



**FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
246 South Main Street  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Chris Combs  
Marvin J. Huls

Pastor  
Director of Music

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2, 2026

6:00 PM

## GATHERING

### Confession and Forgiveness

*The presiding minister invites the assembly into the confession.*

#### Invitation to confession:

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.

*Following the invitation, all kneel or sit and keep silence for reflection and self-examination.*

*The presiding minister leads the assembly in the confession.*

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.

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister  
of the church of Christ, and by his authority,  
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## **Greeting**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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**

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. Amen**

## WORD

### **First Reading      Exodus 12:1-14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has <sup>1</sup>heard my voice,  
and listened to my <sup>1</sup>supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given <sup>1</sup>ear to me**  
**whenev- <sup>1</sup>er I called.**

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

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

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows <sup>1</sup>to the LORD  
in the presence of <sup>1</sup>all God's people.

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

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

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

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows <sup>1</sup>to the LORD  
in the presence of <sup>1</sup>all God's people,

<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of <sup>1</sup>the LORD's house,**  
**in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## Second Reading      1 Corinthians 11:23-26

<sup>23</sup>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,  
<sup>24</sup>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.” <sup>25</sup>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.”  
<sup>26</sup>For 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**

## Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

**R/ Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now 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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>Then 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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>Jesus 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." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." <sup>12</sup>After 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? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord, and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>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.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P/The Gospel of the Lord.

R/ Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

*Silence for reflection follows.*

### Hymn of the Day “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”#712

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed.  
We, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.**

**Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread.  
Still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
By your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.**

**Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go.  
To the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show.  
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we  
give.**

**That your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.**

## Prayers of the Church

*To stay current with our many continuing prayer needs, we will refresh our prayer list at the beginning of each new month by starting with a clean slate. We understand that many people will continue to need prayer beyond the length of one month. If you wish to continue to have someone listed in the bulletin for public prayer, please call the office by the last Wednesday of the month.*

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.*

*Each portion of the prayers concludes with these or similar words.*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words.*

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.**

## The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.*

# THE MEAL

Offerings may be placed in the plates as they are passed. You can utilize your regular envelopes or the gold envelopes in the pews. You can also utilize our new online giving tool through Tithe.ly by visiting [felchurch.org](http://felchurch.org) or utilize the QR code here:

Checks can also be mailed to: First Lutheran, 246 S. Main Street, Greensburg, PA 15601.



Thank you for your generous support of First's Ministry.

*(Children, please bring your offering to the front of the church and place it in the "Thank You Jesus" Jar.)*

## Offertory Response

### Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## Offertory Prayer (in unison)

Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful,  
you bring forth food from the earth  
and nourish your whole creation.**

**Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way,  
that all may know your care;  
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

*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.**

*The presiding minister continues:*

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

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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command...

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen**

## 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 COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## COMMUNION

*All baptized who wish to receive the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins and the nourishment of their lives are welcome. It is not necessary to be a member of First Lutheran to receive the sacrament.*

For those receiving the sacrament please note the following:  
Communion is at the rail for those who desire.

- *We encourage everyone to continue using hand sanitizer before coming forward for communion.*
- *As you approach the chancel, take a plastic cup from the tray.*
- *The communion rail will fill from both sides of the congregation.*
- *We encourage everyone to leave added space at the rail, primarily between family units.*

- *For those who need gluten free or grape juice, please tell the Pastor or assistant during the distribution.*
- *Cups can be placed in the trays near each side aisle as you return to your pew.*
- *For those who would like to receive communion, but are not comfortable coming to the rail, please let an Usher know so that the Pastor and Assisting Minister can bring communion to you.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond Amen.*

*After all have received,*

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

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The assembly stands. An assisting minister prays the prayer after communion.*

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept.*

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.**

## **Psalm 22 (in unison)**

**<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?**

**Why so far from saving me,  
so far from the words | of my groaning?**

**<sup>2</sup>My God, I cry out by day, but you | do not answer;  
by night, but I | find no rest.**

**<sup>3</sup>Yet you are the | Holy One,  
enthroned on the prais- | es of Israel.**

**<sup>4</sup>Our ancestors put their | trust in you,  
they trusted, and you | rescued them.**

**<sup>5</sup>They cried out to you and | were delivered;  
they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.**

**<sup>6</sup>But as for me, I am a worm | and not human,  
scorned by all and despised | by the people.**

**<sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh | me to scorn;  
they curl their lips; they | shake their heads.**

**<sup>8</sup>"Trust in the LORD; let the | LORD deliver;  
let God rescue him if God so de- | lights in him."**

**<sup>9</sup>Yet you are the one who drew me forth | from the womb,  
and kept me safe on my | mother's breast.**

**<sup>10</sup>I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;  
you were my God when I was still in my | mother's womb.**

**<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,  
and there is no | one to help.**

**<sup>12</sup>Many young bulls en- | circle me;  
strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.**

**<sup>13</sup>They open wide their | jaws at me,  
like a slashing and | roaring lion.**

**<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is | melting wax.**

**<sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof | of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the | dust of death.**

**<sup>16</sup>Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers | circles round me;  
they pierce my hands | and my feet.**

- 17**I can count | all my bones  
while they stare at | me and gloat.
- 18**They divide my gar- | ments among them;  
for my clothing, | they cast lots.
- 19**But you, O LORD, be not | far away;  
O my help, hasten | to my aid.
- 20**Deliver me | from the sword,  
my life from the power | of the dog.
- 21**Save me from the | lion's mouth!  
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.
- 22**I will declare your name | to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.
- 23**You who fear the LORD, give praise!  
All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
- 24**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither is the LORD's face | hidden from them;  
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.
- 25**From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- 26**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!  
May your hearts | live forever!
- 27**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- 28**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,  
who rules o- | ver the nations.
- 29**Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,  
shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.
- 30**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.
- 31**They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

*All depart in silence.*

*BLESSINGS to Wyatt Boggs and Sofia Shadwick as they receive First Communion.*

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**



**April 3 Good Friday**

**6:00 PM**

**April 5 EASTER SUNDAY!**

**8:15 & 10:45 AM  
(No Sunday School )**

*From Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB144012.*

*First 2 readings and the Gospel Reading: New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*The prayers of intercession (printed in each Sunday/festival section) may be reproduced for onetime, non-sale use, provided copies are for local use only and the following copyright notice appears: From Sundays and Seasons, copyright ©2026 Augsburg Fortress.*