

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Crookston, MN

April 2nd, 2026

Maundy Thursday



MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

April 2nd, 2026

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WELCOME and INVOCATION

In the name of God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, This shall be a day of remembrance for you.

We will celebrate it as a festival to the Lord throughout all generations.

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Jesus said, One who has bathed does not need to wash. In our baptism, we have been bathed by the grace of God. Trusting in the steadfast love of Jesus Christ, who has delivered us from sin and death, let us confess our sin.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

Lord Jesus Christ, how well you know our hearts,
and still you love us— you have loved us to the end.

We have denied you,

and we have denied our calling to serve one another.

We have betrayed you,

and we have betrayed your commandment to love one another.

Pour out your Spirit of grace upon us. Teach us to love and serve you faithfully and to love and serve one another by the example you have set for us; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

Now the Lord Jesus Christ has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. Now the promise is fulfilled, and love's redeeming work is done: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN: #347 Go to Dark Gethsemane

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, as you wash the feet of your disciples make us ready to follow you, loving and serving one another in your name. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC: “I Sing of My Lord”

St. Paul’s Choir

First Reading: Exodus 12:1-14 (CEB)

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.

¹ The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² “This month will be the first month; it will be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole Israelite community: On the tenth day of this month they must take a lamb for each household, a lamb per house. ⁴ If a household is too small for a lamb, it should share one with a neighbor nearby. You should divide the lamb in proportion to the number of people who will be eating it. ⁵ Your lamb should be a flawless year-old male. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You should keep close watch over it until the fourteenth day of this month. At twilight on that day, the whole assembled Israelite community should slaughter their lambs. ⁷ They should take some of the blood and smear it on the two doorposts and on the beam over the door of the houses in which they are eating. ⁸ That same night they should eat the meat roasted over the fire. They should eat it along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Don’t eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over fire with its head, legs, and internal organs. ¹⁰ Don’t let any of it remain until morning, and burn any of

it left over in the morning. ¹¹ This is how you should eat it. You should be dressed, with your sandals on your feet and your walking stick in your hand. You should eat the meal in a hurry. It is the Passover of the Lord. ¹² I'll pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I'll strike down every oldest child in the land of Egypt, both humans and animals. I'll impose judgments on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood will be your sign on the houses where you live. Whenever I see the blood, I'll pass over you. No plague will destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ "This day will be a day of remembering for you. You will observe it as a festival to the Lord. You will observe it in every generation as a regulation for all time.

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

¹ I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

² **for the Lord has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

¹² How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O Lord,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O Lord, truly I am your servant;

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

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (CEB)

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.

²³I received a tradition from the Lord, which I also handed on to you: on the night on which he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread. ²⁴After giving thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this to remember me." ²⁵He did the same thing with the cup, after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Every time you drink it, do this to remember me." ²⁶Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you broadcast the death of the Lord until he comes.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you. (John 13:34)

Before: The holy Gospel, according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

¹ Before the Festival of Passover, Jesus knew that his time had come to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them fully.

² Jesus and his disciples were sharing the evening meal. The devil had already provoked Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew the Father had given everything into his hands and that he had come from God and was returning to God. ⁴ So he got up from the table and took off his robes. Picking up a linen towel, he tied it around his waist. ⁵ Then he poured water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he was wearing. ⁶ When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷ Jesus replied, "You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later."

⁸ “No!” Peter said. “You will never wash my feet!”

Jesus replied, “Unless I wash you, you won’t have a place with me.”

⁹ Simon Peter said, “Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head!”

¹⁰ Jesus responded, “Those who have bathed need only to have their feet washed, because they are completely clean. You disciples are clean, but not every one of you.” ¹¹ He knew who would betray him. That’s why he said, “Not every one of you is clean.”

¹² After he washed the disciples’ feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, “Do you know what I’ve done for you? ¹³ You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and you speak correctly, because I am. ¹⁴ If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other’s feet. ¹⁵ I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. ¹⁶ I assure you, servants aren’t greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them.

