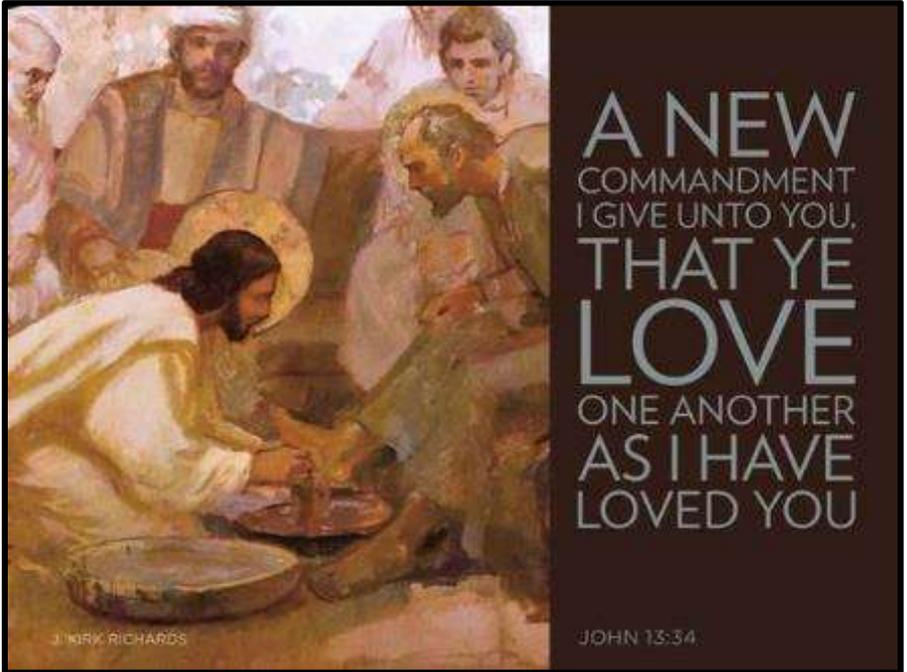


Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Maundy Thursday

First Holy Communion:
Ethan Johns, Jack Erin, Jocelyn Thomas, Rylee Taylor

April 14, 2022
7 pm Worship Service
Pastor Brandon Johns

CALL TO WORSHIP: 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.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

GATHERING PSALMODY: Psalm 116:12-19

What can I offer the Lord for all his goodness to me?

I will bring a drink offering to the Lord to thank him for saving me.

In the meeting of all his people, I will give him what I have promised.

How painful it is to the Lord, when one of his people dies!

I am your servant, Lord; I serve you, just as my mother did.

You have set me free.

I will give you a sacrifice of thanksgiving and offer my prayer to you.

In the meeting of all your people, in the courts of your temple, in Jerusalem, I will give you what I have promised.

Praise the Lord!

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another. *(a brief silence for individual prayer)*

Our lack of appreciation for the Old Testament and Judaism, the roots of our faith and worship, we confess to the Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, and strengthen us in faith.

Our often indifferent celebration of the Eucharist and our weak faith in Christ's risen presence in Holy Communion, we confess to the Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, and strengthen us in faith.

Our failure to see the Last Supper and Judas' betrayal, the agony of Gethsemane and the cross, in the light of Christ's Easter Victory, we confess to the Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, and strengthen us in faith.

Our resistance to obey Christ's commandment, that we love one another as he has loved us, we confess to the Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, and strengthen us in faith.

HYMN FOR MERCY: Have Mercy on Us, Lord



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing Word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PEACE

We are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ our Lord. Therefore, let us be reconciled with one another and share the peace of the Lord. *(please remain standing for the Prayer of the Day)*

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.**

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM *For Those Tears I Died* Marsha Stevens

INSTITUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION: Luke 22:7-20

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." ⁹ They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" ¹⁰ "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" ¹² He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." ¹³ So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

¹⁴ When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶ for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸ for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ 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." ²⁰ 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."

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY: Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

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.

FIRST COMMUNION GREETING

First communicants come forward and gather at the communion rail.

CREED (1 Corinthians 15:3-8; Matthew 16:16; Revelation 22:13; John 20:28)

Let us confess what we believe.

**This is the good news, which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:
That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures;
that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day;
that he appeared to the disciples and to many faithful witnesses.
We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end.
He is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

OFFERING SONG: God Gave to Me a Life to Live



1 God gave to me a life to live; God
2 When I am helped to see what's good, and
gave me hands with which to give; God gave a heart with
led to do the things I should, I thank you, car - ing
which to care; God gave me love that I might share.
God a - bove, for life and hands and heart and love.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

What can we offer to our Lord, who welcomes us as honored guests at the table and serves us with love and compassion? How will we respond to the God who thus affirms our worth and calls us to discipleship? Everything we are and possess is ours by God's grace. How we use it is the measure of our faith. Let us express our thankfulness.

We celebrate the love we only dimly comprehend—your love for us, O God, in Jesus Christ. We have vowed to serve you, to minister to one another in Christ's name, and to share the love we have received. As we meet you at the table, we consecrate our offering and rededicate ourselves to the service of your people, the works of compassion and humble service. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right and good to thank him.

