

# Maundy Thursday



**Worship Live at 6:00 PM on website  
Flickenyon.org  
And later website and our Facebook  
First Evangelical Lutheran – Kenyon MN**

“Maundy” means commandment  
Jesus broke bread,  
washed the disciples’ feet  
and hinted at his coming crucifixion and betrayal.

## **Preparation – Bake Bread or have a loaf of bread ready.**

On Maundy Thursday we remember Jesus’ last meal by sharing Communion as a community. In this season, since we are not able to celebrate with Holy Communion, we invite you to do the next best thing: **prepare a loaf of bread at home. The options are endless:** Have a sourdough starter? Make sourdough! Missing yeast? Make muffins or scones! Have a sweet tooth? Make cookies! Don’t want to go shopping? Use whatever ingredients you have! It doesn’t have to be perfect. God will show up anyway. The point of this exercise is to be in the kitchen, to put your hands to work, and to allow your preparation process to be a prayer.

## **BLESSING | A Prayer to Bless the Bread Before putting your bread or baked good into the oven, say this prayer:**

Holy God, Your last meal was an ordinary meal— Simple bread and juice, nothing fancy; And yet, it was holy. It was holy because all were welcomed at your table— Even the one who would betray you. So today we prepare our own bread as a form of prayer. And in our kneading and mixing, In our measuring and waiting, In our recipe-card-reading and taste-testing, We remember you. As these ingredients mix, May our hearts mix with yours. And as this bread rises, May our awareness of you rise. And as this bread is shared, May your love be shared. With hope and gratitude we pray,  
Amen.

**Candle to light.**

**Wash your hands.**

**Gather at the Dinner Table if possible.**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Prayers for Seth Aldorfer, Oliver Bauer and Luke Cordes tonight would have been their first communion. They will receive their first communion when we gather again in the church.

## Chime and Candle Lighting with Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, God who meets us at every table.

### POEM | "Bread" by Sarah Are

*Read the following poem as a centering prayer.*

*Circle words that stand out to you. Pay attention to what visuals come to mind.*

"After he had washed their feet . . . [Jesus] returned to the table." (John 13:12)

Jesus returned to the table, that simple common space,  
Moving from water and undeserved grace  
To bread that nourishes and sustains our place—  
Two simple elements, no time to waste.  
I should have known there would be water,  
But of course there would be bread.  
From the start of creation, God has tried to keep us fed—  
Fed on bread and roses and love we don't notice.  
I should have known there would be water,  
But of course there would be bread.  
I should have known there would be space  
At the table for grace—  
Space for nerves, and questions, and absent confessions;  
Space for me and Elijah and Judas, without question.  
I should have known there would be space,  
But of course there would be bread—  
For it started with manna, and all must be fed.  
"This is my body, broken for you.  
For you, five thousand;  
For you, Israelite nation;  
For you, child of the covenant;  
Judas and Peter,  
This is my body broken for you."  
That simple phrase, paired with the food of the day,  
Makes me human again—nourishes weak spots within.  
It lifts me up and draws me back in—  
Breathing life into bones that were weary and thin.  
For it's easy to be so hungry for God  
That God must appear in the shape of a meal,  
Countering frailty, allowing me to heal.  
So maybe that's why I come back to this space,

Because I know God will be here, offering grace.  
And I need that bread in order to feel—  
In order to see the kingdom revealed.  
I should have known there would be water,  
But of course there would be bread—  
For I am hungry, and all must be fed.

### **Reading: Luke 22:7-23**

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, 'Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.' They asked him, 'Where do you want us to make preparations for it?' '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 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?"' He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.' So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

#### **The Institution of the Lord's Supper**

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.

### **Reflection by Pastor Julie    Call in number 952-994-1201**

**REFLECT** | The Bread/Meal is Served once your bread or baked goods are prepared, gather around the table for a meal.

This meal is a reminder of the promises made to us in the sacrament of Communion—that all belong to God, that God’s love is stronger than death, and that one day, all will be fed. During your meal, reflect on the following.

1) Reflect back to past meals and moments around table. What meals have been memorable? What gatherings made you feel welcomed? Have you ever had a memorable Communion experience? What made it memorable?

2) How does it make you feel to know that Jesus fed and shared a meal with all of his disciples, even Judas who would soon betray him? What does that teach us about God?

3) Jesus gives thanks for the bread before breaking it. What things do you give thanks for in your life? Make a quick mental list of 5-10 things you often forget to thank God for. Jot them down or share them with those gathered at the table.

4) Food is a common love language. Think back to a time when someone offered or prepared food for you as a sign of love. Do you think that Jesus was trying to express his love for his disciples in this last meal? How does that layer add to the story?

### **Prayer of Peace**

Thank you, God, for uniting us with Jesus in this holy mystery.

We are no longer our own, but yours.

So send us to lead and serve,

loving as you have loved us

wherever we go. Amen.

**Pastor:** This is the night of love.

Go forth in the strength of this meal, in the care of this community, and with the love and blessing of Jesus. Amen.

God meets us at every table and every meal is a reminder of communion.

This liturgy was created during Lent 2020, in the midst of the global pandemic caused by COVID-19. [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)