



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA  
CLOISTERED HOLY WEEK @  
HOME**

**April 10, 2020**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

*Remove your shoes in preparation for foot-washing. Fill up a bowl with water and locate the towels.*

**GATHERING**

**PRAYER**

*Pray aloud the following prayer or another with similar words:*

**Gracious God, you have gathered me and all your people this night to experience your love through the holy scriptures. May the stories come alive through sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell. Grant that I may find myself caught up in your word of hope and grace. In Jesus name, Amen.**

**FOOTWASHING**

**GOSPEL READING**

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

*Open your Bible to the gospel of John, chapter 13 and read aloud.*

*Conclude the gospel with these words:*

**Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God!**

**FOOTWASHING**

*Prepare the bowl of water and towel, if not already prepared. Read the following words*

**On this night, I have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. All who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.**

*Begin the footwashing ritual by washing your feet or hands and drying them with a towel.*

*Conclude the footwashing ritual with this prayer or similar words.*

**I give you thanks, O Christ, for the gift of your presence in this place and in every home this night. In you we are loved, and through you we love one another. I ask that you to bless all your people the gifts of humility and compassion now and always. In your name I pray, Amen.**

## BREAD BAKING

*Transition to your kitchen, and prepare the ingredients and supplies for baking bread. Recipe and instructions found under the "Supply List" on the last page of this document.*

### SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*The reading may be announced: A reading from 1 Corinthians.*

*The reading may be concluded: Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.*

### BREAD BAKING

*Prepare the bread dough. Once the bread dough has been prepared, open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 11:23-36, and read it aloud. After the Scripture reading, put dough into the oven and remember to set a timer!*

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*This experience concludes with the stripping of the altar. If you have created an altar space in your home, sit or kneel next to it. Open your Bible to Psalm 22, and read it aloud. As you read, you may dismantle your home altar. You may also view the photos of Grace's altar. Photos depict the stages of the stripping of the altar. Dim all the lights in your home. If there is a visible cross, it may be veiled with a dark colored fabric. After dimming the lights in your home, sit or near next to your dismantled altar space and observe silence.*

### SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 22

### STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

## GOOD FRIDAY

*Remain in silence, and located your tapered or stick candle. Light your candle using matches or a lighter.*

### PRAYER

*Please stand and pray using the following prayer or similar words.*

**Gracious God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### Gospel Reading

John 18:1—19:42

*Announce the gospel with these words:*

**The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.**

*Play the audio recording of John 18:1-19:42.*

*After listening to the passion account, you may be seated and extinguish your candle. Place your extinguished candle in a holder or bowl of sand. Remain seated in darkness.*

*Play the audio recording of “Were You There” ELW #353*

*After a brief silence, continue aloud with these words*

**I adore you, O Christ, and I bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*Remain in silence for a few minutes.*

## **RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

### *Vigil of Easter*

*The experience begins in darkness and silence. Using matches or a lighter, light the tapered candle to represent new fire, and place in holder or bowl of sand. If you have more candles in your home, you may collect them, but leave them unlit.*

### **GATHER**

*The following words introduce the Vigil of Easter. Read aloud the following words:*

**On this most holy night, when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, Christians gather with the church throughout our community and the world in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus Christ, experienced in three acts. Act One celebrates fire and light. Act Two recounts stories of God’s faithfulness to God’s promises of life and salvation throughout Scripture. Act Three invites us to affirm the promises God makes to us in the waters of Holy Baptism.**

### **ACT I**

#### *Fire and Light*

### **PRAYER**

*If you have more than one candle in your home, light them during the prayer. Pray using these or similar words:*

**Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new light, and increase in me a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ’s rising, until the whole of your people feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **EASTER PROCLAMATION**

*Play the audio recording of the sung Easter Proclamation. You may sing along with the parts that have been bolded.*

Rejoice, now, all heav’ly powers! Sing choirs of angels! Exult all creation around God’s throne!

Jesus Christ is risen! **Jesus Christ is risen!**

Celebrate with exultation; and sound the trumpet of salvation. Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your king!

Jesus Christ is risen! **Jesus Christ is risen!**

Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever.

Rejoice, O holy church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you!

Jesus Christ is risen! **Jesus Christ is risen!**

Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that with heart and mind and voice. We should praise God, and the Son, Jesus Christ, who redeemed us from bondage to freedom, for this is the night, **This is the night.**

This is the night, **this is the night.**

This is the night you led the children of Israel out of slav'ry to freedom. On this night all believers are renewed in grace, and restored again to holiness. Oh this is the night, **This is the night.**

This is the night, **This is the night.**

This is the night when Christ burst the chains of death, rising to life in triumph, Oh this is the night, **This is the night.**

This is the night, **This is the night.**

Night clear as day, putting wickedness to flight, washing sin away, restoring innocence to the fallen, joy to those who mourn, casting out hate, bringing peace and humbling pride.

Therefore, in this night of grace, receive, O God, our praise and thanksgiving for the light of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, reflected in the burning of this candle.

Oh this is the night. **This is the night.**

We sing the glories of this pillar of fire, the brightness of which is not diminished even when its light is divided and borrowed. For it is fed by the melting wax that the bees, your servants, have made for the substance of this candle. Oh this is the night, **This is the night.**

We therefore, pray to you, O God, that this candle, burning to the honor of your name, will continue to vanquish the darkness of night and be mingled with the lights of heaven.

