



# Eastside United Church Bread of Life Lutheran Threshold Collaboration



Regina, SK April 2 , 2026

*Pianist: Corinne Groff*

Ministry Leaders:

Russell Mitchell-Walker, Pastor Lynn Robertson,  
Roel Tolentino

---

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

If the words of worship do not fit your theology,  
or faith or language, please feel free to change them.

Please sit or stand as you are able.

Blessed be our time together.

### **Maundy Thursday Worship**

#### **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**

##### Introductions

For thousands of years Indigenous people have walked in this land, on their own country. Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives. As we gather together this day, we acknowledge that we are gathered in the traditional territory of the nêhiyawak (Cree), Nahkawē (Saulteaux), Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota First Nations and the homeland of the Michif/Metis Nation – in the area most recently defined as Treaty 4, and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. We acknowledge that 80% of those who are houseless are indigenous people and so we recognize this statement in itself is not reconciliation work. This stand-alone acknowledgment must be accompanied by multiple acts that continue to deepen our understanding of the connections between Indigenous peoples and the lands on which we are joined through the course of history and through Treaty signing.

You are welcome here. We celebrate diversity and honour difference as we welcome all, who represent God's goodness in the variations of ages, gender, ability, ethnicity, racial identity, sexual orientation, gender-identity, family configuration, beliefs, personality, appearances and economic circumstances. For Christ has made us whole and Christ has set us free. His daily grace enables us to live in harmony. Where-ever you are at on your journey, who-ever you are and however you wish to express yourself, you are welcome in this place. Let us worship God.

## **Introduction**

We gather this night to begin the first of the three days of one continuous service to mark three Holy days in our faith and in the journey of Jesus Christ to the Cross, tomb, and resurrection. We gather to remember, to listen, to reflect, to share this story and God's love together. As we move through this time together, you are invited to sing into your space for each of the hymns.

## **Call to Worship**

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ

The Thursday of Holy Week is here. On this night we remember the Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples in an upper room. It has special significance for us because it was on this night that Jesus instituted what we now call the Lord's Supper, saying: "Do this in remembrance of me."

As Paul wrote to the church in Corinth: (1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

For 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, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In 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.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We are still waiting, we are still remembering.

## **Prayer of Approach**

**Holy God, we come to worship**

**in the gathering shadows of Jesus' suffering and death.**

**We come with his friends,**

**the men and women who have followed him**

**in every place and generation,**

**to live once again this story of service and betrayal,**

**of weakness and courage.**

**We come to witness your love in action.**

**We give thanks that you are with us as we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **Question -**

Other Thursday nights are things like choir practice, meetings or program. Why is this Thursday called Maundy Thursday?

## **Response**

On this Thursday night, we remember how Jesus gathered with his disciples and closest followers and gave them a new commandment: Love one another. The Latin word for commandment is *mandatum*, from which we get Maundy Thursday

**Reading: John 13: 31b-35**

When he had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Humanity has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little 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.” I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

**Hymn: This Ancient Love (Long Before the Night) VU#282 vs 1, 2, 4, 5**

**Long before the night was born from darkness  
Long before the dawn, rolled unsteady from fire  
Long before she wrapped her scarlet arms around the hills  
There was love, this ancient love, was born**

**Long before the grass spotted green the bare hillside  
Long before a wing unfolded to wind  
Long before She wrapped her long blue arm around the sea  
there was a love, this ancient love was born.**

**Long before the name of a God was spoken  
Long before a cross was nailed from a tree  
Long before She laid her arm of colors ‘cross the sky  
there was a love, this ancient love was born.**

**Wakeful our night, Slumbers our morning  
Stubborn the grass sowing green wounded hills  
As we wrap our healing arms to hold what her arms held  
this ancient love, this aching love rolls on.**

**Question -**

At other times, we talk about washing our hands. Why tonight do we talk about washing feet?

**Response**

On this Thursday night, we remember that Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, showing that the master must be a servant and hospitality must be shown by all to all.

**Reading: John 13: 1-17**

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus 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.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

After 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? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.'

### **Act of Footwashing (Handwashing)**

*While we sing the the hymn those who wish may come forward to have their feet or hands washed. Presiders will wash each others' feet at the end.*

### **Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love VU#593 vs 1-3**

Refrain:

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.**

**Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
Silently washes their feet,  
Master who pours out himself for them. [Refrain]**

**Neighbors are rich and poor,  
Neighbors are black and white,  
Neighbors are near and far away. [Refrain]**

**These are the ones we should serve,  
These are the ones we should love.  
All are neighbors to us and you. [Refrain]**

## **Bitter was the Night VU# 132 – music only**

### **Question -**

On other Thursday nights, we gather around our supper tables at home. Why on this Thursday night do we usually gather around the communion table?

### **Response**

On this Thursday night, we remember how Jesus and his disciples gathered in an upper room to share a last meal together. We remember what was said. We remember what was done.

