

MAUNDY THURSDAY

CHRIST'S HEALING LOVE GIVEN TO ALL

Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Thursday, March 28, 2024 + 7:15 p.m.



On this day the Christian community gathers to share in the holy supper Christ gave the church to reveal his unfailing love for the human family. In the actions of this liturgy, Christ demonstrates this love by speaking his faithful word, washing our feet, and giving us his body and blood. From this gathering we are sent to continue these actions in daily life: to serve those in need, to offer mercy, to feed those who are hungry.

This first liturgy of the Three Days has no ending; it continues with the worship of Good Friday and concludes with the Celebration of Easter.

Together the Three Days proclaim the mystery of our faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

+ + + + + + + + +

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us together as the people of God

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 the Spirit to amend our lives and continue to be with us because of God's love for each and every one of us in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Within the community of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution, we receive forgiveness of our sins from God. This absolution we should never doubt, but firmly believe that our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for the forgiveness of our sins comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 and to love the world.

It is however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in Christ's love. Remembering our Jesus' last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the gift of Jesus and participate in that new covenant which makes us one with God. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Christ Jesus returns, and claims us in God's eternal kingdom. We share in prayer and support of one another, as the body of Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ 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 for reflection

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.

☐ Almighty God in great mercy has given Jesus to die for us and, for Christ's sake, forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit we are cleansed and given power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of holy light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by God's 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.

OPENING HYMN

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.



The 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**

Let us pray,

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ 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

God's Word is proclaimed in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-14

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

☐ A reading from **Exodus**:

¹The 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.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY

What Shall I Render to the Lord?

Psalm 116

D

1 What shall I ren - der to the LORD for all his
 2 Sal - va - tion's cup of bless - ing now I take and
 3 His saints the LORD de - lights to save; their death is

G D A D

ben - e - fits to me? How shall my life, by grace re -
 call up - on God's name. Be - fore his saints I pay my
 pre - cious in his sight. He has re - deemed me from the

A G Em A D

stored, give wor - thy thanks, O LORD, to thee?
 vow and here my grat - i - tude pro - claim.
 grave, and in his ser - vice I de - light.

THE SECOND READING

1st Corinthians 11:23-26

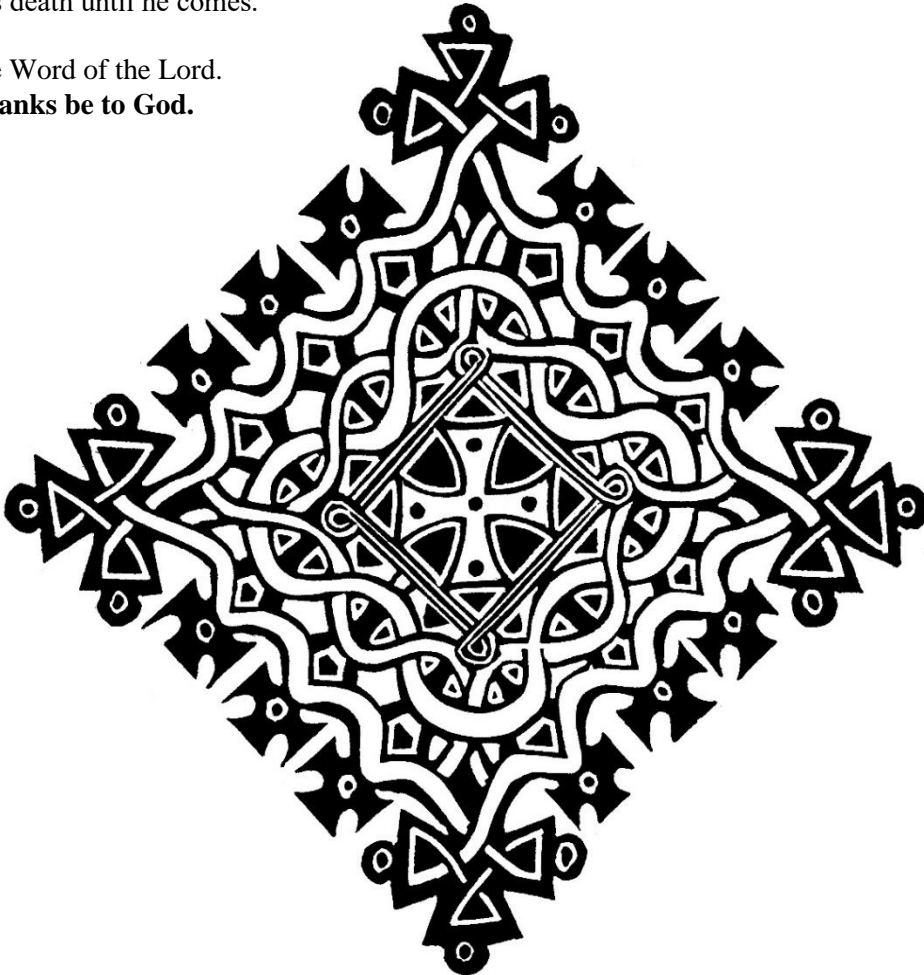
In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another, because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

