

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025
6:30 p.m.



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Neenah, Wisconsin
Celebration of First Communion

Ministers

Everyone at Gloria Dei

Pastors

Pastor Tabitha and Pastor Jon Gallatin

Welcome to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church!

So that we may come to know each other better...please fill out the maroon Friendship Pad located at the end of each pew and pass it along for others to do the same. Once completed, return it and note the names of the others seated next to you so you may greet one another after the service.

Congregational portions are in **Bold** print, *please stand as you are able

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, in which He reshapes as a meal of love and forgiveness for us to partake in.

We celebrate Communion tonight with those receiving their First Communion!

We also recognize that Jesus calls us 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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.**

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.

GATHERING HYMN

"Bread of Life from Heaven"

ELW #474

Refrain



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1	Break	now	the	bread	of	Christ's	sac -	ri -	fice;		giv -	ing
2	Seek	not	the	food	that	will	pass	a -	way;		set	your
3	Love	as	the	one	who,	in	love	for	you,		gave	him -
4	Dwell	in	the	one	who	now	dwells	in	you;		make	your



thanks,	hun -	gry	ones,	gath -	er	round.	Eat,	all	of	you,	and	be
hearts	on	the	food	that	en -	dures.	Come,	learn	the	true	and	the
self	for	the	life	of	the	world.	Come	to	the	one	who	is
home	in	the	life -	giv -	ing	Word.	Know	on -	ly	Christ,	Ho -	ly



sat -	is -	fied;	in	Christ's	pres -	ence	the	loaves	will	a -	bound.
liv -	ing	way,	that	the	full -	ness	of	life	may	be	yours.
food	for	you,	that	your	hun -	ger	and	thirst	be	no	more.
One	of	God,	and	be -	lieve	in	the	truth	you	have	heard.

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people and showed us how to love and serve. 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.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

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.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

¹ I love the LORD because he hears my voice
and my prayer for mercy.

² **Because he bends down to listen,
I will pray as long as I have breath!**

¹² What can I offer the LORD
for all he has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift up the cup of salvation
and praise the LORD's name for saving me.**

¹⁴ I will keep my promises to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵ **The LORD cares deeply
when his loved ones die.**

¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant;
yes, I am your servant, born into your household;
you have freed me from my chains.

¹⁷ **I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people—

¹⁹ **in the house of the LORD
in the heart of Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!**

***GOSPEL READING: John 13:1, 31b-35**

P The Holy Gospel according to John the thirteenth chapter.

C 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. during the Passover meal, Jesus said to his disciples,

^{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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOMILY Pastor Jon Gallatin

*SONG OF RESPONSE

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

ELW #347



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - 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.

*RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED

L Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

***THE PRAYERS**

Each petition will end with “God of grace.”

Responses by the congregation are “**hear our prayer**”

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SHARING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

We joyfully offer financial gifts to God’s ministry through Gloria Dei in a variety of ways. Either place gifts in offering baskets as they are distributed or go to www.gloriadeilc.org/give (or scan QR code) or text your gift to 1-877-952-9422 this morning. If you are giving electronically or at a frequency other than weekly, please place a blue card (located in the pew rack) in the offering basket to signify your gifts. Thank you for your generous response to God’s blessings!



***OFFERING PRAYER**

L God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***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.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

***COMMUNION INVITATION**

P Come to Jesus, our host and our meal.

Holy Communion is joyfully offered to all baptized Christians who believe that Jesus is truly present in this meal and feeds us nourishment of forgiveness and strength for His mission.

At the altar rail (you may kneel or stand), you will first receive the bread (please indicate if you would like gluten free bread). You will receive the wine (please indicate if you would like grape juice). Children who receive communion, please hold out hands to receive the bread. Children not communing, please fold hands to receive a blessing. Please notify an usher if you would like to receive communion at your seat.

LAMB OF GOD “O Lamb of God, Sweet Lamb of God” vs 1 ELW #336

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
 2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.

God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me

in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

(Please remain seated for the blessing, prayer, and reading of Psalm 88)

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P 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.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR - *PSALM 88 is read. The chancel is stripped during the reading of Psalm 88 to symbolize how all the good life is taken away if Jesus is absent from our lives.*

After the chancel is stripped, we leave in silence because the service is not completed, but only interrupted until Good Friday. We resume our worship at 6:30 p.m. tomorrow.

PSALM 88

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

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.

All leave in silence after the cross is carried out.

Celebration of First Communion

Today at Gloria Dei we celebrate First Communion with several of our youth. During this season of Lent they have been learning what God does for us through the bread and the wine of Holy Communion. They have learned that through the bread and the wine our Lord comes to us to give us forgiveness. On the night we remember our Lord instituting the very first Lord's Supper we celebrate with those who come forward to receive that body and blood of our Lord for the first time. Those partaking in their first communion this year are:

Molly Schuelke

William Schuelke

Ezra Shannon

Cole Wippich

Bread served at Communion today was made by our First Communion families.

We invite you to continue to worship with us during Holy Week:

**April 18 - Good Friday Ecumenical Service 12noon at
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

**April 18 —Good Friday Tenebrae Worship Service 6:30 p.m. at
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

A Holy Day in observance of Jesus' path to the Cross.

Tenebrae is a special service in observation during Holy Week. The name "Tenebrae" comes from the Latin word for "shadows" or "darkness" and denotes a service of Shadows. This worship service makes use of gradually diminishing light as candles are extinguished one by one to guide those gathered for worship through the events of Holy Week from the Triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' Crucifixion and burial.

Come and worship, reflect and pray, observe and contemplate the Passion of Christ through this service.

April 20—Easter Festival Worship Services at 8:00 and 10:30 AM.

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Classes resume April 27.

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

MINISTERS	All God's people at Gloria Dei
PRESIDING MINISTERS	Pastors Jon & Tabitha Gallatin
MINISTER OF MUSIC	Dr. Myron Jones
CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR	Jill Kruger
LITURGY ASSISTANT	Chris Drews
USHERS	Roger Marks, Tom Riedasch
GREETERS	
ACOLYTE	Samantha Kurtz
NURSERY ATTENDANT	
ALTAR GUILD	Marlene Marks
PSALM 88 Reader	Jim Lantz

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