

*CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH*  
TOGETHER IN CHRIST  
EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES

MAUNDY THURSDAY  
APRIL 9, 2020  
5:00 PM FACEBOOK

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Prelude Vicar David Severtson

**NAOMI: INTRODUCTION:**

It is becoming normal to be here in an empty sanctuary, but there is deep sadness that we are not able to be together tonight in person. This is a night were we at Calvary traditionally celebrate the first communion of our second graders. There will be NO communion to-night.

So instead of focusing on communion and the last meal Jesus had with his disciples we are going to focus on our togetherness across distance. We are going to focus on Christ's commandment to love one another.

We call today Maundy Thursday. The origin of Maundy comes from the Latin "Mandatum." Mandatum means command or mandate. Maundy Thursday is the day Jesus gave us a new commandment to love one another.

On that last night together with his disciples, Jesus washed his disciples' feet. We are called to follow his example and give and receive love in humble service to one another. We now have a share in the ongoing life of Jesus Christ. As Christ shows his love to his disciples and therefore us, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world.

In the challenging times we are facing we are called to love one another more deeply and in different ways. Tonight as we worship in a quiet, contemplative way, a different way than in past years, we remember the love of Christ and our call to love one another.

SONG: Jesu Jesu, Fill Is With Your Love    ELW 708

*One candle is lit* (first)

DAVID: SEEING LOVE by Susan Palo Cherwien

"When frightening thoughts return  
When nightmares appear  
Then my love of God comes in,"  
Wrote a fifteen year old girl  
At a state hospital.  
When terror,  
when storms  
confront,  
then our love of God comes in.  
Notice she did not say  
"the God's love for me comes in."  
It is an interesting difference,  
God's love is always there,  
Always at the threshold –  
waiting –  
but it is ultimately  
Our acceptance and return of that love  
Which completes the circle,  
Allows the loving energy to flow freely,  
Uncontained,  
Potent.  
Then we are truly  
Blessed.

SONG: Come and Fill  
Come and fill our hearts with your love/peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your love/peace. Amen

*One candle is lit* (second)

TIM: This evening we shall hear part of John's account of the last evening that Jesus spent with his friends before his arrest. Chapter 13 speaks of actions taken, and decisions made. Some were inspired by goodness, and others not. As the words are read we consider where our place might be within the story, and we renew our hope, which is in Christ the light of the world, that through him we might know God's love.

TIM: John 13:1-17(GNT)

1 It was now the day before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end. 2 Jesus and his disciples were at supper. The Devil had already put into the heart of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, the thought of betraying Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. 4 So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. 5 Then he poured some water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist.

SONG: *What Wondrous Love Is This* verse 1 (ELW 666)

*One candle is lit* (third)

NAOMI: 6 Jesus came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?"

7 Jesus answered him, "You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later."

8 Peter declared, "Never at any time will you wash my feet!"

"If I do not wash your feet," Jesus answered, "you will no longer be my disciple."

9 Simon Peter answered, "Lord, do not wash only my feet, then!

Wash my hands and head, too!" 10 Jesus said, "Those who have taken a bath are completely clean and do not have to wash themselves, except for their feet. All of you are clean—all except

one." (11 Jesus already knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, "All of you, except one, are clean.")

SONG: *What Wondrous Love Is This* verse 2 (ELW 666)

*One candle is lit* (fourth)

TIM: 12 After 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. 14 I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. 16 I am telling you the truth: no slaves are greater than their master, and no messengers are greater than the one who sent them. 17 Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice!

SONG: *What Wondrous Love Is This* verse 3 (ELW 666)

*One candle is lit* (fifth)

NAOMI: 31 After Judas had left, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man's glory is revealed; now God's glory is revealed through him. 32 And if God's glory is revealed through him, then God will reveal the glory of the Son of Man in himself, and he will do so at once. 33 My children, I shall not be with you very much longer. You will look for me; but I tell you now what I told the Jewish authorities, 'You cannot go where I am going.' 34 And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

SONG: *What Wondrous Love Is This* verse 4 (ELW 666)

*One candle is lit* (sixth)

DAVID: PRAYER

O God of love, as your Son washed the feet of his disciples, he revealed his undying love that would lead him to the cross. May this simple act be a sign of our love for one another, and our call to serve our neighbors and all those in need, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG: Ubi Caritas ELW 642

*One candle is lit* (seventh)

TIM: OFFERING ACTION:

(Reminder of online giving opportunities.)

One way, in these recent days, some people have tried to love one another is by displaying hearts on their windows during our time of self-isolation. #aworldofhearts

The act of displaying hearts is meant to share love and give encouragement. Many of us are feeling uncertainty and fear. Certainly Jesus' disciples felt the same thing the last night they were with Jesus. But Jesus promises to always love us and be with us.

If you have a display of hearts at home, add some more. If you don't have one up think about making one by putting colored paper hearts in a window. As you make more hearts or put them up, think about how much God loves us. It's hard to not worry or be afraid, especially right now, but if we can focus more on how we will share God's love than on our fear we will be less afraid.

NAOMI: SUNG PRAYER:

Another way we show love for others is through our prayers. We now enter into a time of sung prayer. At the last mid-week Lenten service, in which we were able to meet here in person, when all of this Covid 19 thing was just starting for us, we received a request from one of our middle schoolers to do The Prayer for the Healing of the Nations. He said that is what we need right now.

So to honor that request and to recognize God's love for the whole world, we sing this prayer now.

*For the Healing of the Nations*

As we conclude this worship service we anticipate the coming days of Good Friday and Easter. Even in the midst of struggle and challenge there is always hope. We focus on the light of the candles to remember that Jesus is the light that no darkness can put out.

DAVID: HOPE by Susan Palo Cherwien

From the depths of the pit  
look east.

From the cold and chilly river  
look east

From the black and sightless night  
look east.

And pray.

And hope.

And watch.

And wait.

And watch.

And hope.

And pray.

From the watchful prayer of hope  
look east.

The sun always rises.

Notes:

*We will use one of the communion tables to place down front. On it will be a cross of seven candles. These candles will be lit one by one during the service.*

Postlude: Vicar David Severtson

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