

Grace Episcopal Church

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Foot Washing &
Solemn Stripping of the Altar
6:30 p.m.

PRELUDE

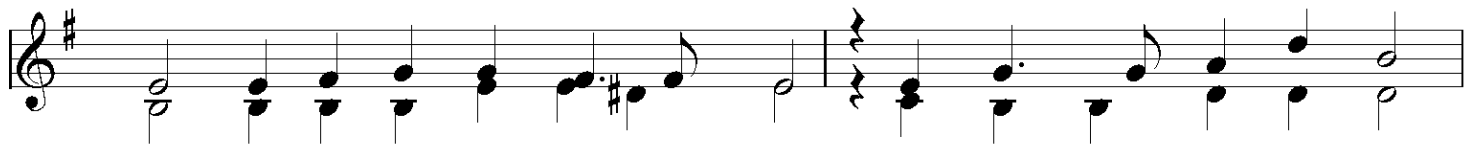
O World, I Must Now Leave Thee – J. Brahms
Our Father, Who Art in Heaven – J. S. Bach

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN #581 (standing)

(In the blue hymnal)

Where charity and love prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear his char - i - ty we learn;
3 For - give we now each o - ther's faults as we our faults con - fess;
4 Let strife a-mong us be un - known, let all con - ten - tion cease;
5 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells God's be - got - ten Son;
6 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's Name;



1 brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love by love are we thus bound.
2 let us with heart and mind and strength now love him in re - turn.
3 and let us love each o - ther well in Chris-tian ho - li - ness.
4 be his the glo - ry that we seek, be ours his ho - ly peace.
5 as mem-bers of his Bo - dy joined we are in him made one.
6 our com-mon life em - bra - ces all whose Fa - ther is the same.

355 OPENING SENTENCES AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People His mercy endures for ever.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

TRISAGION



Ho - ly God, Ho-ly and Might-y, Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One, Have mer-cy up-on
us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One, Have
mer-cy up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im-mor-tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

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274 THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please sit

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 12:1-14

Lector A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell 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. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This 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.

This 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. **All: Thanks be to God.**

759 PSALM 116:1, 10-17 (responsively by whole verse)

¹ I love the Lord, because he has heard
the voice of my supplication, because he has
inclined his ear to me whenever
I called upon him.

¹⁰ **How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things he has done for me?**

¹¹ I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

¹² **I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.**

¹³ Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his servants.

¹⁴ **O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant and the child of your
handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

¹⁶ **I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,**

¹⁷ **In the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!**

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

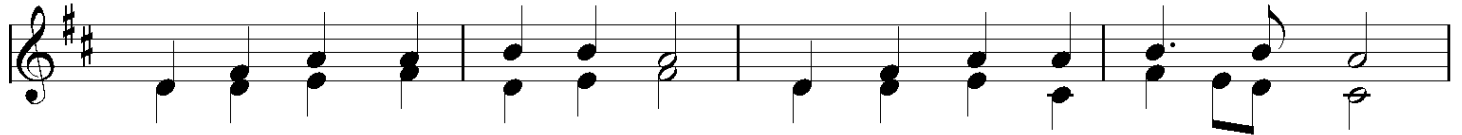
Lector A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

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, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In 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." For 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. **All: Thanks be to God.**



1 Go to dark Geth - se - ma - ne, ye that feel the tempt-er's power;
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of life ar - raigned;
 3 Cal-vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see, watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 O the worm-wood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sus - tained!
 mark the mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete;



turn not from his griefs a - way, learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
 Shun not suf - fering, shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross.
 "It is fi - nished!" hear him cry; learn of Je - sus Christ to die.

All Standing

THE GOSPEL

John 13:1-17,31b-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now 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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. 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 the table, 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 returned to the table, 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, servants 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.

Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little 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.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

-- The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SILENCE MAY BE KEPT

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Stephen Becker

274 A CEREMONY OF FOOT WASHING

The Lord Jesus, after he had supped with his disciples and had washed their feet, said to them, "Do you know what I, your Lord and Master, have done to you? I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done."

People **Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.**

I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you.

People **Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you.**

By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: That you have love for one another.

The congregation remains seated. Anyone who desires is invited to participate in this symbolic act of servanthood. You are invited to come forward to have your feet washed and/or to wash others' feet.

Chorus

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
2 Neigh - bors are rich and poor, neigh - bors are black and
3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were

Repeat Chorus

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
white, neigh - bors are near - by and far a - way.
love. All are neigh - bors to us and you.
slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

387 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM III) *(All standing)*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Celebrant

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

360 CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that 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.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

360 THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*Choir only*)

God So Loved the World – J. Stainer

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS DOXOLOGY #705 (v. 3) (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

*With gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best to thee
to serve thy cause and share thy love
with all humanity.*

*O thou who gavest us thyself
in Jesus Christ thy Son,
help us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.*

361 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS
(sung by all)

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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The People may stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues.

362 Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

363 We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

364 **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

364 **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

364 **INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

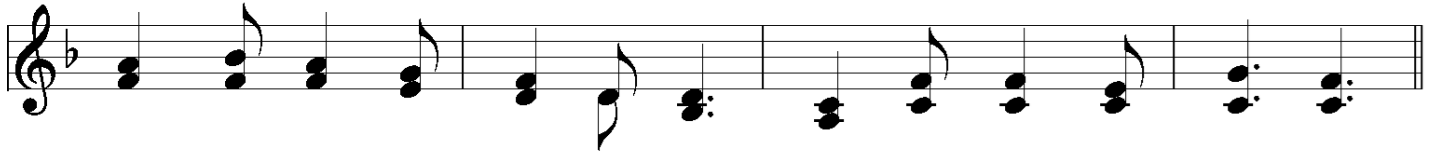
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine. Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally. If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.



1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;
3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;
4. Near the cross, I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



1. Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
2. There the Bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.
3. Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.
4. Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;



Till my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

365 POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the people

May the love of Christ, who served his friends and gave himself for the life of the world, remain in your hearts this holy night. Go in humility, love one another as he has loved us, and keep watch with him. And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
 2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
 3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,
 *4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 *5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,



1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
 2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
 3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.
 4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?
 5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;



1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
 2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
 3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,
 4 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,
 5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife



1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
 2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
 3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.
 4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.
 5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

(All may be seated in silence)

SOLEMN STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

ALL DEPART IN SILENCE

SERVING THIS EVENING

Lector: Mary Matthews
Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Pam Harvey, Staley Nance
Intercessor: Staley Nance
Ushers: Louie Cox, Doug Hartzog
Acolyte: Anderson Carter

WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

We are delighted to have you worship with us today, and we would welcome the opportunity to get acquainted. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director
Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director
Summer Blackburn, Youth Leader
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator
John Taylor, Facilities Manager
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music Emerita



THE VESTRY

2027

Dan Briggs Junior Warden
Elizabeth Purdy
Mary Matthews Clerk of Vestry
Leslie Sheets

2028

Kristi Allred
Lynn Meeks Treasurer
Neil Shepherd
Chuck Taylor

2029

Kristie Miller
Marjorie Parker Senior Warden
Cathy Riggan
Mary-Cameron Welborn

Vestry Person of the Month for April is Dan Briggs.