

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, SC 29108

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Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026 – 7:00 pm

A warm welcome to The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer!

Mandatum novum do vobis. “A new commandment I give unto you.” Those words of Jesus in the thirteenth chapter of Saint John’s Gospel give us the name of this day. The “maundy” in Maundy Thursday refers to the new commandment—the mandatum novum—that Jesus gives his followers at their Last Supper together. In fact, Jesus gives two new commandments for us this day, and they are inextricably linked. One is the commandment spoken in John 13:34—a commandment that Jesus himself physically enacts earlier in the same chapter. As our Lord stoops down to wash the feet of his disciples, he embodies for them the very order he is giving them: “Love one another, even as I have loved you.” Jesus shows his friends the love he wants them to show to one another. Their Master and their Maker bows low to wash their filthy, smelly feet. So too must they, in turn, bow low to love the world—not the world as they wish it were or the world as it will be when it has at last been brought to perfection, but rather the world as it really is here and now: mired in a filth and smell and weariness vastly exceeding that of first century sandalled feet which have journeyed far already and have yet a long way to go. But the second commandment we remember today always accompanies the first: “Do this in remembrance of me.” Jesus gives this command as he takes ordinary bread and blesses and breaks it and tells his followers that it is now his Body which shall be broken for their sake. He lifts the cup of ordinary wine and blesses it and shares it and tells them that now that wine is his Blood which shall soon be poured out to wash away their sins, and the sins of the whole world. With this night’s twin commands, Jesus shows his friends that he means to stoop lower than merely a washing of their feet. He means to wash their souls. His humbling, his self-sacrifice, will go beyond simply taking on the role of a household servant. Rather, he will become a slave. And more: he intends to die the death of a slave in order that he might free forever the whole Creation from its bondage to Sin and Death. And whenever, wherever his followers gather to break the Bread and share the Cup they will always proclaim his death, his resurrection, and his everlasting victory until he comes again. “Love one another.” “Do this in remembrance of me.” May we tonight rejoice in these new commandments—these soul-cleansing, world-transforming Maundy mandates—of our Lord. May they draw us, in the days ahead, to tremble in awe at the foot of his Cross and to dance with joy before his empty tomb. May they impel us always, in obedience to his Word and in emulation of his example, to love and serve one another and his world, even as Christ has first loved and served us.

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer is a Christian community of diverse people called and guided by the Holy Spirit to nurture with God’s love those within and beyond our congregation.

A place where God is at work! All are welcome. No exceptions.

..... † **GATHERING** †

The assembly gathers in silence.

<We stand.>

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.

<We kneel.>

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.

<We sit.>

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Jesus, Lamb of God

ELW Hymn 199

If you desire, you are invited to come forward and kneel for the laying on of hands

In obedience to the command of Our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

Amen.

<We stand.>

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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Holy God,

When facing death, Jesus thought of his mother, Mary, and commended her to the disciple whom he loved. Inspire us by this act of care within community, so we can live with one another in holy love. Amen.

<We sit.>

..... ✚ WORD ✚

READING

Psalm 26:3

Pew Bible page 437

*For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.*

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

<We stand.>

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 19:23-30

Pew Bible page 882

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

*"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."*

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

<At the conclusion of the reading>

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

<We sit.>

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Titus

<We stand.>

HYMN OF THE DAY

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW Hymn 347

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

<We kneel.>

Each prayer petition will end with "Hear us, O God," and the response is "Your mercy is great."

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.

Amen.

<We stand.>

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

You are invited to share the peace, however you and those around you are comfortable.

<We sit.>

..... ✚ MEAL ✚

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Ave Verum Corpus K. 618

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*Jesus, Son of God, born of
Mary; Who upon the cross was crucified,
Thou hast suffered to redeem us, For man
Thou hast bled and died.
Thou, our Savior, Whose
side was wounded, Who our griefs and
sorrows bear, Lord have mercy on us, Thy
children, Enfold us in Thy loving care,
fold, enfold us in Thy
loving care.*

<We stand.>

OFFERTORY

What Shall I Render

What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?
I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing
and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the
pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth,... We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 ... *here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding ...* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

☩ 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 in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, ...

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

... Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

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

<We sit.>

COMMUNION

Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized. We come in faith, trusting Christ is truly present in the bread and wine – given for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen us for proclaiming God’s love in the world. You are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. You may dip the bread into the chalice. If you are unable to come forward, communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

<We stand.>

THE TABLE BLESSING

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, ... one God, now and forever.
Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

As the altar is stripped in remembrance of our Lord Jesus’ trials before his crucifixion, Psalm 22 will be chanted, and the worship space lights will be darkened.

..... ✚ **SENDING** ✚

All depart in silence.

Our worship service continues tomorrow at our Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm.

**The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor · Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper
Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr., Organist · Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director
A/V Team: Annette Belcher, Wayden Caughman, Nikki Chapman, and Matt Bowers**

We’re grateful you’ve joined us in worship during this holy season. If you would like to support the ongoing ministry and life of this congregation, you can do so by scanning the QR code below. May God’s blessings be with you today and always.



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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

