

St. John's Reformed Church
Maundy Thursday-Tenebrae Service of Shadows
April 2, 2026 7:30 p.m.

Prelude

Service of Holy Communion

Votum Our help is in the name of the Lord our God,
 Creator of heaven and earth. **Amen.**

Sentences (Book of Common Order)

Leader: Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you
 love one another.

**People: Just as he loved us, we also should love one
 another.**

Leader: On this day

**People: Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the
 hands of those who would slay him.**

Leader: On this day

**People: Christ gathered with his disciples in the
 upper room.**

Leader: On this day

**People: Christ took a towel and washed the disciples'
 feet, giving us an example that we should do to
 others as he has done to us.**

Leader: Christ our God gave us the holy feast,

**People: that we who eat the bread and drink the cup may
 proclaim his holy sacrifice and be partakers of his
 resurrection and at the last day may reign with
 him in heaven.**

Salutation (2 Corinthians 1:2)

*Hymn Taste and See #817 v. 1-3

Prayer of Confession (Liturgy of St. Chrysostom)

**Lord our God, if during this day I have sinned whether in
word, deed, or thought, forgive me all, for you are good
and you love all humanity. Grant me peaceful and
undisturbed sleep and deliver me from all influence and
temptation of the evil one. Raise me up again in proper
time that I may glorify you; for you are blessed along with
your only begotten Son, and your all-Holy Spirit:
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

“Lord have mercy upon us:

Christ have mercy upon us; Lord have mercy upon us”

Assurance of Pardon: John 3:16-17

Summary of the Law: Matthew 22:37-40

Psalter: Psalm 22

*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end,
Amen. Amen.*

Responsive Litany: Passover and Last Supper (insert)

Communion

Special Music “Ave Verum Corpus” by W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary:

You who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for
the sake of man. From whose pierced flank flowed water and
blood: Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death. O sweet,
O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary. Have mercy on me. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Service of Tenebrae (Shadows)

Matthew 26:20-25 The Shadow of Betrayal

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 1-2

**Matthew 26:31, 33-35 The Shadow of Impending
Faithlessness**

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 3-4

Matthew 26:36-41 The Shadow of Unshared Vigil

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 5-6

Matthew 26:42-45 The Shadow of Christ's Agony

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 7-8

Matthew 26:47-50 The Shadow of Arrest

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 9-10

Mark 14:48-50 The Shadow of Desertion

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 11-12

Luke 22:54-62 The Shadow of Denial

Choir: Lamentation 1:1-14, verses 13-14

Luke 23:33-46 The Shadow of the Cross

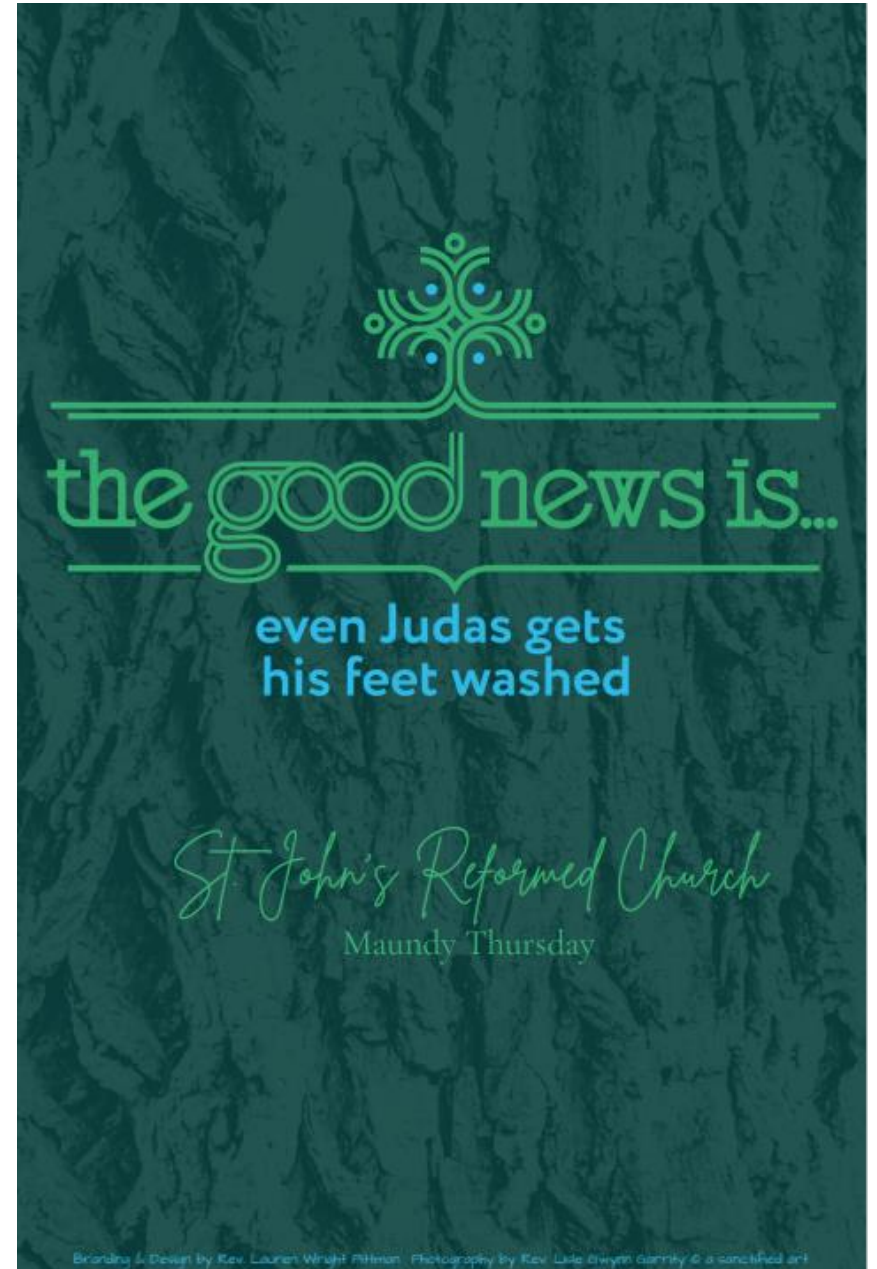
Choir: "O Vos Omnes" by Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611).

All you who pass by, look and see
if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.
Look, all you people, and see my sorrow,
if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.

Motet

The Strepitus

Congregation is dismissed in silence.



Litany for Passover and the Lord's Supper

Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed.

And He sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat.

So they said to Him, Where do you want us to prepare?

And He said to them, Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters.

Then you shall say to the master of the house, the teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"

Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready.

So they went and found it as he had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour had come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him.

Then he said to them, with fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

For I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.

Then he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "take this and divide it among yourselves.

For I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

And he took bread, gave thanks, and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, he also took the cup after they had supped, saying, "this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you."

Prayer of Epiclesis (Liturgy of St. Basil the Great)

O Holy One, through the favor of your goodness send your Holy Spirit down upon us, and upon these gifts presented here. Bless them, and sanctify them. Bless, Lord, this Holy Bread. Make this bread itself the precious Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. Bless, Lord, this holy cup and that which is in this cup, the precious blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, which was shed for the life of the world, and for its salvation.