

St. John's Lutheran Church

March 28, 2024
~ MAUNDY THURSDAY ~



STEPPING OUT

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com

PO Box 222
Tyrone, PA 16686

* = Please stand as you are able

The Call to Worship on the Bells

The Announcements/Birthday Celebrations/Anniversary Recognitions

Organ Prelude –

Lighting of Candles: Acolyte –

Opening Prayer

***The Opening Hymn –**

One Bread, One Body (WOV #710)

***Call to Worship –**

L: We gather in this evening hour as friends gathered with Jesus in an Upper Room long ago.

P: We come bearing the marks and burdens of a bitter and broken world.

L: We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits.

P: Remind us, in the breaking of the bread, of our need and of your great sufficiency.

L: Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness.

P: Draw us nearer to each other in mutual service and closer to you in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving.

L: As the night advances, deepen in us a sense of your steadfast love for us in Jesus Christ, our friend and Redeemer.

The Liturgy of the Word –

Today's Old Testament Lesson comes from the book of Proverbs

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Today's New Testament Lesson comes from the book of 1 Peter

1 Peter 7:11

7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Response –**

***L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew**

***C: Glory to you, O Lord**

Matthew 14:26-30

26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Message –

Oh, that Sinking Feeling!

***Hymn-**

What Wondrous Love Is This! (see bulletin)

L: Christ's love is poured out for us like water poured into a basin.

P: Christ's love washes us clean.

L: Christ's love shows us who we are to be,

P: and what we are to do.

A: How blessed we are to know such love!

***Communion**

1st Corinthians 11:26-29 tells us... "For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves"

L: As we enter into this time of Communion, a time of remembering Christ as the Son of God, the sacrificial lamb, the very one who would take away the sins of the world, let us reflect on what He has done for us. For, if we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Let us now confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and through the redemption found in Christ, has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for Reflection

L: Most merciful God,

C: On that night long ago, you knew that your hour had come. You knew full well what lay ahead of you. Your disciples loved you and followed you, but they had also failed you. They would fail you yet again that night, and one would betray you. Yet you washed their feet, as a servant would, even the feet of your betrayer. We have also loved you and followed you. We have also failed you, and we cannot comprehend the love that you show us, the love that is our example, the love that tells us to do as you have done for us. Forgive us. Sustain Us. May we be like you, Master, servants of all. May all see how we long to be your faithful disciples. May all see how we love each other, just as you have loved us. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this meal is shared with the assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This bread and cup, shared in the gathering of our faith, are given for you.

Now gathered at the Lord's Table, we celebrate with thanksgiving that "in the night in which Jesus was betrayed, He took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**Communion will be served by tables at the altar. You are welcome to kneel/stand as you are able. Should you not be able to travel to the altar, the elements will be brought to your seat.*

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Let us pray...

C: **Father God, having partaken of the great remembrance of your sacrifice for us, we praise you for you are the giver of all good things.**

Matthew 26: 36 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.” **37** And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. **38** Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” **39** And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” **40** And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? **41** Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **42** Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” **43** And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. **44** So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. **45** Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **46** Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

***Hymn –**

Go to Dark Gethsemane (LBW #109)

***Extinguishing of Candles**

Matthew 26: 56 But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Benediction: As we flee into the night, we may feel like we are sinking, but the Master has made a way. May our hearts reflect over the sacrifice that is to come, as in the coming hours, Jesus would endure the long, hard, painful road to Calvary.

-Stripping of the Altar

-congregation is invited to come forward to strip elements from the altar

**Please leave in silence*

The Dismissal from Worship on the Bells

Organ Postlude

What Wondrous Love Is This

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1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what
 2. When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
 3. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down; when I was sink - ing
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm



this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 down be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
 free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on!

