

Holy Communion



Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Bath, PA**

Prelude: “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

arr. Jonathan W. Lee

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

*P: Friends in Christ: 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 called at Baptism, to return again and again to God’s forgiveness because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

*P: Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving us peace and new life. On this day, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, that we may enter into the celebration of the Great Three Days at peace with God and with one another.

Silent self-examination

*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 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.**

*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: WOV #702 “I am the Bread of Life”**

***The 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**

*P: Holy God,

*C: **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.**

First Reading: 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.

Second Reading: 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.

***Gospel Verse** (sung)

p. 63

**“Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love,
and abounding in steadfast love.”**

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

***C:** (sung) **Glory to you, O Lord**

***Gospel: John 13:1-17, 34-35**

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 master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them." 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: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*C: (sung) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon/Sermon

*Hymn: **WOV #704** *"Father, We Thank You"*

***Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Prayers of Intercession

*P: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

*V: You make a new covenant with your people. Gather your church around word and table in love and promise as these three holy days enfold us. Open us to behold the mystery of our salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: You give us our daily bread, fruit of the earth and work of human hands. Bless those who labor and tend to their crops and those who prepare our meals. Strengthen us to advocate for food justice and a fair distribution of resources. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: You, our Savior and Teacher, stoop down to us in servant love. Inspire national and local leaders with a renewed sense of public service. Increase in them humility to serve with equity and fairness. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: You incline your ear to us in every need. Befriend all who are lonely. Comfort those who grieve. Soothe any who are anxious. Console all who are distressed. Graciously tend to the hurts of your children who suffer in body, mind, and spirit (*pause*). Heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: You inspire your people to praise in word, song, and art. We give thanks for artists whose gifts enrich the church's worship and altar guild members who prepare our space for worship. Kindle in us appreciation for all who beautify our worship space throughout the changing seasons. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

*V: Precious in your sight is the death of your faithful ones. We remember and give thanks for the those who have died (*pause*). With them, we trust your promise to love your own until the end. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

*C: **Amen.**

*The Peace

*P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

*C: **And also, with you.**

*Offering

The Offering may be dropped off at the beginning or end of the worship service. We will thank God for our blessings, including the ability to give an offering for the work of God's kingdom.

Anthem: "Remember Me"

arr. Adams/Andrews

*Offertory Prayer

*P: God of good gifts,

*C: **receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen**

*The Thanksgiving

*P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus** (sung)

p. 69

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

(6)

***The Words of Institution**

*P: 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.

*P: 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.

***Lord's Prayer**

*P: Lord, 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.**

***Agnus Dei** (sung)

p. 72

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

***Invitation to Communion**

*P: Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

The bread and wine/grape juice will be distributed in the front of the church. If you would like to partake in your pew, please ask pastor to get you a pre-packaged communion set or ask an usher.

***Post-Communion Blessing**

*P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you onto everlasting life. Amen.

**Lord, now let your servant go in peace;
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:**

**A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**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**

***Prayer after Communion**

***P:** Let us pray. 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.

***C: Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 22 is read. As the Psalm is read, the chancel is stripped, a sign that Christ has been stripped of his power and glory. Good Friday is inescapable. The powers of darkness work upon him.

When the Psalm is completed, all depart in silence. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are one extended service. There is no benediction this evening. The service continues with the Good Friday worship tomorrow, at 7 PM here at St. John's. Remain and pray as long as you wish.

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Assisting in Worship Today

Altar Guild - Gloria M., Carol H.

Ushers: Volunteers - Lector: Volunteer

Acolyte: Volunteer - Communion Assistant: Volunteers

Contacts

Office Phone: 610-837-1061

Church Email: stjohnbath@gmail.com

Pastor Walsh: 610-837-1061 / 484-282-0699 (emergency)

Pastor's Email: pastorterrywalsh@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook:

St. John's church page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Lutheran-Church-120814211266763/>

Pastor Walsh's page, for information on faith in the wider world:

<https://www.facebook.com/terrence.walsh.96>

Follow us on our website: www.stjohnsbathpa.org

Upcoming Commemorations

Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824, Friday, March 29, 2024. Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings. **John Donne, poet, died 1631, Sunday, March 31, 2024.** After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry. **Benedict the African, confessor, died 1589, Thursday, April 4, 2024.** Born into slavery on the island of Sicily, Benedict lived as a hermit until the pope ordered all hermits to attach themselves to a monastery, at which time Benedict joined the Franciscans. Though illiterate, he was highly respected as a confessor and later superior of his community. **Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists, Saturday, April 6, 2024.** These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Welcome to St. John's!

We are glad that you are here to worship with us! We are in the midst of the Lenten Season, which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends when our Lord rises from the tomb on Easter Day.

