

**Maundy Thursday – April 17, 2025**

**Everything [in] between**

**Power & Humility**



**Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church**



## Welcome to our Service

**Our mission at Mount Tabor** is to be “an inclusive, compassionate faith community living God’s love in the world.” Mount Tabor is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation of the ELCA. This means that all are welcome and affirmed, especially our LGBTQ+ siblings, and that we are connected to the world. We all have a place here at God’s round table just as we are!

**If this is your first time here, a special welcome to you!** We are mask optional and mask friendly. Please sign the guest register in the narthex (along with your e-mail and cell) so we can be in touch, put on a name tag and join us for refreshments after the service.

**Holy Communion is open to all.** Children of all ages are invited to receive communion with their parents’ or guardians’ permission. Come when you are ready. Gluten-free bread is available. If you would like a blessing, come to the altar with your arms folded.

**Children are welcome** at all times in the sanctuary. We are blessed to be part of their faith formation through worship!

**Please turn off cell phones** in the sanctuary before worship begins.

**You may add names to the prayer list** by sending a request to Brenda Wardle ([office@mttaborslc.org](mailto:office@mttaborslc.org)), or Pastor Christine ([pastor@mttaborslc.org](mailto:pastor@mttaborslc.org)). Names added to the prayer list will remain there for one month. You may request that they stay on longer or come off sooner by contacting the same people.

**Visit our web site** at [www.mttaborslc.org](http://www.mttaborslc.org)

## MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 17, 2025

### Greeting & Preparation for Worship

As people arrive and settle into their places at the tables, quiet background music is played to set the tone for the space.

Everyone who answered Jesus' call to follow him found their lives upended. Leaving their livelihoods behind, they leaned into an upside-down way of thinking, one that centers impoverished and oppressed people in place of the rich and powerful.

On the fateful night when Jesus gathered his closest friends for one last meal, the disciples' lives were upended once again. Jesus invited them into a liminal space, a threshold between his life of teaching with them at his side, and the approaching reality of his arrest and death. In this space, they were called to reimagine supposed opposites: power and weakness, fear and hope, innocence and guilt, life and death.

We too will linger in in-between spaces and challenge dualistic thinking. Just as the disciples did, we will share a meal, talk together, and sing. Or you can simply listen if you choose, allowing the music to wash over and into you.

Tonight, and tomorrow night, we will be following Jesus from the Table to the Garden of Gethsemane and all the way to the cross, we will also read between the lines of scripture to imagine parts of the story through the eyes of figures who are often overlooked. After all, Jesus spent most of his time with the people who slip through cracks in society.

Come, let us join Jesus in his final days.

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as the People of God.*

### **\*Call to Worship**

We have come to worship the Trinity,  
**One God, three persons,  
beyond our understanding  
yet constantly revealing themselves to us.**

We have come to worship an infinite being  
**who took on finite flesh:  
fully human and fully divine—**  
a being who is love itself,  
**yet loathes injustice;**  
who is almighty,  
**yet let go of power  
to be in solidarity with outcasts and criminals.**

We gather to worship the living God  
**who died.**

### **\*Call to Confession**

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.

## Prayer of Confession

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.**

## Words of Forgiveness

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us

**even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.**

**By grace we 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.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Song

## Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken ACS 966



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



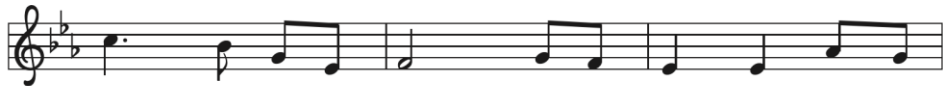
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

## 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**

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.**

## **THE WORD**

*God Speaks to Us in Scripture Reading, Preaching and Song*

### **First Reading**

Luke 22:7-13

<sup>7</sup> Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup> They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" <sup>10</sup> "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters <sup>11</sup> and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ' <sup>12</sup> He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." <sup>13</sup> So they went and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

## **MEAL**

*God Feeds Us with the Presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **Invitation to Christ's Table**

The Last Supper shows us who is welcome at Christ's table:  
People who sometimes trust, and sometimes question,  
who are sometimes fearful, sometimes bold.  
Liars and backsliders, doubters and deniers,

and those who still struggle to get free of what the world calls power,  
but commit to revolution anyway.  
Impulsive people. Imperfect people.  
People who mess up over and over—but try again, and again, and again.  
In short: each and every one of us.  
So let no one ever tell you that you are not welcome here:  
Jesus wants you at his table, exactly as you are.

### **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving / A Litany of [in] Between**

Here in this place, we join Jesus in the sacred space between  
his last supper and his last breath.  
We'll stick with him through his suffering  
just as God is present in our own liminal moments,  
sharing our pain, feeling all we feel with us...  
... on that night many years ago.  
**Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

We pray together as the body of Christ:  
**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed 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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

### **Instructions for sharing the feast around tables.**

The Last Supper was an intimate gathering of close friends, where anxiety for the future blended with conversation and song. Our Communion feast tonight will hold these elements too.

