



Maundy Thursday
Word and Prayer at Home
April 8, 2020

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Draw us into your love, Christ Jesus
and deliver us from fear.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

**O Diving Master, grant that we may not
so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.**

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. (St. Francis of Assisi)

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Silence for meditation

READINGS OF THE DAY:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving**

and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD
in the presence of | all God's people,
¹⁹**in the courts of | the LORD's house,**
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem. R

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *I Love to Tell the Story* (ELW 661)

I I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.

Refrain

I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

GOSPEL: Matthew 26:14-46

TIME OF REFLECTION

Spend some time reflecting upon where you are seeing God present in your life.

What things have you noticed and discovered during this season of Lent and the opportunity to go deeper into the frames of Jesus' passion?

What did you learn about your part in God's story still unfolding around and among us?

How will you stay awake and keep watch for the life God wants you to live fully?

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

Prayer*

It is difficult in this moment not to be near some of the people we love and might be worried about. Take a moment and say out loud the names of people you wish were right there next to you at your table today.

Jesus is no longer physically on earth, yet every time we gather around a table and we call him to mind, he is present with us in Spirit. And so too, our loved ones are with us.

Let this be a comfort to us.

We also want to call to mind, the people we cannot name, whose names we do not know. But we know they need our prayers and God's comfort.

For those who have lost loved ones

For those who are sick and recovering

For those who are caring for loved ones who are sick at home

For those who are caring for persons in medical care

For those who are separated from loved ones

For those who are feeling alone and isolated

For those who are helping and are so very tired

For those who are struggling to find friends, food, and comfort

For those who are afraid

[add other categories as feels right for your context]

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

I invite you to take a deep breath on behalf of all those *we* do not know and cannot call by name. As we do so, we know that *God* knows who needs our prayers and the Spirit, Breath of God, is blowing from within us outward as a Spirit of Compassion and Presence. *[pause to take a couple of deep and audible breaths]*

Our worship continues into tomorrow, as we follow Jesus to the cross. In preparation, gather 7 candles and the Tenebrae Service “Last Words of Christ”. Either utilize the service on your own or go to our webpage where you will find an online version guiding you with visuals of Jesus’ passion story. firstlutheransandpoint.org.

Worship Notes:

Image: From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Prayers from “Comfort Food - Holy Love” worshipdesignstudio.com/series by Dr. Marcia McFee.