^{31b} “Now the Human One has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify the Human One in himself and will glorify him immediately. ³³ Little children, I’m with you for a little while longer. You will look for me—but, just as I told the Jewish leaders, I also tell you now—‘Where I’m going, you can’t come.’

³⁴ “I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. ³⁵ This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other.”

After: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: “A New Kind of Love”

HYMN OF THE DAY: #491 Come, Let Us Eat

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes: Lord, as you have served us; **Teach us to serve one another.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

What can we offer for all God's goodness to us? **Let us lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

- **Offering Song: #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart**
- **Offering Prayer: Holy One, in the presence of your people we offer our heartfelt thanksgiving, our sacrifice of gratitude and praise. As we give our lives to you, show us how to love and serve you and how to love and serve one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

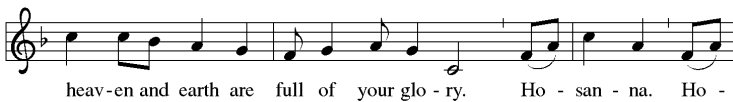
HOLY COMMUNION

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.**

Meek and majestic God, you set aside the perfection of your Trinitarian life to create the universe, and you called the children of Abraham to be your priestly kingdom. You gave your people freedom in the parting of the sea and marked them for life with the blood of the Lamb. In Jesus you laid aside the robe of your majesty and knelt among your children, facing humiliation and rejection. In his agony in the garden and suffering on the cross you showed the world the extent of your love and your longing to bring us home to the throne where we shall join angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, praising your holy name in the unending hymn:



...Great is the mystery of faith. **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Christians believe Holy Communion is “the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ for us Christians to eat and drink” (Luther’s Small Catechism).

Please fill out a Communion card (one per family) for our church records and hand it to an usher.

- **Distribution Hymns: #351 O Sacred Head Now Wounded
#349 Ah Holy Jesus**
- **Prayer after Communion:** 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. Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

On this night in which we remember that he was betrayed, we strip bare the altar, the symbol of Christ in our midst, in remembrance that Christ was stripped of his power, glory, and even his very life. Pastor Curt will chant Psalm 22 as the altar is stripped.

- *Communion elements are stripped.*
- *Altar Missal (worship book) is stripped.*
- *Altar Candles are stripped.*
- *Altar Covering is stripped.*
- *Paraments are stripped.*
- *Sanctuary lamp (eternal light candle) remains.*

You may remain as long as you wish.

Please depart in silence.

Our Holy Week journey continues at the cross tomorrow, Good Friday. The church building will be open from 12-3 pm for silent personal prayer, and we will gather together for worship at 6:30 pm.

MAUNDY THURSDAY BULLETIN

St. Paul's Lutheran, Crookston, MN

April 2nd, 2026

Maundy Thursday

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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.

PRAYER LIST

For those who need healing in body, mind, or spirit:

Julie Love	Eunice Sondrol	Judy Luettjohann
Darleen Jackson	Katie Bakken	Julian Bertils
Marlo Moren	Evie Gunderson	Nancy Eia
Mike Ophus	Loiland family	Trevin Monahan
Nash Erdman	Stuart Hanson	Mark Peterson
Lenny Devos	Glorryne Casmeay	Lucile Torkelson
Delores Sandager	Carol Chaffee	Kari L Trudeau
Leah Knotek Elleson	Family of Dale Knotek	

For our missionaries: Steve & Kelly Solheim
City of Joy Rwanda

For our servicemen: Brandon Johnson D.J. Brace

Please keep them in your prayers this week.

If you have prayer requests, please contact the church office at 218 281-3638 or our prayer chain coordinator, Marian Bakken:

(h) 218-281-1584, (c) 218-275-3143,
marianbakken@gmail.com.



