



## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

405 Kennedy Ave. Church: 412-466-7773  
Duquesne, PA 15110 christluthduq@gmail.com  
www.christlutheranduq.org

**We are the Church, gathered and equipped,  
sent and scattered, for faith in action.**

### **Maundy Thursday**

March 28, 2024

7:30 PM in person and on Zoom

### THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS and PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### **SHARING**

#### **God Sightings**

#### **GATHERING**

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

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: Jesus says, "Pray with me, keep watch with me."

C: **The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.**

P: Keep awake, for the hour is at hand.

C: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

#### **HYMN O LIVING BREAD FROM HEAVEN NO. 542**

1 *O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'er flows.*

2 *My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.*

3 *You gave me all I wanted;  
this food can death destroy.  
And you have freely granted*

*the cup of endless joy.*

*My Lord, I do not merit  
the favor you have shown;  
and all my soul and spirit  
bow down before your throne.*

4 *Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened,  
to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you  
where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you  
glad songs in endless joy.*

*The assembly stands.*

#### **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.**

#### **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**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray. You held your son, Jesus, in your loving arms in the midst of his harrowing trials. Remind us that you hold us in the same way, no matter what we are going through, and call us to hold others in their pain, that all might know your presence. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Psalm 116:12-15

<sup>12</sup> What shall I return to the Lord  
for all his bounty to me?  
<sup>13</sup> I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord,  
<sup>14</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.  
<sup>15</sup> Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful ones.  
<sup>16</sup> O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.  
You have loosed my bonds.  
<sup>17</sup> I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.  
<sup>18</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,  
<sup>19</sup> in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.  
Praise the Lord!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

### GOSPEL: Mark 14:22-42

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Readers: Narrator, Jesus, Peter

**Narrator:** While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread,  
and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

**Jesus:** "Take; this is my body."

**Narrator:** Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave  
it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

**Jesus:** "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured  
out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of  
the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in  
the kingdom of God."

**Narrator:** When they had sung the hymn, they went out  
to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

**Jesus:** "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."

**Narrator:** Peter said to him,

**Peter:** "Even though all become deserters, I will not."

**Narrator:** Jesus said to him,

**Jesus:** "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before  
the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

**Narrator:** But he said vehemently,

**Peter:** "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny  
you."

**Narrator:** And all of them said the same. They went to a  
place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

**Jesus:** "Sit here while I pray."

**Narrator:** He took with him Peter and James and John, and  
began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them,

**Jesus:** "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here,  
and keep awake."

**Narrator:** 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,

**Jesus:** "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible;  
remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what  
you want."

**Narrator:** He came and found them sleeping; and he said  
to Peter,

**Jesus:** "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."

**Narrator:** 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. He came a third time and said to them,

**Jesus:** "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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### SERMON

PASTOR JOHN GROPP

### HYMN

NO. 494

#### FOR THE BREAD WHICH YOU HAVE BROKEN

- 1 *For the bread which you have broken,  
for the wine which you have poured,  
for the words which you have spoken,  
now we give you thanks, O Lord.*
- 2 *By this promise that you love us,  
by your gift of peace restored,  
by your call to heav'n above us,  
hallow all our lives, O Lord.*
- 3 *With the saints who now adore you,  
seated at the heav'nly board,  
may the church still waiting for you  
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.*
- 4 *In your service, Lord, defend us;  
in our hearts keep watch and ward;  
in the world to which you send us  
let your kingdom come, O Lord.*

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The assisting minister leads in prayer.*

As we walk together through this season of contemplation  
and preparation, we pray for the church, the world, and all  
in need. *A brief silence.*

Holy God, as the disciples fell asleep in the garden, so we  
fail you again and again in our lives. Forgive us when we

fall short, and make us willing to keep trying. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

Your good creation is manifest in the bread and the wine, and in the garden where Jesus prayed. Keep us in tune with the interconnectedness of everything you have made, including ourselves. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those seeking to grow in understanding. Grant them the ability to see deeply the world around them, and from that knowledge, ask meaningful questions. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

