

April 02, 2026

**Service of Holy Communion
ELW Setting 3**

PRELUDE

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

Two Settings of the tune for *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

Ach Herr, mich armen Suender (O Lord to me, poor sinner)

Herzlich tut mich verlangen (My Heart is Filled with Longing)

Sara J. Johnson, organ

Stephen P. Folkemer

Dieterich Buxtehude

Johannes Brahms

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW page 258

P 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.

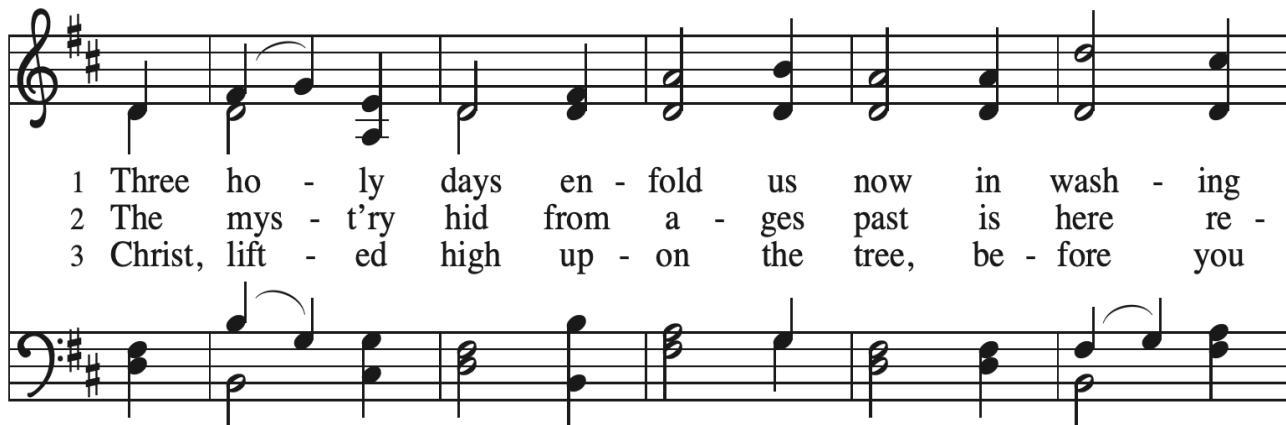
Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

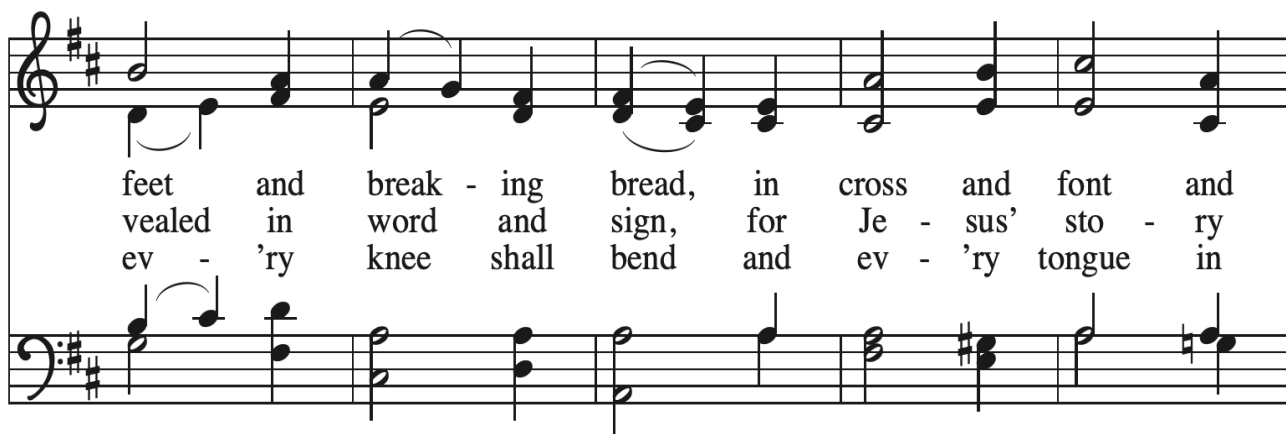
C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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

Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now (ACS 930)



1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing
2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -
3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you



feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and
vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry
ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in



life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.
is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.
praise pro - claim: "You are the Lord of all. A - men."

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731-1807, adapt.

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GREETING

ELW page 259

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW page 259

P Let us pray.

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.

C **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

First Reading Exodus 12:1-14

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

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. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with

unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.

¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire.

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.”

