St. Clairsville Lutheran Parish Maundy Thursday

THE SERMON

THE ADMONITION: (Pastor)

In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our 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 committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one with him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

The Confession of Sin

(stand)

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

a Amen.

P Father of all mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your son Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer.



a 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

P Let us make confession to God.

a Almighty God, merciful Father:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, renew your Holy Spirit in me for the amendment of my sinful life and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and for his sake, forgive us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

^{31b} "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

HYMN

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. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him,

"Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus 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." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After 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? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their

God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. 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.

a Amen.

P Let us share together Christ's peace, a sign of the peace and reconciliation we share with God and with one another.

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

a And also with you.

Hymn

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Lord God, in a wonderful Sacrament you have left us a memorial of your suffering and death. May this Sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption you have brought; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen** (sit)

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴If 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. [⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the

fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] ¹¹This 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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.

¹⁴This 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.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1, 10-17 (Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 NRSV)

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. ¹⁰How shall I re- | pay the LORD* for all the good things he has | done for me? ¹¹I will lift up the cup | of salvation* and call upon the name | of the LORD. ¹²I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD* in the presence of | all his people. ¹³Precious in the sight | of the LORD* is the death | of his servants. ¹⁴O LORD, I | am your servant;* I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me | from my bonds. ¹⁵I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving* and call upon the name | of the LORD. ¹⁶I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD* in the presence of | all his people, ¹⁷in the courts of | the LORD's house.* in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.

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, 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.

Meal

Offering

- +Offertory: #186 (Create in Me a Clean Heart)
- +Offertory Prayer: page 107
- +Great Thanksgiving: pages 107-108
- +Lord's Prayer: page 112
- Communion
- +Post Communion Blessing
- +Post Communion Canticle: page 113 (Lord, Now You Let)
- +Post Communion Prayer: page 114

The Stripping of the Altar Psalm 22 read in unison

There is no benediction. The Service continues tomorrow evening.

ALL LEAVE THE SANCUARY IN SILENCE.