



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We welcome you to Maundy Thursday Worship
April 2, 2026 at 6:30 PM*

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow, and Go Serve

...with God's Love!

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

WORSHIP ORDER – Thursday, April 2, 2026 – 6:30 PM

*Congregation participation is given in **bold**.*

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

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 the Good News of Jesus who seeks to conquer 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.

Gathering 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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

A reading from the twelfth chapter of the book of Exodus, beginning with the first verse.

¹ The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² “This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ 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. ⁴ If 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² I will pass

through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³ The 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.

¹⁴ “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, **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A reading from the eleventh chapter of Paul's letter to the church in Corinth, beginning with the twenty-third verse.

²³ For 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, ²⁴ 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.” ²⁵ 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.” ²⁶ 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, **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.

¹ 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. ² The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around

himself. ⁵ 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. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If 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. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ 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.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By 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

On this night when Jesus gave us a new commandment to love one another, let us bring our prayers before the One whose love knows no bounds.

A brief silence.

Gracious host, you knelt to wash your disciples' feet. Cleanse us from pride and self-centeredness, and teach us to love one another as you have loved us.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creator God, the earth is yours and everything in it. Awaken us to care for all you have made and conserve the rich diversity of your good creation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, guide the world's leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Where they wield power unjustly, confront them. Where they are indifferent to suffering, awaken their conscience.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate One, embrace all who are lonely or in captivity, comfort the grieving, and relieve those in pain. Draw near to all who suffer, especially...

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed redeemer, we give you thanks for this community of faith, and for all who gather around your table of grace. Unite us in love for you and for one another.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, we praise you for the great cloud of witnesses who now rest from their labors. At the last, gather us with them at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, confident that you will strengthen us by your Spirit to love one another as Christ has loved us. We ask this in Jesus' name. **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

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Let us 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

First Communion students Caleb Edwards, Clarissa Kim, Averie Sindelar, Gracelyn Speth, Londyn Stensrud, and Amelia (Mia) Wagner are invited forwarded to receive Holy Communion with their families first, then the congregation is invited to follow.

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 you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Holy Communion

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 are invited to sit or kneel.

Psalm 88 is read and lights may be dimmed as the altar and worship space is stripped.

All depart in silence.

Psalm 88

- ¹ *O Lord, God of my salvation,
at night, when I cry out before you,*
- ² *let my prayer come before you;
incline your ear to my cry.*
- ³ *For my soul is full of troubles,
and my life draws near to Sheol.*
- ⁴ *I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;
I am like those who have no help,*
- ⁵ *like 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.*
- ⁶ *You have put me in the depths of the Pit,
in the regions dark and deep.*
- ⁷ *Your wrath lies heavy upon me,
and you overwhelm me with all your waves.*

⁸ *You 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;
⁹ my eye grows dim through sorrow.
Every day I call on you, O Lord;
I spread out my hands to you.*

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

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

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

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

¹⁴ *O Lord, why do you cast me off?
Why do you hide your face from me?*

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

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

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

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



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(Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)*



Announcements:

- ✝ **'Hospitality Bags'** and **'Sew at Home Bags'** by main doors- Take what you can help with
- ✝ **Good Friday Worship** will be tomorrow, April 3rd, at 6:30 PM
- ✝ **Easter Breakfast** will be this Sunday, April 5th, at 8:30 AM
- ✝ An **Easter Egg Hunt** will follow breakfast at 9:00 AM
- ✝ **Easter Sunday Worship** will follow at the same worship time as usual, 9:30 AM
- ✝ **Easter Monday**, April 6th, the office will be closed
- ✝ **Worship and Music Team** will meet on Tuesday, April 7th, at 6:30 PM in Gateway
- ✝ **No Bible Study or Confirmation** instruction next week
- ✝ **Outdoor, Spring Cleanup** Day is Saturday, April 11th, at 9:00 AM

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Pastor Wendy Moen* **Acolyte:** *Gwen*
Assistant Minister: *Jean Sime* **Lector:** *Kimberly Currie*
Greeter: *Laura Just*
Communion Worship Assistants: *Kimberly Currie, Mia Wagner, and Grace Speth*
Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper*
Ushers: *Karl Nissler, Thor Anderson, Sue Richards, and Doug Juve*
Sound/projection: *Jude Surrell*
Altar Guild: *Kirsten Almo & Larry Beck*
Communion Prep: *Wagner Family*

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