Reader Word of God, word of life. **Response** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (Chanted)

¹ I love the LORD, who has ¹ heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹ supplication,

² **for the LORD has given ¹ ear to me
whenev- ¹ er I called.**

¹² How shall I re- ¹ pay the LORD
for all the good things God has ¹ done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup ¹ of salvation
and call on the name ¹ of the LORD.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows ¹ to the LORD
in the presence of ¹ all God’s people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your ¹ sight, O LORD,
is the death ¹ of your servants.**

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I ¹ am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me ¹ from
my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice ¹ of thanksgiving
and call upon the name ¹ of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows ¹ to the LORD
in the presence of ¹ all God’s people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of ¹ the LORD’s house,
in the midst of you, ¹ O Jerusalem.**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

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.

Reader Word of God, word of life.

Response Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW page 142b

The assembly stands.

Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love
and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL John 13:1-17, 31b-35

P The holy gospel according to John.

C **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.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

The assembly is seated

SERMON

Pastor Laura Applegate

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us* ELW 358

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A 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.

A 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.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A 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.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A 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 in different to suffering, awaken their conscience. Watch over those serving in our military, police and fire departments. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A 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, Linda Apolzon Neilson, Maria Berry and her daughter, Martha Colson, Kaitlyn Modesitt, Clay Williams, and those we lift up to you now, either out loud or silently before you...(pause). Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A 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.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A 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.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

We Place Upon Your Table, Lord

Trinity Choir

M.F.C. Wilson/Robert A. Hobby

The assembly stands.

OFFERING SONG *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross St. 4* ELW 803

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P 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.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C and also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

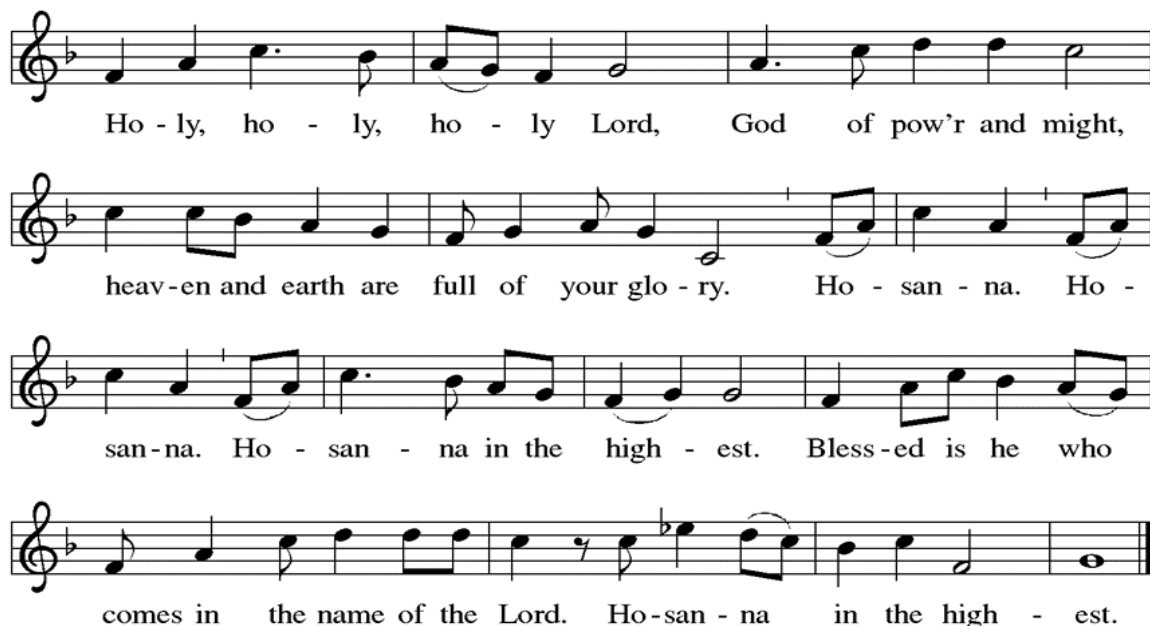
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE 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:

SANCTUS

page 144 b



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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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:

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

P 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.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P 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.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P 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.

C **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

The assembly is seated.

HANDWASHING

ELW page260

On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of hands, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.



COMMUNION HYMNS:

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

ELW 337

Were You There

ELW 353

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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.

C **Amen.**

Silence for reflection

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The Altar and Altar area are stripped to symbolically remind us of how, in that same night, Jesus was betrayed and stripped of his power and glory and was now in the hands of his captors.

PSALM 22

Chanted by John McIntyre

All depart in silence.



SERVING THIS EVENING:

Lay Assistant
Ushers

Susan Outlaw-Stallings
Tina Teeters

Handwasher
Altar Care

Aiden Pomfret
Rev. Bob Swanson
Denise Taylor

Communion Bread
Counters

Denise Taylor
Donna and Pete Gustafson

Organ
Cantors

Sara Johnson
Elizabeth Eichmiller
John McIntyre

Trinity Choir

Bonnie Parks
Jane Strecker
Pat McIntyre
Sandy Teeters
Sherry Tacker
Elizabeth Eichmiller
Elisse Boetto
Linda Afdahl
Charles Parks
Bill Strecker
John McIntyre
John Moon

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