



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We welcome you to Covenant this Maundy Thursday
April 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.*

The People of Covenant are called to:
Gather, Grow and Go Serve
...With God's Love!

Welcome Thank you for joining us in worship.
WORSHIP ORDER – Thursday, April 17, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

Congregation participation in bold in bulletin
ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn Book,
**=please stand*

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Land Acknowledgment

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all 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. *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.**

Hymn

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359

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

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

A reading from Exodus, the twelfth chapter.

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.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from First Corinthians the eleventh chapter.

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.**

Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The holy gospel according to John, the thirteenth chapter.

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.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

ELW 708

Prayers of Intercession

Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need (See Prayer Insert) and for those we name out loud or silently in our hearts. <5 full seconds of silence>. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead. Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

Exchange of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.

Announcements

Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of Holy Communion-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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The 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

Invitation to Communion for All

Receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

First Communion Students, Sydney Angerhofer, Olivia Frey, Milo Pietruszynski, Matilda (Millie) Proper and Elena Sykes, receive Holy Communion with their family, then the congregation is invited forward

Communion Hymn

Bread of Life From Heaven

ELW 480

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep in in his grace. **Amen**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. 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

The service concludes with the stripping of the altar. Those not participating in the stripping of the altar, please sit or kneel.

Psalm 88 is said as the altar and worship space is stripped. Lights may be dimmed as the worship space is stripped. All depart in silence.

Psalm 88

*¹O LORD, God of my salvation,
when, at night, I cry out in your presence,*

*²let my prayer come before you;
incline your ear to my cry.*

*³For my soul is full of troubles,
and my life draws near to Sheol.*

*⁴I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;
I am like those who have no help,*

*⁵like those forsaken among the dead,
like the slain that lie in the grave,
like those whom you remember no more,
for they are cut off from your hand.*

*⁶You have put me in the depths of the Pit,
in the regions dark and deep.*

*⁷Your wrath lies heavy upon me,
and you overwhelm me with all your waves.*

*⁸You have caused my companions to shun me;
you have made me a thing of horror to them.
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;*

*⁹my eye grows dim through sorrow.
Every day I call on you, O LORD;
I spread out my hands to you.*

*¹⁰Do you work wonders for the dead?
Do the shades rise up to praise you?*

*¹¹Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,
or your faithfulness in Abaddon?*

*¹²Are your wonders known in the darkness,
or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?*

*¹³But I, O LORD, cry out to you;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.*

¹⁴O LORD, why do you cast me off?

Why do you hide your face from me?

*¹⁵Wretched and close to death from my youth up,
I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.*

*¹⁶Your wrath has swept over me;
your dread assaults destroy me.*

*¹⁷They surround me like a flood all day long;
from all sides they close in on me.*

*¹⁸You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me;
my companions are in darkness.*



Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?
Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.
Or visit www.covluth.org and click 'On-line Giving'!



Announcements:

- ✝ Thank you for being here! Learn about more events and Worship opportunities at Covluth.org
- ✝ **Easter Flower Order *Thank you!*** Flowers available for pick up April 20 after Easter Worship
- ✝ Everyone is invited to Worship and Covenant! **April 18 is Good Friday Worship at 6:30pm**
- ✝ **The office will be closed Fri April 18 and Mon April 21 May you enjoy this holiday in peace**
- ✝ **Easter Sunday is April 20**, Join for a small breakfast and a Children's Egg Hunt before Worship
- ✝ **New Member reception April 27 in Worship**, please join to welcome our newest members
- ✝ Join to watch a movie about **Bonhoeffer Sunday April 27** in the Cinema, after Worship
- ✝ **Highway Cleanup** April 27 after Worship meet at Starr School and Dunn Townline rd.
- ✝ **American Red Cross Blood Drive April 28 1-6pm** in the Youth Room- If you can please Join!
- ✝ **Covenant Book Group** 2nd Thur at 1pm **May 8** Gateway Room, everyone is invited to join
- ✝ **Feed our Souls-** the 2nd Fri of the month- **May 12** 10:30a-1:30p at St. Marks in Madison

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Pastor Wendy Moen;*

Assistant Minister: *Jean Sime;* **Lector:** *Marijo Vols;*

Greeter/s: *Carol Pritchard, George Craig;*

Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper;*

Ushers: *Tom Chose, Jack Cope, Stephen Peterson, Peder Melhuse;*

Altar Guild: *Jean Sime;*

Sound/projection: *Amanda Burian;*

Communion Assistant: *Jean Sime, Marijo Vols, Kathy Andrusz*

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