Be with those experiencing loss or illness, (*especially...*), that they may be healed in body, mind, and spirit. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

Wake us up to the realities of suffering throughout the world and our own complicity in it, that we might pray and work for peace. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to understand our youth as they grow in years and in knowledge of your world. Teach us to encourage their search for truth and value in their lives. Protect and bless all of our young people. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

Lord, you know what is best for the ministry of PLUM. Continue to open our eyes, ears, and hearts, that we may faithfully carry out your work which you have entrusted to us. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

We remember with gratitude all who have served your church in big and small ways, especially those leaders who guided your church through difficult times. God of the journey, **In mercy, hear our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers.*

Confident that you walk alongside us in our need, we lift to you all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*At this time, we offer ourselves to God—our physical resources and our whole life—recognizing that all we are and all we have are God's given to us and for which we are stewards. If you have a monetary offering for our congregation today, please place it in the designated area either before or after the worship service.*

Let us pray. God, what shall we return to you for all your bounty to us? We shall pay our vows in the presence of all your people. Accept, then, these gifts, and bless them for your holy purposes, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **DIALOGUE**

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

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**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**PAGE 144**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*The presiding minister continues:*

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as the Lord 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.**

## **LAMB OF GOD**

**PAGE 146**

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

## **INVITATION**

Jesus, who shared this same holy meal with his disciples on the night of his betrayal, still invites us today to the feast in which he is fully present with us. Come and eat; all is ready for you.

*The assembly is seated.*

## THE DISTRIBUTION

*Everyone is invited to come down the center aisle to the communion rail. Please pick up your cup with wafer and wine at the end of the aisle. Grape juice is also available. Please bring children who do not yet receive communion and they will receive a blessing.*

P: Take and eat the body of Christ given for you. **C: Amen.**

P: Take and drink the blood of Christ shed for you. **C: Amen.**

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The assisting minister leads in prayer.*

Let us pray together. **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.**

*(Candles to be extinguished.)*

## THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

### PSALM #22

PAGE 543

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night, but find no rest.  
<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup>In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.  
<sup>5</sup>To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.  
<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm, and not human;  
scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock at me;  
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
<sup>8</sup>"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"  
<sup>9</sup>Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.  
<sup>10</sup>On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
<sup>11</sup>Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near and there is no one to help.  
<sup>12</sup>Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.  
<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;  
<sup>15</sup>my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.  
<sup>16</sup>For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me.  
My hands and feet have shriveled;  
<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;  
<sup>18</sup>they divide my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.  
<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

<sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

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

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>For 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.

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

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

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

<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>To 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.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the LORD,

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

***All depart in silence.***

**TODAY – Welcome!**

**FRIDAY – 7:30 PM** Good Friday worship service at Christ Lutheran. For those unable to attend in person, there will be a 7:00 p.m. service on Facebook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/POPLutheranPH>

**SUNDAY (EASTER) – 9:15 am** worship at Christ Lutheran  
3 PM Easter Sunday PLUM Worship Service via Zoom.

The call-in line for PLUM Worship Services and Bible Studies:

Zoom online: <https://zoom.us/j/401596541>

Zoom by phone: (646) 876 9923 Meeting ID: 401 596 541

### **PLUM Pastoral Team:**

The Reverend John Gropp	412-680-7867
The Reverend Brenda Henry	412-390-8005
The Reverend Susan Devine	412-496-4889

MINISTERS	Every member of the Congregation
PASTOR	The Rev. John J. Gropp
PASTOR	The Rev. Brenda Henry
PASTOR	The Rev. Susan Devine
ORGANIST	Max Ludwig
CUSTODIAN	Michael Bodnar
SECRETARY	Deann George
LAY ASSISTANT	Marissa Paule
ACOLYTE	Harriette Shepherd
ALTAR GUILD	Marissa Paule, Carlene Oskin
USHER	Harvey Oskin