

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

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## People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Sandra Mogensen

## Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

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Maundy Thursday

April 6, 2023

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## GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

**Gathering Hymn 487: "What Feast of Love"**

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 258

Greeting

Page 259

Prayer of the Day:

**Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## WORD

First Reading: Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm: 116:1-2, 12-19

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Sermon

**Hymn of the Day 494: “For the Bread Which You Have Broken”**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

Page 261

**MEAL**

Offertory Prayer

Page 129

The Great Thanksgiving

Page 129

Communion Prayer

Page 133

The Lord’s Prayer

Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Page 136

Stripping of the Altar

Depart in Silence

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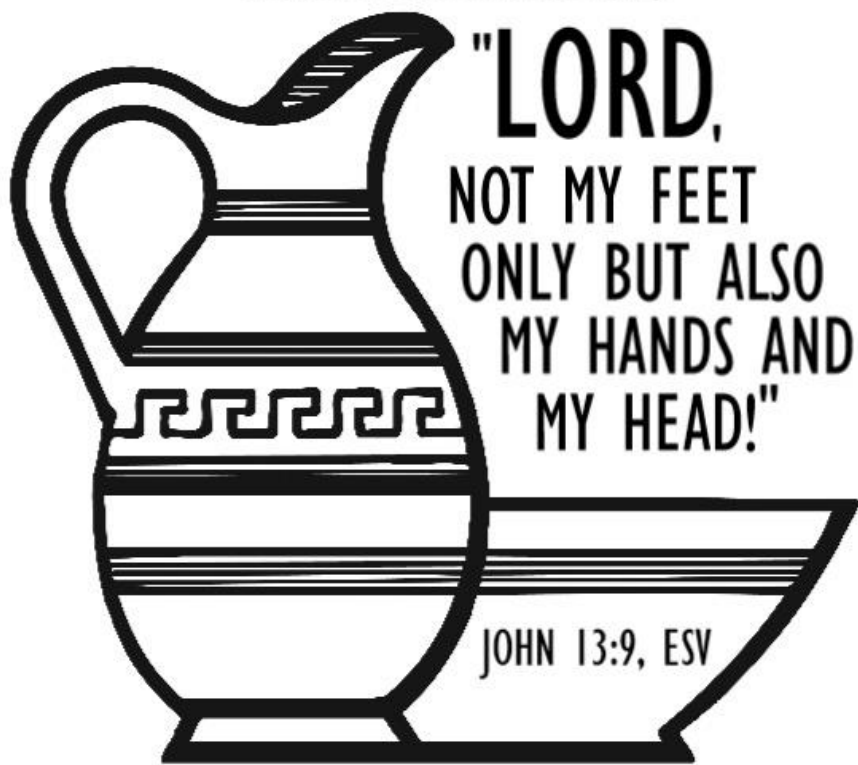
With nightfall, our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus’ death and resurrection. At the heart of the **Maundy Thursday** liturgy is Jesus’ commandment to love one another. We are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord’s table we remember Jesus’ sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves, in love for the life of the world. May it be so!

At the conclusion of this evening’s liturgy, the altar and chancel furnishings are removed, preparing the worship space for Good Friday. Through this stark ritual we recall that Jesus was abandoned by his followers, stripped of his dignity, and left to face the cross alone. We depart in silence, ready to continue the celebration of the Three Days on Good Friday.

To mark Good Friday, we gather at 10 A.M. for solemn worship. Come and worship!

You are invited to join us for the celebration of our Lord’s resurrection on Easter Sunday at 10 A.M. **Sunday School is cancelled for the day.** Families and loved ones are encouraged to worship together.

*Simon Peter said to him,*



**"LORD,**

**NOT MY FEET  
ONLY BUT ALSO  
MY HANDS AND  
MY HEAD!"**

JOHN 13:9, ESV