### **Reading: Luke 22: 14-23**

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!' Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

### **Sacrament of Communion**

God is with us.

**And we are with God!**

Let us open our hearts to God.

**We open them to God and to one another.**

Let us give thanks to God.

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

[Child: Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?

Presider: We give thanks because God is always with us.]

We thank you, God, Creator of us all;

from the beginning you made the world and all its creatures.

You made people to live for you and for one another.

We praise you, O God.

**We praise you, O God.**

You created Adam and Eve and gave them a garden;  
you showed Noah a rainbow;  
you gave Moses strength to free your people  
and taught Miriam to sing;  
you gave courage to Esther  
and loyalty to Ruth;  
you gave David a harp to sing your praise,  
and helped him defeat the giant.  
We praise you, O God.  
**We praise you, O God.**

Yet, even they turned away from you  
and forgot about you, as we do too.  
But you did not forget.

You sent Jesus to the world  
to show how much you love us  
and to bring us back to you again.  
We praise you, O God.  
**We praise you, O God.**

He came as one of us,  
first an infant, then a child,  
later a youth, then an adult.  
He rejoiced with those who rejoiced,  
and wept with those who wept.  
To the despairing, he spoke a word of hope.  
To the sick, he gave healing.  
To the hurting, he was a friend.

Still, people turned away from you.  
Even his closest disciples turned away from you  
and abandoned Jesus when hope seemed lost.  
The people and systems betrayed Jesus and nailed him to a cross.  
But he was lifted from the grave and restored to life,  
that he might be with us and we with him,  
alive for evermore!  
Therefore with all the saints of every time and place,  
we join the angels in their praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Child: Why do we eat bread at this table?

We gather at this table to remember that  
on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his friends,  
he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it,  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
“Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Each time you do this, remember me.”

Child: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

That same night, Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks,  
passed it to his friends, saying:  
“Drink. This cup, poured out for you,  
is the promise of God.  
Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

Child: What do we remember at this table?

We remember Jesus’ death and celebrate his resurrection;  
we await with hope his coming again  
to bring peace and justice to the earth;  
and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here,  
that we and these gifts, touched by your Spirit,  
may be signs of life and love to one another,  
and to the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, God most holy,

now and forever.

## **Fraction**

## **Invitation**

## **Sharing the Elements**

### **Communion Hymns:**

**Eat this Bread VU#471**

**Jesus Remember me VU#148**

### **Question -**

At other services we leave our sanctuary as it was when we gathered. Why on this Thursday do we take away all the colours, and ornamentation?

### **Response**

On this Thursday night, we remember how Jesus Prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane as his disciples fell asleep and ‘abandoned’ him. We strip our sanctuary as a reminder of how Jesus was left bereft.

### **Reading: Luke 22: 39-46**

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, ‘Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’ Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.’ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, ‘Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’

### **Hymn: Go to Dark Gethsemane VU#133**

**Go to dark Gethsemane,  
you that feel the tempter's power;  
your Redeemer's conflict see,  
watch with him one bitter hour;  
turn not from his griefs away:  
learn from him to watch and pray.**

**See him at the judgment hall,  
beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned;**

**see him meekly bearing all;  
love to all his soul sustained.  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;  
learn from Christ to bear the cross.**

**Calvary's mournful mountain view;  
there the Lord of glory see,  
made a sacrifice for you,  
dying on the accursed tree.  
"It is finished," hear him cry:  
trust in Christ and learn to die.**

### **Question -**

At other services, we leave our sanctuary chatting with our friends and neighbours. Why on this Thursday do we leave in silence with no benediction?

### **Response**

On this Thursday night, we remember how Jesus was arrested as his disciples abandoned him. This service is not over, any more than Jesus' trials were over. We leave in silence, as the disciples crept away in silence and kept silence. And our worship is not over, it continues tomorrow and then, until we are together again on Sunday morning.

### **Reading: Luke 22: 47-54a**

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, 'Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?' When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, 'Lord, should we strike with the sword?' Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, 'No more of this!' And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!' Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house.

### **The Stripping of the Sanctuary**

*All ornamentation in the chancel are removed as the Psalm is read  
Stay as long as you wish and leave in silence when you are ready*

### **Psalm reading 22**

### **Reader 1**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.  
To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm, and not human;  
scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
All who see me mock at me;  
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
'Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!'

## **Reader 2**

Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.  
On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.

Many bulls encircle me,  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax;  
it is melted within my breast;  
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.

## **Reader 1**

For dogs are all around me;  
a company of evildoers encircles me.  
My hands and feet have shrivelled;  
I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me;  
they divide my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.

But you, O Lord, do not be far away!  
O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!  
Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
You who fear the Lord, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
For 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.

## **Reader 2**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live for ever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.  
For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations.

To 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.  
Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the Lord,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.

### **Departure in Silence**