

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Maundy Thursday*  
*April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015*

## Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

This evening we celebrate and remember what happened 2,000 years ago, in an upper room in Jerusalem, as Jesus and his disciples made preparations to celebrate the Passover on the night when he was betrayed.

Having angered the authorities in Jerusalem and after predicting his death three times to his disciples, Jesus knows that the hour is near for the Son of Man to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. But he does nothing to stop Judas. He takes no steps to get to safety by getting out of Jerusalem. He lets events unfold that he knows will lead to his death. But why?

As the words of the Gospel of Mark are read, pay careful attention to what Jesus says after speaking what we call the “words of institution.” And listen again to what Jesus says after he and the remaining disciples go out to the Mount of Olives. Listen and you will hear why it was not necessary for Jesus to restrain Judas, leave Jerusalem under the cover of darkness, or try in any other way to stop the events that he knew would lead to his death from unfolding.

I hope that, as we explore the text from Mark 14, you will see Maundy Thursday doesn't make sense without the resurrection of Jesus. More than pointing forward to his death, Maundy Thursday looks forward to Christ's resurrection—when he would again drink the fruit of the vine with his disciples, when he would go ahead of them back to Galilee, and when his victory over sin and death would be revealed to the whole world.

God bless your time in worship this evening!

-Pastor Duncan McLellan

**Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor**  
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# The Service of the Word

## *The Prelude*

## *Introduction to Worship and Announcements*

(please stand)

**Opening Hymn:** *When You Woke That Thursday Morning* 445

## *The Invocation*

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## *Confession and Absolution*

**Pastor:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**Pastor:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

**Pastor:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## ***The Prayer of the Church***

**Pastor:** ...Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

## ***The Scripture Lesson***

### **Mark 14:1-31**

It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, for they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people."

And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into

the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And they all said the same.

***The Sermon Hymn: Jesus, Greatest at the Table***

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***The Sermon***

## ***The Nicene Creed***

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

## ***The Offering***

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

## ***The Words of Institution***

## ***The Sharing of the Peace***

## ***The Distribution***

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.

- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord's Supper, but that the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation.
- We believe the Lord's Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord's Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."

The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.

### ***Communion Hymns:***

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* 686

*There Is a Balm in Gilead* 749

*Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness* 636

### ***Benediction***

**Pastor:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People:** **Amen!**

### ***The Stripping of the Altar***

Psalm 22

*The Congregation waits for the Altar to be stripped, then leaves in silence.*

### **† Service Participants †**

The Officiant:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	Bill Bishop and David Hutula
The Acolyte	Carley Rockovich
The Ushers:	TBD
Altar Guild: Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich and Carolyn Wible	

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** is tomorrow at 7:00. We will be celebrating a Tenebrae service as we contemplate the death of our Savior Jesus.