



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

Address

4729 S. Carrier Parkway
Grand Prairie, TX 75052



Phone

972-642-5683



Website

www.OurRedeemerGP.org



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[www.facebook.com/
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Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



March 28, 2024
Maundy Thursday

Gathering

✠ INTRODUCTION

This evening 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. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

✠ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We begin in silence.

P 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 for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C 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 neighbor 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.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C Amen.

✘ **HYMN – Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now (ACS #930)**

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✘ **GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

✘ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Word

✘ **FIRST LESSON – Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

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.

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19**

¹I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

²**Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

¹²What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

¹³**I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,**

¹⁴I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵**Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.**

¹⁶O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹**in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!**

✠ **SECOND LESSON - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

✠ GOSPEL – John 13:1-17, 31b-35

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the thirteenth chapter.

C 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."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ HOMILY

✘ HYMN OF THE DAY – Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (ELW #708)

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✘ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

A God who kneels to wash our feet, gather your church around the world during this holy week. Humble the powerful and lift up any who are marginalized. Renew our faith and make us bold in service and love to our neighbors. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who blesses the grain of the soil and the fruit of the vine, inspire in us a reverent care for the earth. Sustain fields, gardens, and wild places, that all people are fed and every living thing flourishes. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God whose greatest commandment is love, guide all who govern by the principle of love. Transform unjust human systems that oppress some for the gain of others. Restore communities as places of justice and concern for those who are vulnerable. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who was betrayed, comfort people everywhere who have suffered abuse at the hands of someone they knew and trusted. Heal the bodies, minds, and hearts of victims of exploitation. Help all in pain to know that you are near. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who sits at the table with us, grant the joy of your presence to people celebrating first communion today, and to all who share the meal. Strengthen communities of faith in grace and courage. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who brings new life out of death, we pray with thanks for the lives of those who have joined the communion of saints. In our holy meal, connect us to the faithful who have gone before us, and nourish us as your people living today. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer.

C Amen.

✘ PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

✘ OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world. After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward. **Please stand, as you are able.***

✘ OFFERING PRAYER

A Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C **Amen.**

Meal

✘ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P 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:

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

✠ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C 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

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

✘ LAMB OF GOD (Setting 4, p. 154)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

✘ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

✘ COMMUNION HYMN – Jesus, Remember Me (ELW #616)

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✘ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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 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.

C Amen.

✘ STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

After Communion, the service concludes with the stripping of the altar, representing the abandonment of Jesus. The congregation remains seated in silence while the sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, décor, and books are removed from the worship space.

Psalm 22 is read during the stripping of the altar. There is no blessing. After the reading, all may depart in silence. Those who wish to do so are invited to remain in the sanctuary for prayerful meditation.

✘ Psalm 22

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

³Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me.

My hands and feet have shriveled;

¹⁷I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;

¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,

and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,

my life from the power of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;

he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,

and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰Posterity will serve him;

future generations will be told about the LORD,

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying that he has done it.

This service continues tomorrow, Good Friday, at 7:00 pm.

✠SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal
Music Director:	John Zacharias
Altar Care:	Kris Davies
Assisting Minister:	Julie Schmidt
Lay Reader:	Julie Bothun
Usher:	Cindy Dolezal
Stripping of the Altar:	Kris Davies Cindy Dolezal Julie Schmidt
Videographer:	Cheri Oertel

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