



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

**April 10, 2020**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

*Host welcomes each person into to Holy Week @ Home, and invites them to remove their shoes in preparation for foot-washing. Encourage all participants to wash hands before beginning.*

**GATHERING**

*The host gathers the people into one central area of their home. and leads the assembly in prayer.*

**PRAYER**

*The host leads the gathered people in prayer*

Gracious God, you have gathered us in this place to experience your love through the holy scriptures. May the stories we gather around this night come alive through sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell. Grant that we may find ourselves caught up in your word of hope and grace. In Jesus name, **Amen.**

**FOOTWASHING**

**GOSPEL READING**

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to John the 13th Chapter, **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:*

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**FOOTWASHING**

*The gathered people are seated in a circle. The host sets out the bowl of water and towels. The host may introduce the footwashing with these or similar words.*

On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We 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.

*The host begins the footwashing ritual by washing one person's feet and drying them with a towel. The person whose feet have been washed, washes the feet of the person seated to their left until all people have been washed .*

*The host concludes the footwashing with this prayer or similar words.*

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

## **BREAD BAKING**

*The host and gathered people are invited to gather in the kitchen. to bake bread together following the recipe on the supply list document. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 is read by one of the gathered peoples.*

### **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.

*The gathered people respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

## **BREAD BAKING**

*The host and gather people bake bread together following the recipe on the supply list document. Remember to set a timer!*

## **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*This experience concludes with the stripping of the altar. The gathered community sits or kneels as the host dismantles the altar they have created in their home. Psalm 22 is read while photos of Grace's altar may be distributed around the circle for viewing. Photos depict the stages of the stripping of the altar. Lights may be dimmed as the photos are circulated. If there is a visible cross, it may be veiled with a dark colored fabric. The gathered people remain seated and observe silence.*

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 22

### **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

*All remain in silence as the host distributes tapered candles. The host lights their candle, and uses their flame to illuminate the candles of the person seated next to them until all candles are lit.*

## **PRAYER**

*The host stands and begins with prayer. The gathered people stand when the host stands.*

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

*The gospel is announced.*

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*The gathered people may be seated. The host plays the audio recording of the passion account.*

*After the reading of the passion account, all the candles may be extinguished so that the gathered community is seated in darkness. Each candle is placed in the bowl of sand in the center of the gathered community.*

*The host plays the audio recording of “Were You There” ELW #353*

*After a brief silence, the host continues.*

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

*The gathered community observes silence for a few minutes.*

## **RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

### ***Vigil of Easter***

*The experience begins in darkness and silence. The host lights the large candle to represent new fire, and re-distributes the unlit candles from the center bowl to each person.*

### **GATHER**

*The host introduces and welcomes the gathered people to the vigil, using these or similar words.*

Siblings in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we 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**

*The host lights the candles of the people seated to their left until all candles are lit. The host leads the gathered people in prayer.*

Let us pray:

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

### **EASTER PROCLAMATION**

*The host plays the audio recording of the sung Easter Proclamation. All are invited to sign the bolded words.*

Rejoice, now, all heavenly 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 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 slavery 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

*Host plays the video recording of "The Bible's Greatest Hits" on their computer, smart device 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, the host leads the gathered community in the following responsive prayer.*

Let us pray.

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 us 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

*The host turns on all the lights in their home, the candles of all the gathered people are lit from the center candle, bells are rung and the "alleluia" audio recording is played. The gathered people are welcome to sing along.*

#### GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to John the 20th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:*

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The host continues:*

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

## Act III

### *Affirmation of Baptism*

*A bowl of fresh water is placed in the center of the gathered people, and all are invited to make public affirmation of their baptism. The host leads the affirmation:*

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

## PRAYER

*The host leads the gathered people in prayer.*

Let us pray:

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

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The host addresses those making affirmation of baptism. The gathered community is invited to stand and join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response: I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response: I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response: I renounce them.*

*The host addresses the gathered people.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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 judge the living and the dead. Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?**

**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.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## AFFIRMATION BY THE ASSEMBLY

*The host continues:*

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you 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?

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?

*The gathered people respond:*

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The host addresses the gathered people.*

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*The host prays for God's blessing.*

Let us pray:

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in 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.**

*The host invites the gathered people to dip their fingers into the bowl of water and remember their baptism by making the sign of the cross either upon their forehead or across their body. If using anointing oil, the gathered members may anoint one another with the oil and remind one another that each person is a beloved child of God.*

## SENDING

### SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** *The gathered community is encouraged to share signs of peace with one another that respects physical distancing.*

### PRAYER

*The host leads the gathered people in a final prayer using these or similar words.*

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

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

*The host and gathered community may share time in fellowship by eating the baked bread and toasting with either champagne and/or non-alcoholic beverages. The community may depart, as they feel led. 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.