



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

HOLY COMMUNION

Maundy Thursday
March 28, 2024

You are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA, we believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, shared unconditionally and without regard to race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic or family status, age, physical or mental abilities, outward appearance, or religious affiliation. We seek racial equality and justice. In this way, we live into the truth written in Ephesians (2:14)—that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes us one.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude: *Mozart's Lacrimosa, arr. by Klindworth*

** Confession and Forgiveness

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

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.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*During the hymn, you may come forward for laying on of hands and individual
absolution.*

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Hymn***Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

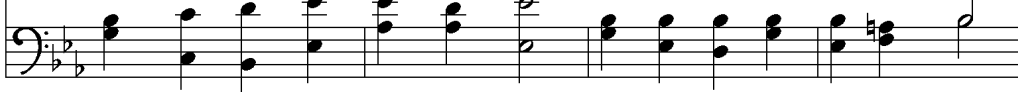
ELW 609



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his blood for me,
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love! High - er than the heav'ns a - bove,
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part balm to heal the wound - ed heart,
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford by your Spir - it and your word!



died that I might live on high, lives that I might nev - er die.
 deep - er than the depths of sea, last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty.
 peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
 all my wants to him are known, all my sor - rows are his own.
 When my way - ward heart would stray, keep me in the nar - row way;



As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.
 Love that found me—won - drous thought—found me when I sought him not.
 faith and hope to walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
 He sus - tains the hid - den life safe with him from earth - ly strife.
 grace in time of need sup - ply while I live and when I die.



Text: William McComb, 1793–1870
 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

**** 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**

Assisting Minister leads the prayer of the day and the assembly responds: Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

First Reading

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

**** Gospel Acclamation**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

**** Gospel**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Glory to you O Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

**** Gospel Acclamation**

Please see gospel acclamation on page 4.

Reflection

The Rev. Susan Loney

**** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Hymn of the Day

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

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

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.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

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Music © Oxford University Press.

** Prayers of the People

Each portion of the prayer ends with:

Response:	Merciful God,	receive our prayer.
	God, in your mercy,	hear our prayer.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

** Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Offering

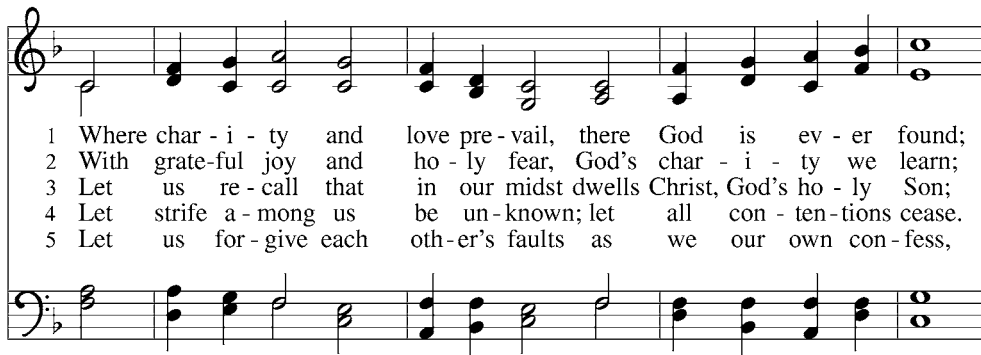
This evening an offering plate is available near the entrance of the sanctuary if you wish to make a gift.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

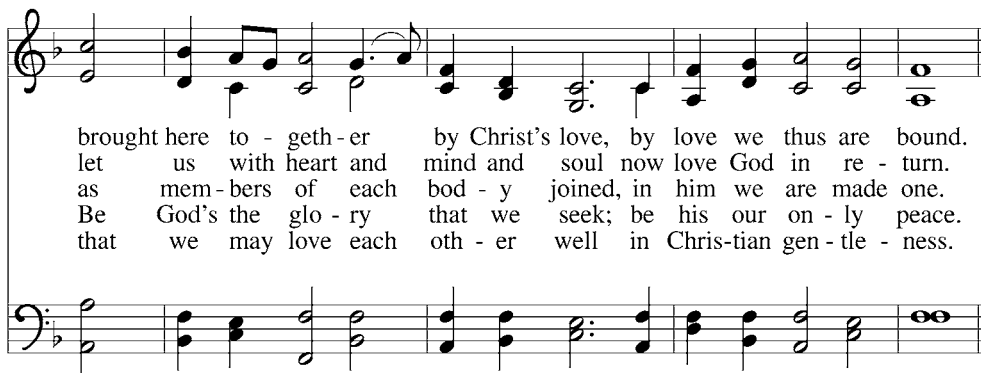
** Offering Song

Where Charity and Love Prevail (verses 1-3)

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.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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** Offering Prayer

Assisting Minister leads the offering prayer and the assembly responds: Amen.

** Dialogue

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.**

** Preface

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

** Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

** Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God....all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

** Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. **Amen.**

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion

Holy Communion is a free gift of God's grace and love. Everyone is welcome to share in this meal.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

Communion Hymn

Ubi caritas et Amor

ELW 642

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system's lyrics are: "U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,". The second system's lyrics are: "u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there." The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands, with some triplets in the second system.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*

Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

Text and music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

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English text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Communion Blessing

** Please stand as you are able. Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.

Post Communion Prayer

Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;

¹⁷I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;

¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

** Please stand as you are able. **Items in bold are to be spoken by the assembly.**

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

³⁰Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the LORD,

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

All depart in silence.

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May God go with you today and every day.

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Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Susan Loney
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Music Director:

Claudio Espejo

Assisting Minister/Lector:

Karen Weber

Altar Guild:

Carol Landry

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

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