

**FIRST READING. Exodus 12:1-4, 11:14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 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. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. 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. 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 judgements: I am the LORD. 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. 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. (NRSV)

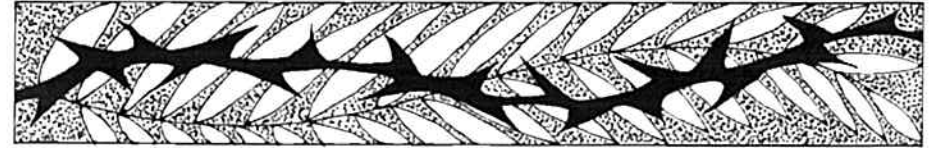
**SECOND READING. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

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, 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.' 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.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (NRSV)

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

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' 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.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.' 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? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 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.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.' (NRSV)

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**Maundy  
Thursday**

With nightfall 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. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow the example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

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**If you missed last week's sermon, it is available on our website.**

**St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church**



57 Griffith Street • Welland, Ontario • L3B 4G6 • 905-734-4746

email: [stmatts@cogeco.net](mailto:stmatts@cogeco.net) • website: [stmatthewswelland.com](http://stmatthewswelland.com)

**Pastor: Reverend Jukka Saarinen** ..... Cell: 905-327-2799  
..... Home: 1-289-271-8546

**Council Chairperson: Sinikka Speck** ..... 905-735-2003

**Vice-Chairperson: Bob Hansen** ..... 905-735-2517

**Church Secretary: Jennifer Allcorn** ..... 905-734-4746

**Organist: Lily Jasinkas** ..... 289-821-4104

# Maundy Thursday Worship Service

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All depart in silence.

Communion is celebrated in remembrance and observance of our Lord’s Last Supper with his disciples. The stripping of the altar is symbolic of Jesus’ humiliation at the soldiers’ hands. As the linens, candles, paraments and ornaments are removed, Psalm 22 is read. There is no benediction. All leave the church in silence. The omission of the benediction for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicates their continuity with each other and with the Easter Vigil.

## Psalm 116:1, 10-17

Refrain

Robert Buckley Farlee

I will take the cup of sal - va - tion and  
call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,\*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

<sup>10</sup>How shall I repay the LORD\*

for all the good things he has done for me?

<sup>11</sup>I will lift up the cup of salvation\*

and call upon the name of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD\*

in the presence of all his people. R

<sup>13</sup>Precious in the sight of the LORD\*

is the death of his servants.

<sup>14</sup>O LORD, I am your servant;\*

I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>15</sup>I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving\*

and call upon the name of the LORD.

<sup>16</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD\*

in the presence of all his people,

<sup>17</sup>in the courts of the LORD’s house,\*

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. R

## Gospel Acclamation – read in unison

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I  
have loved you.