One who lives and reigns with You
 and with the Holy Spirit,
 One God, forever and ever. Amen.


HYMN

Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love


ELW 708

We sing as we move to the sanctuary to gather around the communion table.


Refrain



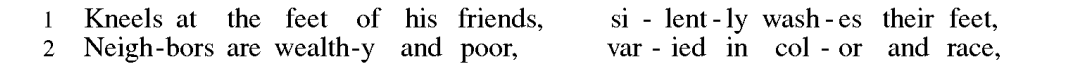
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



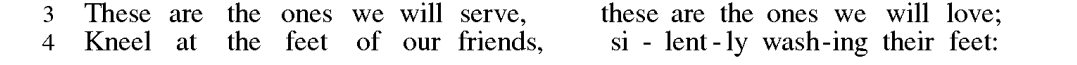
us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



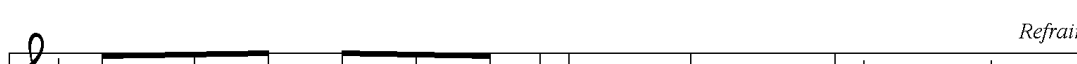
1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,



2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,

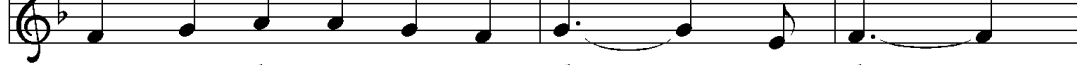


3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;

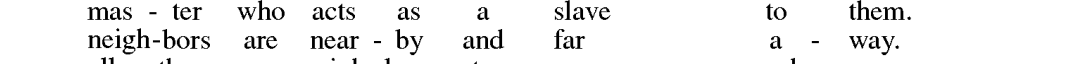


4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash-ing their feet:

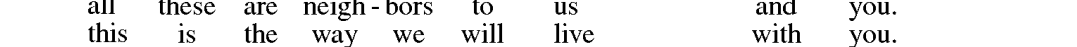
Refrain




mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.



neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.



all these are neigh - bors to us and you.



this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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The Upper Room: The Last Supper

LUKE 22.14-20 (NRSVUE)

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” Then

he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

This evening, we will commune one another around the table, by intinction. You will commune the person to your left. We will have grape juice and gluten free wafers available.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

We will sing around the communion rail and then process in silence to the columbarium.



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
 2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
 3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;

your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820-1901

The Garden of Gethsemane: Jesus Prays, the Disciples Sleep

MATTHEW 26.36-46 (NRSVUE)

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want." Then

he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Now the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

PRAYER

Holy God,

We are caught in the tension of light and shadow, death and resurrection.

You spoke the world into being, you illuminated the universe by your very speech, then filled the void with life.

Indeed, you have filled the void of darkness and death, the empty promises of the abyss, with new life and new creation.

We look to you in the space between the world and the Kingdom, longing for the fulfillment of your word in the work of the Holy Spirit and the reign of Christ, our Creator and King. Amen.

HYMN

Stay With Me

ELW 348

We sing through once in the columbarium, and then continue singing as we process to the sanctuary for the stripping of the altar. Please be seated in the front pews.

Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and

pray. Watch and pray.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: STAY WITH ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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PSALM 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry 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 others, 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 him 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 ravening 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, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

After the altar is stripped please depart in silence.

*There is no dismissal this evening, as our service continues, one unbroken story,
with Good Friday tomorrow evening.*

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

CRUCIFER — Patrick Spisak

ACOLYTE — Andrew Rummel

LECTOR — Kelly Rummel

USHERS/GREETERS — Kathleen Pietrasanta and Clifford Obara