

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Norway

Where all are welcomed, loved and accepted in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ
906-563-8472 bethanyoffice@norwaymi.com www.norwaybethany.org

TONIGHT WE SOLEMNLY OBSERVE MAUNDY THURSDAY AND FIRST COMMUNION

Pastor Dave Johnson

April 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m.



*We celebrate with
Olivia Daffron, Elsa Slade, Ava Erkkila, Maddie Rose, Lilian Rose
as they join us for Holy Communion for the first time*

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

ORDER FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

(Pastor/Assistants speak regular print—Assembly speaks bold print)

Arrow directives indicate the following: ▲ stand if able ▼ be seated

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Please quietly gather to prepare for the Service of Maundy Thursday Worship

▼ Prelude Reflections for Meditation

▲ Call To Worship

The darkness deepens, and the Lord grows troubled.

Can we watch with Him?

Can we be the friends at His table who share His bread and wine?

Can we be the companions who journey with Him to the end?

**Come, let us worship, let us watch,
and let us give thanks for such great love.**

Amen.

▲ 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.

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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and,
 for his sake, forgives us all our sins.
 As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
 and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
 the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father,
 and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

▲ **Prayer of the Day**

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.

▲ **God's Word from the Scriptures**

A reading from Exodus, Chapter 12: 1-4, 11-14

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. 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. 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. For 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. 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. 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.

▲ **God's Word from the Scriptures**

A reading from 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

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, 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.

Thanks be to God.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, Chapter 14
Glory to you O Lord.

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him: For they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So Judas began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, at evening Jesus came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, the one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after the other, "Surely, not I?" Jesus said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take: this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. Jesus said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." But Peter said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

▼ **Sermon—God's Word Applied to Life*****There Is Power In The Blood, page 11***▲ **Prayers of Intercession**

United by the servant love of God in Christ, we pray this holy night for the needs of the world.

brief silence

You call your people to hand on what we receive from you. Form all the baptized into teachers of faith. From one generation to the next, give your church hunger for your promises in the sacraments and joy in receiving and sharing your word. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your creation provides all that we need. Cleanse and protect the water you have given for washing and drinking, water on which all life depends. Sustain crops and herds that provide food; teach us how to live so that there is enough for all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You redeemed your people from slavery. Preserve people throughout the world who flee violence and oppression. Establish just leadership in place of tyranny and peace in place of war. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Jesus loved his followers to the end. Grant assurance of that love to all who need it: those living with guilt, those struggling to forgive, those who are lonely or overlooked. Heal the sick, embrace the dying, and comfort those who mourn as we lift up the concerns of our congregation, *especially for those we name before you now (either in silence or out loud)*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed him. Inspire this congregation's ministries of service that we love as Jesus loved us. Give us renewed courage to serve. Bless the ministry of deacons throughout the church. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your glory shone in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We thank you for generations of the faithful who have proclaimed our Lord's death. Unite us with them in hope until he comes again. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

▲ **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Greet each other with a sign of peace

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offertory and Presentation of the Gifts

ELCA World Hunger

is the recipient of designated mission offerings through Easter.

Faithful God,

you walk beside us in desert places,

and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.

**Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

▲ **The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution**

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, 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.

▲ **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art 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 the Lord's Supper**

▼ At this time, our First Communion recipients and their families will join me.

Where charity and love abide, there is God.
Rejoice in this holy communion.

▼ **Distribution of Communion**

▲ **Post Communion Prayer**

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.

▲ **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious on you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Gospel according to St. Mark continues.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And Jesus said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." Jesus came and found them sleeping; he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. Jesus came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Immediately, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from their chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." So when he came, he went up to Jesus at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him.

Then they laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.

"All of them deserted him and fled. "

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Go To Dark Gethsemane, page 12

The stripping of the altar

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

But Peter denied it, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean."

But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

The congregation departs in silence

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP CONTINUES

GOOD FRIDAY

12:15 pm First Presbyterian, Kingsford

6:00 pm Covenant Church, Norway

EASTER SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION

9:00 am at Bethany (New Member Welcome), Easter Brunch to follow

10:30 am Calvary Church, Quinnebec

There Is Power In The Blood

Words and Music by
Lewis Ellis Jones

♩ = 110

VERSE

G

C

G

D



1. Would you be free from your bur - den of sin? There's pow'r in the blood,
2. Would you be free from your pas - sion and pride? There's pow'r in the blood,
3. Would you be whit - er, much whit - er than snow? There's pow'r in the blood,
4. Would you do ser - vice for Je - sus, your King? There's pow'r in the blood,

4

G

C

G



pow'r in the blood; Would you o'er e - vil a vic - to - ry win? There's
pow'r in the blood; Come for a cleans - ing to Cal - va - ry's tide. There's
pow'r in the blood; Sin - stains are lost in its life - giv - ing flow. There's
pow'r in the blood; Would you live dai - ly His prais - es to sing? There's

CHORUS

7

D

G

G

C

G

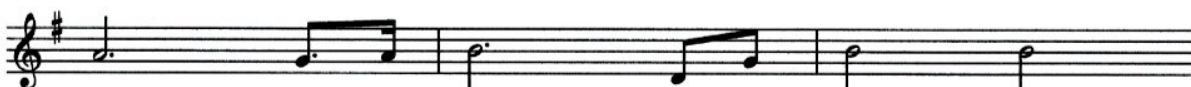


won - der - ful pow'r in the blood. There is pow'r, pow'r, won-der work-ing pow'r in the
won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.
won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.
won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.

11

D⁷

G



blood of the Lamb. There is pow'r, pow'r,

14

C

G

D⁷

G



won - der work - ing pow'r in the pre - cious blood of the Lamb.

CCLI Song # 21370

© Words: Public Domain | Music: Public Domain
For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-se-m - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
 2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

Copyright Permissions:

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2005 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46211

OneLicense.net License #A-722709

CCLI—Christian Copyright Licensing #11270064

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.