☐ A reading from **1 Corinthians:**

²³For 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.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.





1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con- quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one another.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

☑ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now 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 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.”

- Ⓟ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ☪ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Message

Message

Silence for reflection

Litany of Healing

- Ⓟ Merciful God, constant source of all healing.
- ☪ **We give you thanks for all your gifts of strength and life.**

- Ⓐ We thank you for the gift of your Son,
- ☪ **through whom we have health and salvation.**

- Ⓟ As we wait for that day, when there will be no more pain.
- ☪ **Help us by your Holy Spirit to be assured of your power in our lives.**

- Ⓐ Help us to trust in your eternal love.
- ☪ **Revealed through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

- Ⓟ We give you thanks, loving God, for our human bodies and the gifts of life on earth.
God of mercy.
- ☪ **Renew us in your healing power.**

A Merciful God, bring your saving health to all people.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

P Holy Spirit, renew in us the grace of baptism, by which we share in Christ's death and resurrection.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

A Mighty God, bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

P Compassionate God, the strength of those who suffer, bring hope and peace to all who are in mental, physical, or spiritual distress.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

A Almighty God, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

P Loving God, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of those who suffer.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

A God of Wisdom, Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair.

God of mercy.

G **Renew us in your healing power.**

P Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

G **Amen**

A Let us pray.

Living God, through the gift of your love and forgiveness, grant comfort to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

G **Amen.**



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com - pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

The CREED

☐ With the whole people of God, let us confess our faith.

☑ I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.



I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION

☐ United by the servant love of God in Christ, we pray this holy night for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

☐ You call your people to hand on what we receive from you. Form all the baptized into teachers of faith. From one generation to the next, give your church hunger for your promises in the sacraments and joy in receiving and sharing your word. Lord, in your mercy,

☑ hear our prayer.

☐ Your creation provides all that we need. Cleanse and protect the water you have given for washing and drinking, water on which all life depends. Sustain crops and herds that provide food; teach us how to live so that there is enough for all. Lord, in your mercy,

☑ hear our prayer.

☐ You redeemed your people from slavery. Preserve people throughout the world who flee violence and oppression. Establish just leadership in place of tyranny and peace in place of war. Lord, in your mercy,

☑ hear our prayer.

A Jesus loved his followers to the end. Grant assurance of that love to all who need it: those living with guilt, those struggling to forgive, those who are lonely or overlooked. Heal the sick and embrace the dying. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed him. Inspire this congregation's ministries of service, that we love as Jesus loved us. Give us renewed courage to serve. Bless the ministry of deacons throughout the church.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Your glory shone in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We thank you for generations of the faithful who have proclaimed our Lord's death. Unite us with them in hope until he comes again. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

C **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the Real Presence of Jesus Christ

The PEACE

P The peace Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray....Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives,

C **that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection, through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

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.**

Table Prayer

℘ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

☞ **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

℘ Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray how Jesus first taught:

☞ **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

℘ Come to Jesus, our host, and our meal.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

Softly and Tenderly
When Peace Like a River

ELW 608

ELW 785

Prayer after Communion

Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

☞ **Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The BLESSING

☞ The blessing of God's eternal love, the courage to follow the way of the cross, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the desert places of our world, + be among you and remain with you forever.

☞ **Amen**

The STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Linens, paraments, ornaments, and candles are removed from the altar and chancel. You are invited to follow the sequence of readings and ritual actions as the altar is stripped. The Psalm used during the stripping of the Altar is Psalm 22.

Postlude

All leave in silence after the musical offering that helps us reflect on the sacrifice of Christ Jesus for each and every one of us.

