

**Order of Worship**  
**Maundy Thursday**  
**April 17, 2025**

Video

Prelude	Amazing Grace	Layne Thompson
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Greeting		Pastor Robert
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The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

People: *Christ has prepared a feast of love.*

Call to Worship	Be Still, My Soul (Hymnal #534)	Chancel Choir
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Confession and Pardon for the People of God		Pastor Robert
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**Leader:** My sisters and brothers, Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.  
*(Time for a brief silence for individual confession.)*

**People:** Most merciful God, we your church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us we pray; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Leader:** Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us and continues to intercede for us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People:** In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Hymn of Faith	Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty (Hymnal #64, vs 1 & 3)	Congregation / Chancel Choir
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Word of Wisdom	Exodus 12:1-16	Doug Hammond
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Psalter Reading	Psalm 98:1-9	Shawn Boykin
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Anthem of Hope	He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word	Chancel Choir
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Word of God	John 14: 1-4; 6-7; 12-17; John 15: 9-17	Deb Reeves
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Passover Homily	"Last Will & Testament of Jesus the Christ"	Pastor Tim
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Passover Celebration	John 13:1-17; 31-35	Jim Vaughn
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Sacrament of Holy Communion	Give Me Jesus/Lift Every Voice & Sing	Chancel Choir
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Stripping of the Altar / Benediction

## **Words of Wisdom - Exodus 12:1-16**

The book of Exodus is the record of Israel's birth as a nation. Within the protective "womb" of Egypt, the Jewish family of seventy rapidly multiplies. At the right time, accompanied with severe "birth pains", an infant nation, numbering between two and three million people, is brought into the world where it is divinely protected, fed, and nurtured.

Allow this story of the Israelites exodus from Egypt to give you hope that your promised land is only a short walk through a parted sea.

GOD said to Moses and Aaron while still in Egypt, "This month is to be the first month of the year for you. Address the whole community of Israel; tell them that on the tenth of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one lamb to a house. If the family is too small for a lamb, then share it with a close neighbor, depending on the number of persons involved. Be mindful of how much each person will eat. Your lamb must be a healthy male, one year old; you can select it from either the sheep or the goats. Keep it penned until the fourteenth day of this month and then slaughter it—the entire community of Israel will do this—at dusk. Then take some of the blood and smear it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which you will eat it. You are to eat the meat, roasted in the fire, that night, along with bread, made without yeast, and bitter herbs. Don't eat any of it raw or boiled in water; make sure it's roasted—the whole animal, head, legs, and innards. Don't leave any of it until morning; if there are leftovers, burn them in the fire.

"And here is how you are to eat it: Be fully dressed with your sandals on and your stick in your hand. Eat in a hurry; it's the Passover to GOD.

"I will go through the land of Egypt on this night and strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, whether human or animal, and bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am GOD. The blood will serve as a sign on the houses where you live. When I see the blood, I will pass over you—no disaster will touch you when I strike the land of Egypt.

"This will be a memorial day for you; you will celebrate it as a festival to GOD down through the generations, a fixed festival celebration to be observed always. You will eat unraised bread (matzoth) for seven days: On the first day get rid of all yeast from your houses—anyone who eats anything with yeast from the first day to the seventh day will be cut off from Israel. The first and the seventh days are set aside as holy; do no work on those days. Only what you have to do for meals; each person can do that.

May God bless our discernment to His Holy Scriptures.

**People: Praise be to God.**

## **Psalter Reading - Psalm 98:1-9**

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song,  
For the Lord has done marvelous things!  
God's right hand and holy arm  
Have gotten the victory.

People: **The Lord has declared victory,  
And has revealed his vindication in the sight of  
The nations.**

Leader: The Lord has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
To the house of Israel.

People: **All the ends of the earth have seen  
The victory of our God.**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
People: **Break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
With the lyre and the sound of melody!

People: **With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
Make a joyful noise before the Ruler, the Lord!**

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
The world and those who dwell in it!

People: **Let the floods clap their hands;  
Let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord,  
Who comes to judge the earth.  
The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,  
And the peoples with equity.**

## **Word of God - John 14:1-4; 6-7; 12-17; 15:9-17**

God is not silent. He has spoken, and He has done so in the Bible. Placed in the hands of many new employees is a employee manual. Included are the policies and procedures that govern the operations of the company, as well as the daily administration routines that are required of all employees.

The Bible is such a book, applicable to all men and women in every culture, in every age, in every walk of life. It is God's divine, supernatural manual which alone reveals the mind and ways of God so that humankind may know and experience His blessings for life on earth and hereafter.

The Bible's content will provide us with an advantage in every aspect of life - our family, business, and social relationships. It is profitable because it is God's inspired wisdom and provides us with life's final and ultimate authority. When we abide by its teachings, we will be blessed. As we meditate and consider its truth, our spirits and souls will be nourished. We will become established and enriched in every experience of life, for we will live according to God's perspective.

Allow this evening's scripture from the book of John to open your heart and mind and soul to God's divine peace that can be found when you "journey" through life with Jesus.

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going."

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!"

"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

"If you love me, obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

"I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have

loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. This is my command: Love each other.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Passover Celebration - John 13:1-17; 31-35

Just before the Passover Feast, Jesus knew that the time had come to leave this world to go to the Father. Having loved his dear companions, he continued to love them right to the end. It was suppertime. The Devil by now had Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, firmly in his grip, all set for the betrayal. Jesus knew that the Father had put him in complete charge of everything, that he came from God and was on his way back to God. So he got up from the supper table, set aside his robe, and put on an apron. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the disciples, drying them with his apron. When he got to Simon Peter, Peter said, “Master, *you wash my feet?*”

Jesus answered, “You don’t understand now what I’m doing, but it will be clear enough to you later.” Peter persisted, “You’re not going to wash my feet—ever!”

Jesus said, “If I don’t wash you, you can’t be part of what I’m doing.”

“Master!” said Peter. “Not only my feet, then. Wash my hands! Wash my head!”

Jesus said, “If you’ve had a bath in the morning, you only need your feet washed now and you’re clean from head to toe. My concern, you understand, is holiness, not hygiene. So now you’re clean. But not every one of you.” (He knew who was betraying him. That’s why he said, “Not every one of you.”) After he had finished washing their feet, he took his robe, put it back on, and went back to his place at the table. Then he said, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You address me as ‘Teacher’ and ‘Master,’ and rightly so. That is what I am. So if I, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you must now wash each other’s feet. I’ve laid down a pattern for you. What I’ve done, you do. I’m only pointing out the obvious. A servant is not ranked above his master; an employee doesn’t give orders to the employer. If you understand what I’m telling you, act like it—and live a blessed life.

When he had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is seen for who he is, and God seen for who he is in him. The moment God is seen in him, God’s glory will be on display. In glorifying him, he himself is glorified—glory all around!

“Children, I am with you for only a short time longer. You are going to look high and low for me. But just as I told the Jews, I’m telling you: ‘Where I go, you are not able to come.’

“Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other.”