We give thanks to you, Father, at all times, and in all places; here and everywhere; now and always. We praise you because you sent your Son, and in him being found in fashion as a man, you make known to us the fullness of your glory.

Therefore with the whole Church we bow before you and say:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord of power, mighty God!

Everything everywhere is filled with your presence.

Your splendor fills all time and space now and ever more.

Your favor is on him who comes in your name.

On the night of his great trial, Jesus took bread and gave thanks.

Blessed are you, Father;

from the earth you give bread to your people.

Breaking the bread, he shared it with his friends, saying:

“Take eat, this is my body given for you, do this remembering me.”

We remember your coming into the world, your life, your death, your rising, and the promise of your coming again.

Come, Holy Spirit, upon us and upon this bread.

Fill and surround us with your presence.

Broken and divided, in him we are united.

Jesus Christ, our peace and our reconciliation!

Our Father in heaven:

Your name be honored.

Your kingdom come,

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us each day our daily bread! Amen.

Most will serve the best wine first,
but the Lord saves the best for last!

We thank you, Father, for the true vine and this fruit of the vine.

The vine of the root of David was cut down
and trampled outside the city wall.

And the fruit of the vine was the blood of our Lord.

Jesus took the cup after supper and gave thanks to his Father.

**Blessed are you, Father,
you have made from the earth the fruit of the vine.**

He shared it with his friends, saying:

“Drink from it, all of you, this is the new covenant in my blood
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin.”

Our Father in Heaven:

**Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil! Amen.**

Eat from this bread we have broken. Share in what our Lord has
done for us with his body. Drink from the cup of blessing.

Share his death and his life. He is coming soon!

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

INSTRUCTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our youth who are receiving their first Holy Communion are invited to the rail first, followed by their families. Although the Lord’s table is a place of equality, we as the community invite them to a place of honor on behalf of Jesus who is the host of this holy meal. After they have communed, the rest of the congregation is invited to the table, pew by pew, followed finally by the choir. You are also invited to commune at your seat with the communion elements provided on the reading tables if you would prefer to do so instead.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Let us share now in the heavenly banquet that has no end.

COMMUNION

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray together in thanksgiving.

Lord Jesus, we feel your presence within our hearts. We are thankful for the sacrament of which we have eaten and drunk to remember your death and taste your living presence. We thank you for all the earthly signs of your word, the hymns which we have sung, the fellowship which has encouraged us, and the inner peace which you have granted us. Continue to strengthen us in our commitment of service and love. We cannot do everything, but what we can do, by your grace, we will do. Amen.

THE FOOT WASHING: John 13:1-11

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."

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

FOOT WASHING

Peace be with you

And also with you.

The Pastor pours water from the pitcher into the basin.

Let your bearing towards one another arise out of your life in Christ Jesus. For the divine nature was his from the first.

Yet he did not think to snatch at equality with God.

But made himself nothing

Assuming the nature of a slave.

Bearing the human likeness,

Revealed in human shape,

He humbled himself, and in obedience accepted even death--

Death on a cross.

Therefore, God raised him to the heights,

And bestowed on him the name above all names

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow--

In heaven, on earth, and in the depths--

And every tongue confess:

“Jesus Christ is Lord!”

To the Glory of God the Father.

Amen.

First Communicants may now come forward.

You may take off your shoes at your seat. This action is a sign of willing, cheerful service to God and to one another.

The Pastor carries a towel, plus the basin and water pitcher, to the seat of the first person and begins to wash his/her feet.

Why do you wash my feet?

I give you an example, that you may do for others what I have done for you.

The pastor then serves the next person with the same dialogue, and so on, concluding with the following dialogue:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

COMMISSIONING HYMN: Love Consecrates the Humblest Act



1 Love con - se-crates the hum-blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;
2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet
3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true



it sheds a ben - e - dic-tion sweet and hal-lows hu - man needs.
of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.
has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!



COMMAND TO LOVE: John 13:12-17; 34-35

¹²After [Jesus] 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.

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."

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

COMISSIONING OF DISCIPLES

Let us pray. O God the King of Righteousness, lead us, we pray, in the ways of justice and of peace; inspire us to break down all oppression and wrong, to gain for everyone their due reward and from everyone their due service; that each may live for all, and all for each, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Where charity and love are, **there is God.**

The love of Christ joined us in one.

Let us rejoice and be glad in him.

Let us fear and love the living God,

and love one another in sincerity of heart.

REMEMBRANCE OF JESUS' BETRAYAL AND ARREST

Psalm 22 is read as the altar is stripped.

We depart in silence, anticipating Good Friday.

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

April 15: Good Friday

12:00 pm – Community Cross Walk and Service

Will begin at the parking lot across from St. John's UCC in Evans City and conclude here at St. Peter's (rain or shine).

7 pm – Service

8 pm – Begin Keeping the Word Alive Vigil

April 16: Holy Saturday (*Vigil Continues*)

April 17: Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Sunday

Midnight – 7 am – Vigil continues and concludes

7 am – Sunrise Service

8 am – Easter Breakfast

9 am – Sunday School

10:15 am – Festal Easter Service