May Christ the Morning Star find it burning, that Morning Star who never sets, that Morning Star who, rising from the grave faithfully sheds light on the whole human race, Oh this is the night. **This is the night.**

This is the night, **This is the night.**

And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve with your continual protection your whole church, giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing; through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. **Amen.**

Amen. **Amen.**

## ACT II

### *The Bible's Greatest Hits*

#### SCRIPTURE

*Play the video recording of "The Bible's Greatest Hits" on their computer or television.*

**First Reading** Genesis 1:1—2:4a. *Creation*

**Second Reading** Genesis 7:1-5,11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 *Flood*

**Third Reading** Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 *Deliverance at the Red Sea*

**Fourth Reading** Isaiah 55:1-11 *Salvation freely offered to all*

**Fifth Reading** Ezekiel 37:1-14 *Valley of the dry bones*

**Sixth Reading** Jonah 1:1-2:1 *The deliverance of Jonah*

**Seventh Reading** Daniel 3:1-29 *Deliverance from the fiery furnace*

#### PRAYER

*After the conclusion of the "The Bible's Greatest Hits" video, pray aloud following responsive prayer.*

**Almighty and eternal God, the only hope of the world, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. By the grace of your Spirit, sustain and comfort me through these words. Increase the devotion of all your people, that, strengthened by your presence, we may withstand hardship and sorrow and be united with you and one another. In and through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Turn on all the lights in your home, and play the audio "alleluia" recording. You are welcome to sing along.*

#### GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

*Locate your Bible and open it to John 20:1-18. Read the Gospel story aloud*

*The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:*

**Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God!**

*Continue with these words:*

**Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

#### Act III

##### *Affirmation of Baptism*

*Prepare a fresh bowl of water and set it close to you. Continue with the affirmation of baptism.*

I give thanks for the gift of baptism as I come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

#### PRAYER

*Pray using these or similar words:*

**Gracious God, I thank you that you have made me your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called me to yourself, enlightened me with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished me in the community of faith. Uphold me and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. I ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Stand and profess your faith aloud.*

**Before the presence of Holy Spirit, I profess my faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.**

**I renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God.**

**I renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God.**

**I renounce the ways of sin that draw me from God.**

*Recite aloud the words of the Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the death. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Continue aloud with the Affirmation*

**Having made profession of my faith before God, with the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit, I intend to continue in the covenant God made with me in holy baptism:**

**To live among God's faithful people,**

**to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,**

**to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth**

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**to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.**

*Continue with prayer*

**I give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse me from sin, and raise me to eternal life. Stir up in me and all your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.**

*At this time, you may dip your fingers into the bowl of water and remember your baptism by making the sign of the cross either upon your forehead or across your body. If using anointing oil, you may anoint yourself with the oil and remind yourself that you are a beloved child of God.*

## SENDING

### SHARING THE PEACE

**The peace of Christ be with all gathered this night.** *Please share a sign of God's peace either through a phone call, email or text message.*

### PRAYER

*Conclude with this prayer or with similar words:*

God of steadfastness and encouragement, thank you for your presence with me this night around these sacred stories. Grant that I may live in harmony with one another, filled with hope, joy and expectation. Now, nourished by your word, send me out into the world as bringers of your peace. **Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

**Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Thanks be to God.**

*At this time, you may partake in the bread you have baked and toast with either champagne and/or non-alcoholic beverages. Be sure to wash hands at the conclusion of Holy Week at Home*

# HOLY WEEK @ HOME

## *Supply List and Set Up Instructions*

### **Maundy Thursday**

- Bibles
- Large Bowl
- Towels (5-8, depending on size)
- Bread Ingredients and Supplies (recipe found below)
- Home altar supplies
- Cross and dark colored fabric
- Photos of Grace's Altar (provided by Grace Lutheran Church)

### **Bread Recipe**

2 cups whole wheat flour

1 cup white flour

1 ¼ teaspoons baking powder

1 ¼ teaspoons salt

1 Tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon oil

¾ cup hot water, plus 2 Tablespoons hot water

3 Tablespoons honey

3 Tablespoons molasses

Mix dry ingredients together. Cut in oil.

Combine water, honey and molasses; add to dry ingredients. Mix well. Dough will be a bit sticky.

Divide dough into four equal parts and roll each into a ball.

On a floured surface, roll each ball with a floured rolling pin, turning periodically and rolling into a ¼ inch thick circle.

Score/mark top of each circle with a knife into fourths (do not cut through the dough—just score the dough). If you wish, you can mark each quarter with a cross or some other design.

Bake at 350 degrees for 15-18 minutes. ( You may remove the bread from the oven after 10 minutes and brush with oil for a uniform look.

Recipe makes 4 half-pound loaves.

### **Good Friday**

- Tapered candles
- Large bowl filled with sand for candles
- Matches or lighter

- Computer, smart device or some other electronic means of accessing the recorded audio files (audio recordings provided by Grace Lutheran Church). *Be sure to test the volume and audio connection before hosting Holy Week at Home to audio functions.*

### **Easter Vigil**

- Large white candle
- Tapered candles (one per person; previously used for the Good Friday)
- Large bowl filled with sand for candles
- Matches or lighter
- Computer, smart device or some other electronic means of accessing the recorded audio files and recorded video file. (audio and video recordings provided by Grace Lutheran Church. *Be sure to test the volume and connection of all recordings before hosting Holy Week at Home to confirm the audio and visual function.*
- Large bowl filled with water
- Anointing oil (olive oil works well) applied to a cotton ball
- Champagne or other non-alcoholic beverages
- Cups for beverages

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR HOSTS**

- Read through the leader guide prior to hosting.
- Pre-set the bowls with water and sand, candles and other supplies as applicable
- Mark Bible passages and invite others to read, when applicable.
- Test all recordings to ensure they will work.