Traditionally, Lent is a time when adults were prepared for baptism, by learning the Bible and the traditions of the church. For those who are already baptized, Lent is a time to reflect on the meaning of baptism in our lives, and to recommit ourselves to following Jesus Christ as a faithful disciple. Lent is often seen as a season to give up something as part of our discipleship, or, alternately, to take up something to be a better disciple. Perhaps you might give up an unhealthy habit, or take up support of a new charity. Give up unhealthy foods, and donate any money saved to the poor. Commit yourself to reading a new devotional book before the Easter celebration. The choice of a Lenten discipline is yours to make.

You may be new to St. John's, new to the Bath area, new to Lutheran worship, or may have never before set foot in a church. Regardless how often you have sat in church we are glad to have you join us. We invite you to listen to the service, enjoy the music, and say prayers for yourself and all who are need. Have questions? Please call or email Pastor Terry.

You are welcome. All are welcome. All are welcome in this place.

Stay up to day with worship schedule changes, meeting notices, and weather cancellations by
texting **STJOHNSBATH to 84576**
or connect with us online at
stjohnsbath.flocknote.com

Today's Announcements - Thursday, March 28, 2024

Maundy Thursday

This Week at St. John's

3/29/2024 - Fri.	Worship	7:00 PM
3/31/2024 - Sun.	Worship/Communion	8:00 AM
	No Sunday School (Happy Easter)	
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Masked Worship/Comm. (Library)	11:45 AM

Nursery School Lottery Calendars: Please see the box at the bottom of the stairs for an April lottery calendar to support the Nursery school. Calendars are \$10.

Thank you: Thank you to everyone who ordered, baked, or helped with the fish dinners. We served close to 400 fish dinners! The food was delicious and the fellowship was wonderful.

Online Giving Option: We share with you the new e-giving platform, Vanco. This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation. You can give now at this website link:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZAB8>

Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission. Thank you again for all that you do.



Scan this code to
get the Vanco App
on your mobile
device

Nursery School Enrollment 2024-2025: Do you know someone looking for a great place to enroll their child in nursery school? Look no further and share the word, we have an amazing program and teachers here at St. John's Bath. Enrollment forms are available through Dawn Mayer at 610-837-9868 or by e-mailing stjohnbath@gmail.com. Classes for 2, 3, and 4-year old's.

Molasses Crumb Pie Sale: Save the date of April 6, 2024. St. John's is making and selling molasses crumb pies. They will be made on April 4 & 5. Pickup will be April 6 from 9:00 am to noon. Order by Monday, April 1. Order sheets are now available in the lobby. If you are interested in helping to make the pies please give Jeannine Werner a call at 610-417-3316.

Join us for Holy Week

Good Friday – 3/29/24

Joint Tenebrae Service at St. John's at 7:00 PM
(we will welcome Christ UCC of Bath)

Easter Sunday – 3/31/24

Worship/Communion 8:00 AM
No Sunday School (Happy Easter)
Worship/Communion 10:15 AM
Masked Worship 11:45 AM



Prayers Requested For: Matthew A., Jim A., Eileen A., Phyllis & Joe A., Amy B., Allen B., Marsha B., Josie B., the family of Shane B., Barb B., Cory B., Dawn & Bill B., Jason C., Patty & Larry D., Barry F., Laverne F., Kathy F., Lilly F., Arya G., Cami Grace G., Bryson G., Janis G., Mike H., Shawn H., Lil H., Troy H., Robert H., Chuck H., Scott & Heather H., Seana I., Dennis K., Gerry K., Mary K., Steve K., Diane L., Lee L., Jorge L., Ruth M., The M. Family, April Rose M., Joe N., Danielle N., Samantha O., Arlene O. Brent R., Earl & Steve S., Ethel S., Louise S., Barb S., Beth S., Rosalia S., Gloria S., Dolly T., James T., Stacey T., Ann U., Viola W., Lisa W., Brenda W., LaNor W., Cecile W., Galen W., Susan W., Richard Y., Yvonne .Y., Pauline Y., Francis Z., and those unnamed.

If you would like to add or remove a person from the prayer list, contact the Church Office (610-837-1061).

Welcome to Holy Week 2024!

We are so glad that you are worshipping with us! We hope that you will fill out the survey below, to help us to better serve our community.

How to you hear about our worship services?

- In monthly newsletter
- From Sunday bulletin
- Announcements at the beginning of worship services
- Church sign as you walked or drove by
- Answering machine message
- Facebook
- Church website
- Ad in Home News weekly newspaper

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If you would like us to keep in touch with you, by adding you to our newsletter list, Sunday worship email list, or our texting list, please give us your contact information:

Name _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone Number for text messages: _____

Please circle that you would like to receive:

- Newsletter in your mailbox
- Newsletter via email
- Text messages for church news