MAUNDY
Thursday

MISSION

To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people

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Anna Peterson

Pastor

Rev. Curt Peterson

Organist

Mary Ann Knotek

Webmaster

Anna Peterson

Treasurer

Betty Arvidson

Financial Secretary

Kathie Barnes

Custodian

Marilyn Flateland

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Frohlich

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!

Ushers

Connie Haller

Scripture Reader

Kathy Normandin

Communion

Paulette Wagner

Altar Guild

Marlys Demarais

Offering Counters

Kathie Barnes and John Vallager

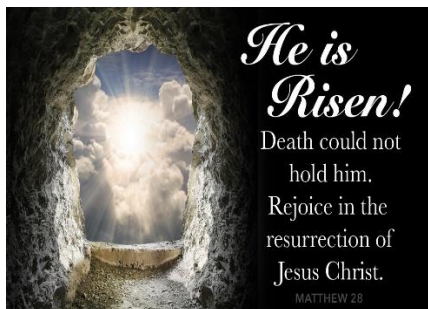
Livestream

GOOD FRIDAY

In the circumstances of Jesus' death, he did away with the accepted structures of power and weakness, justice and retribution. Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate manifestation of the paradox of the dominion of God: the king who only days before rode triumphantly into the royal city is crucified as a criminal. The Messiah is a suffering servant. The Son of God is willing to die so that we can live. **Join us TOMORROW to remember and honor the loving work that Jesus finished for us!**



April 3, 2026
Good Friday
6:30 pm Worship



**APRIL 5th, 2026
EASTER SUNDAY
10:00 AM WORSHIP**

FIRST COMMUNION

The following young people have completed instruction in the Lord's Supper. Congratulations to each of them and their families as they come to the Lord's Table!

Nash Erdman
Aurelia Guzman
Trinity Perreault

Brandon Rocha
Nicholas Rocha
Aubriella Trudeau

SPECIAL MESSAGES

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Items for the Care Kits can still be donated! WELCA is still collecting **new or gently used lightweight bath towels**. (Sizes 20" x 40" to 52" x 27,") and **bars of soap**, (3-4 ounces.) Donation collection is in the Fellowship Hall. **Thank you!!**

MEN'S TUESDAY MORNING CUP OF FELLOWSHIP



Join us every **Tuesday at 7:00 am** for a fresh pot of coffee and even better conversation. We gather to share the stories of our lives—the highs, the lows, and everything in between—while trusting the Holy Spirit to stir some faith into the mix.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA... SAVE THE DATE

The **SWO... Synod Women's Organization** Convention is excited to announce the 2026 convention event, which will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church in Crookston, on **September 18th & 19th**. Save the date!

HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Thank you to all who have signed up to take part in Home Delivered Meals. What a privilege for us to bless the homebound with a bit of holiness during this important week!

WOMEN's BOOK READ

St. Paul's Women's Book Read will meet on Sunday, APRIL 19th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Our April book read is - "*Theo of Golden*" by Allen Levi. Carol, Paulette and Julie will host and lead our discussion. We extend a warm welcome to all who may be interested. Join us for lively discussions and Christian fellowship!

CONFIRMATION

Four St. Paul's students will be celebrating Confirmation on Sunday, **May 3rd, 2026**. Let our church family keep them in our prayers and continue to support and encourage them in faith and service to others.

What it means to be confirmed:

- A public profession of understanding one's responsibilities as a Christian.
- Marks the formal community integration and transition into adult membership within the congregation.
- Encourages a lifelong faith in the form of discipleship and service.

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Find Your Place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

We invite all those who are interested in joining our congregation to a two-part New Member series this April. These sessions are a wonderful opportunity to share your story, meet church leadership, and explore our shared faith through the lens of our baptismal promises.

- **When:** April 12 & April 19 (after morning worship)
- **Where:** The Family Room (the room with a table, couches, and bookshelves by the East entrance).
- **New Member Welcome:** Sunday, April 26, during worship. To RSVP or ask questions, contact Pastor Curt or the office.