We invite you to serve each other, passing the elements from person to person around the table. One person at your table can begin by taking the bread and cup and turning to the person on their right, saying a blessing such as, “The bread of life; the cup of salvation.” That person will take and eat one piece of bread and one of the communion cups. Then, they will take the bread and cup/s and serve the person to their right until everyone has been fed.

## Communion Song

## Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup

#492



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - dant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



*Refrain*

in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!  
God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.  
Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.  
Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

## Prayer After Communion

As Jesus nourishes us with his very body,  
we become the Body of Christ.  
May this feast fuel us for the work of joining others  
in their in-betweens.

**Amen.**

## Continuing the Feast

Friends, this is a joyful feast...we will invite you to discuss it at your tables.

### Second Reading

Luke 22:24-27

<sup>24</sup> A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. <sup>25</sup> But he said to them, "The kings of the gentiles lord it over them, and those in authority over them are ..called benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But not so with you; rather, the greatest among you must become like the youngest and the leader like one who serves. <sup>27</sup> For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

### After reading the scripture:

We will now discuss this passage together. You will find the text as well as discussion questions in your bulletins. When you hear the ringing of a bell, please bring your conversations to a close and we will continue our worship, leaving the upper room to follow Jesus toward the cross.

### Group Conversation

The recommended discussion length is 5-10 minutes. Invite worshipers to choose a prompt to discuss at their tables.

1. How do you think Jesus would define power?
2. What does it mean for the greatest to become the least, and for the leader to be like a servant?
3. How can our faith community, or the whole Church, lean into Jesus' servant model of leadership?
4. Have there been times when you felt you had to be the greatest, the holiest, the most pious— or that you were not holy enough or good enough? How do you work through those feelings?

Reader A rings a bell three times to signal the end of the conversation time.

## SENDING

*God Blesses Us and Sends Us in Mission to the World.*

### Journeying to the Cross

After their meal, Jesus and his friends leave the haven of the upper room and make their way to the Mount of Olives. Once they arrive, Jesus will pray in deep anguish over what is about to happen, so much so that the scripture describes him as “sweating blood.” As we leave the Last Supper behind and follow Jesus ever closer to the cross, we will sing the words “stay with me.” We might imagine Jesus singing these words to his disciples, asking them to stay close by. These words are also a reminder to each of us to continue to stay present even as we enter the painful parts of Jesus’ final hours.

### Sending Song

Stay with Me 8 times

#348

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and pray. Watch and pray." The score consists of two systems. The first system covers the first line of the song, and the second system covers the second line. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

After the song, please depart in silence.

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<b>Maundy Thursday:</b>	<b>April 17, 2025</b>
<b>Reader A:</b>	Jenny Jensen
<b>Reader B:</b>	Mark Elstad
<b>Usher:</b>	Pierre Pearson
<b>Altar Ministry:</b>	Lanea Brown, Becki, Kaiser
<b>Music Director:</b>	Bob Brown
<b>Remote Office Assistant:</b>	Brenda Wardle
<b>AV Technicians:</b>	Duane Lee, Lee Kreutzer
<b>Presiding Minister:</b>	Rev. Christine Higuera-Street

## **Our Life Together Announcements**

**Good Friday Service** will be at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Easter Service** will be at 10:30 am on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Easter Brunch** Join us after worship on Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> for our Easter Brunch, hosted by the Council and Endowment & Memorials Committee. There will be a free will offering to benefit the Food Assistance and Emergency Assistance Ministry. There will be ham, quiches, fruit and more to enjoy. Bring your friends and family to church and stay afterwards for this delicious event.

**OAKS (Older Adults Knowing Strength)** bible study and luncheon. On Tuesday, **April 22nd** at noon. Note that it's being changed to the 3rd Tuesday of the month, since Holy week falls on the second week of the month.

**Senior Food Box Distribution** Our distribution of USDA food boxes to seniors in our neighborhood continues with our next distribution set for **Wednesday, April 23rd**. Boxes are available for those who meet eligibility guidelines and have signed up through the Utah Food Bank.

**Congregation Council** Is meeting in-person **April 27th** after worship.

**Rally and March on April 27 from 2-5 PM at the Utah State Capitol Building.** This is hosted by the Progressive Clergy Coalition of SLC.

**Worship & Music** meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 5th at 7pm via Zoom.**

**The Welcome Table** is the theme for the upcoming women of the ELCA UT Conference retreat. We will gather on April 26th, 2025 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Salt Lake City. Please join us for this gathering that will offer community building, fun, faith exploration, and prayer. We will also share a meal together. RSVP or ask questions by e-mailing Pastor DanaLee Simon who will be leading this retreat. Her e-mail is [sagehillwisdom@gmail.com](mailto:sagehillwisdom@gmail.com). The cost is \$25 and can be paid the day of the retreat. Scholarships are available.

**Pastor Christine is available** by text. Her contact information is 801-215-9208 or 619-459-8879. Emails can be sent to [pastor@mttaborslc.org](mailto:pastor@mttaborslc.org).