

Welcome to

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

a congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026



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The Rev. Brian M. Robison, Pastor

+ **To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshiping with us today! *"Quiet Bags"* (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to use the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is audible over the speakers).

+ An **accessible Restroom** is available off the Welcome Area/Narthex next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level. **Parish Hall and additional Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.

+ **Assistive listening devices and low vision items** are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

+ **Land Acknowledgement:** This church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the **Quapaw, Myaamia, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo** peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and still call this land home.

THE LITURGY OF MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2, 2026 + 7:00PM

GATHERING

We enter the Great Three Days:

We glory in the cross of Christ, for he is our joy and our resurrection.

*Maundy (from **Mandatum**, the word for “command”) is our focus.*

*Our **mandate** is to “love one another as I have loved you.”*

*As the ministers enter, please **STAND** as you are able.*

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—everything that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*Please **KNEEL** if you are able. Silence is kept for reflection.*

The presiding minister leads the assembly in the confession.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴If 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.

¹¹This 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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.

¹⁴This 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, 12-19 *spoken in unison*

¹ **I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice and my supplications.**

² **for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

¹² **What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?**

¹³ **I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,**

¹⁴ **I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.**

¹⁵ **Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.**

¹⁶ **O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving-maid.**

You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.**

18 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

19 in the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For 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, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In 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." ²⁶For 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.**

Please STAND as you are able to welcome the gospel.

**VERSE: I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another just as I have loved you.**

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

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now 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. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus 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." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After 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?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

^{31b}"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By 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.

The assembly is SEATED.

SERMON

"Before One Small Step"

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"God, Bless the Hands"

ACS 1022



1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods be - low and
 2 Bring com - fort to the hearts that mourn, left bro - ken, emp - tied
 3 O God, our strength and ref - uge sure, our hope while storms of



storms a - bove; they search and res - cue, com - fort, calm, give
 by the storm. Give hope to those in deep - est grief; em -
 life en - dure: teach us to live in har - mo - ny with



shel - ter, of - fer heal - ing balm. Oh, guard them by your
 pow - er us to bring re - lief. To you, O God, we
 earth and riv - er, sky and sea, pre - serv - ing wa - ters,



stead - fast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.
 raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sink - ing sands.
 air, and lands as ho - ly work for hu - man hands.

RITE OF WASHING OF HANDS

Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. In today's society, our hands are in contact with the world more than our feet. The washing of hands signifies the call of all the baptized to be servants. The hands we care for tonight are those we offer in service for the world that God so deeply loves.

As the music begins, you are invited to come forward to a handwashing station. Your hands will be washed, dried, and the back of your hands blessed with oil in the sign of the cross. You will receive a towelette to take back to your seat.

MUSIC DURING WASHING OF HANDS:

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

ELW 659



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

ELW 359



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.

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love”

ELW 708

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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Our response to, “Hear us, O God,” is your mercy is great...*

MEAL

PEACE

The assembly is invited to share God’s peace with one another, saying “Peace be with you,” or similar words.

*Should you wish to leave an **offering** today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.*

PREPARATION INTERLUDE



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Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray... **O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Spoken in Syro-Aramaic; English translation below)

On the day before his life-giving passion, Jesus took bread in his holy hands. He blessed, + sanctified, broke, and gave it to his disciples saying:

“Take and eat it, all of you. This is my body which is broken and delivered for you and for the many, for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.” Amen.

Likewise he blessed the cup of wine mixed with water, + sanctified and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the New Covenant, which is shed and handed over for you and for the many, for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.” Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER *traditional*

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.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table. Feast on God’s goodness and mercy.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace.

Please SIT.

COMMUNION

Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel or stand at the altar rail.

- ✘ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✘ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✘ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✘ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✘ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION:

“Great God, Your Love Has Called Us”

ELW 358



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR *Please KNEEL or SIT*

Psalm 88

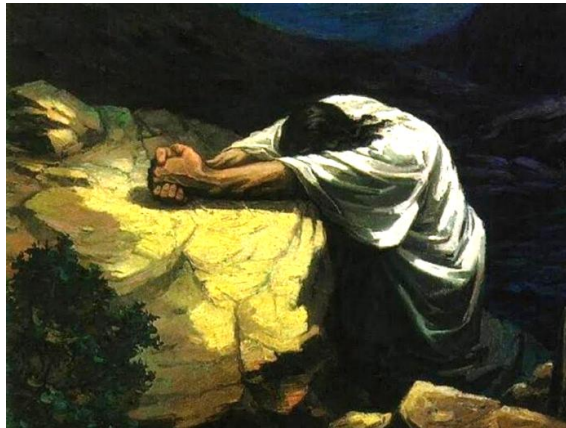
“Ah, Holy Jesus,” Charles Duncan, flugelhorn

The communion vessels are removed, and the altar is stripped, leaving the sanctuary bare for Good Friday. Only the chalice remains, in remembrance of Jesus’ prayer:

**“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me;
yet, not my will but yours be done.”**

There is no benediction; we exit in silence.

The liturgy continues tomorrow, Good Friday. We offer services at 12:00 noon beginning in the courtyard with the Way of the Cross, and our traditional service in the church at 7:00PM..



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Brian M. Robison

Worship Assistant & Lector: Deacon Bonnie Vize + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens

Crucifer: Rex Rothgangel + **Chalice Bearer:** TBD

Tech Minister: Melanie Robison + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards + **Usher:** Danielle Tribut

2026 GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER SCHEDULE

Good Friday, April 3 – *Joint services with St. George’s Episcopal Church*

12:00PM Walking Way of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy

– *Courtyard & Church*

7:00PM Good Friday Liturgy

– *Church*



Easter Vigil, April 4 - *Joint service with St. George’s Episcopal Church*

7:00PM SHINE worship for the Easter Vigil – chapel

Feast of the Resurrection/Easter Day, April 5

9:00AM Festival Divine Liturgy