Grace Lutheran Church

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Website: www.grace-hastings.org
Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA
Hastings, MI
Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
March 28, 2024 – Maundy Thursday

Welcome to worship today! We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. We are pleased that you are here among us to worship the ONE who reveals God's presence in our lives. It is by God's grace that we are made a child of God, who is blessed by God's rich grace, mercy, and peace.

We welcome Pastor Mike Kemper as preacher and presider today. We are blessed with many pastors that are filling in as Pastor Scheck is taking time away seeking God's peace, healing, and transformation. We are thankful for God's Holy Spirit who sustains Grace Lutheran Church during this time of refreshment, renewal, and trust in God's guidance during this time.

First Aid and CPR Training Saturday, April 27 from 12:30 until 7:00 there will be a full course of adult, child and infant CPR, AED, and First Aid training for \$90. On Monday, April 29 from 2:30 until 5:30 there will be a CPR renewal/challenge class for \$60. On Sunday, April 28 from 3:15 until 5:00 there will be a FREE basic CPR and AED awareness class. For more information on any of these opportunities, please see the flyer in the Gathering Area, or contact Kim Domke at 269.908.0024 or kdomke08@gmail.com.

Good Friday Cross Walk A reminder the Cross Walk is tomorrow morning at 9:30. We hope you can join us as we host this 50+ year tradition in our community.

▲ You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized *Pastor Michael Anton, Veronica Baarson, Bob Bolton, Diana Brown, Walter Brown, Chris Bush, Cherie Clements, Pat DePew, Bob and Bonnie Ehredt, Lisa Golnek, Easton Greenfield, Lorraine Handsbarger, Diane Hawkins, Jamie Heise (pregnancy), Virginia Henion, Dennis Loewenstein, Larry Maupin, Linda Melcher, Bill Miller and family, Martha Misak, Virginia Moomey, James Neiderheiser, Lisa Nurenberg, Corinna Palmer, Rick Palmer, Sharon Palmer, Shirley Peterson, Annette Poholski, Patty Renne, Jennifer Rohr, Mike Shoemaker, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, The Family of Darlene Umbarger, Al Throop, Russ Trongo, and Brenda Watson*, and for all health care workers who care for them. Lord in your mercy,

☑ **Hear our prayer.**

Assisting Minister – Vickey Argo

Lector – Jack Vos

Minister of Music – Cindy Olson

Pastor – Mike Kemper

Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



Stewardship Information

Attendance: 50	Views: 324
Weekly Giving: \$1,758.00	Budget Amount: \$4,366.17
Grace Projects Goal	\$25,252.00
Received To Date	- <u>\$535.00</u>
Total Needed	\$24,717.00
Given this week toward Grace Projects: \$5.00	

Holy Week

Cross Walk

Good Friday
at 9:30 am
March 29

Good Friday

Worship Service
at 7:15 pm
March 29

Sonrise

Worship Service
at 8:00 am
March 31

Easter

Worship Service
10:45 am
March 31

What Love Means

On Maundy Thursday, a father and son make their way to a footwashing station in the church. The man kneels before his son and a basin of warm, soapy water set between them. Slowly, gently, the man begins to wash his son’s bare feet and to wipe them with a towel. When the child was only a baby, the parent did something like this: washed face and knees, elbows and toes—it was part of their bath-time routine all those years ago. Now, in worship, this tender act of care awakens long-forgotten memories. The father thinks to himself, “This is what love means.”

Something like it happens every day—in homes, hospitals, and long-term care facilities. In these places, caregivers wash the bodies of the elderly and the aging, those who are disabled, sick, or dying. Yet many more of us are mostly unacquainted with this kind of work. It may make us feel uncomfortable. Some may consider it menial or even “dirty.” However, perhaps our discomfort owes, to a greater extent, to the fact that caring for others in this way puts us intimately in touch with the frailty of our own flesh.

Jesus, the Word made flesh, knows that he will be with his disciples only a little longer. His “new” commandment to them, “that you love one another,” was hardly new at all; in fact, it dated back to God’s giving of the law to ancient Israel. But when Jesus washed the disciples’ feet, he was inviting them yet again into a new way of life. He did not wash their feet out of concerns for cleanliness. Instead, this tender act of care was about setting an example about the lengths to which love will go. The same love with which Jesus had loved them all along would take him all the way to the cross. On the cross, God’s love meets us in all our frailty and makes known to us anew the meaning of love.

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