



ELM Hermansburg
Partner in Mission

ELM Online Seminar: "How Does the World Look at Holy Week and Easter?"
A Service for Maundy Thursday

Evangelical Lutheran Church



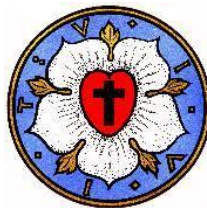
STRAND STREET

Cape Town

Tel. 021 - 421 5854

Email: admin@elchurch.co.za

Pastor Sybil Chetty



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Participatory Service with Agape Celebration

Welcome and Introduction

Opening Hymn: A New Commandment

[A New Commandment | Hymnary.org](#)

A new commandment I give to you, that we love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another.
By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another.

Pastor: In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor: Let us Pray!

Reader: Heavenly Father, we are grateful to be found in your house tonight, although from different backgrounds, we are here as one. We are all your children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ your son, our Lord and Savior. Tonight, we want to remember and journey with Jesus our eldest into this dark night as he is facing the cross. Help us to stay in close contact with you so that the bonds of love can be tightened so that your example of sacrificial love and goodness can be reciprocated by us. Help each of us around this table to grow in fellowship of love towards you and one another.

Pastor: Jesus Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world

All: Have mercy on us

Pastor: Jesus light of the world

All: Grant us your peace

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Candles are being lit ...

Let us remember!

Reader: The Passover meal came from a time that God saved his people, Israel. The Israelites as God's chosen people were slaves in Egypt. In their hardship and suffering they cried out to God. God raised his servant Moses to set his people free.

Reader: When Pharaoh refused to let God's people go, God send many plagues to force the hand of Pharaoh. However, Pharaoh was very stubborn and would not let go of God's people. So, God decided on a last plague. This plague was the death of every first-born male in Egypt is to die in the fatal night before the Israelites were set free to occupy the land that God had promised them.

Reader: The Israelites received strict instructions on how and what to do in that night for their families to be protected. They had to clean themselves and their homes. They had to be dressed to leave. They had to eat bitter herbs. They had to slaughter a lamb and use every part of it.

Reader: They had to use the blood to put on their door post so that when the Angel of death came, he would Passover the homes whose door posts were smeared with blood. In this way God's people were saved. In this the Jewish people celebrated each year what God had done on their behalf, he Passover their homes. Exodus 12.

Reader: Jesus by dying on the cross became that Passover Lamb that was slaughtered to free all those who believe in him from the bondage of sin. Tonight, we are here to remember what he did, how he did it and why he did it as we exercised the ministry of presence as we journey with him into the dark night.

Reader: On this dark night, he sat around the table with those whom God had given him, those whom he dearly loved, even though one of them was evil*.

Reader: He told them that one of them was going to betray him and that he will be handed over to the Jewish authorities and will be killed.

Reader: Jesus told his disciples that he will not be with them much longer and that they cannot go where he is going but will follow later.

Reader: Peter not wanting to let go of Jesus declared his undying devotion to Jesus.

Reader: Jesus told Peter to re-examine what he is saying, because before the cock crows that night he would have already betrayed Jesus three times. Luke 22

Pastor: Love one another.

Pastor: After Judas had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man’s glory is revealed. Now God’s glory is revealed through him. My children, I shall not be with you very much longer. And now, I give you a new commandment

All: Love one another.

Reader: As I have loved you, so you must

All: Love one another,

Reader: Then everyone will know that you belong to me.” John 13:34

Foot washing

Hymn: The Servant Song

The Servant Song (youtube.com)

Brother, sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you,
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servany too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; We’re together on this road.
We are her to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear
I will hold my hand out for you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping. When you laugh I’ll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this jouney through

When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we’ve known together of Christ’s love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you,
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, you washed the feet and shared a meal with the one whom you knew was going to betray you. You did not hate him, but you let him know that you know what he was going to do. You did not try to persuade him, but you gave him permission because he was already ruled by another master.

Reader: Lord Jesus, you washed the feet and shared a meal with your friend the one who was going to deny that he knows you in your darkest hour of need. But you knew his heart that through his spirit was willing, but his flesh was weak.

Reader: Lord Jesus, you told Peter when he refused you to wash his feet because a master does not wash his disciple's feet that if you do not wash his feet that he has no part in you.

Reader: Peter responded that you must wash all of him. You declared that he is already clean; you only need to wash his feet as a sign of humility, submission and love.

Reader: Lord we are here tonight because we want you to wash our feet. We ask that with this action you remove any form of pride, arrogance or hardness of heart and we humbly submit to your Lordship over our lives and in your church.

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord God.

Pastor: The basin and the towel are signs to us of your Son's servanthood.

Reader: You have made us partakers of Christ and of one another.

Reader: As we are here, give us grace to count others more important than ourselves, to love our enemies and to live in peace as far as it depends on us.

Reader: Send the Spirit of truth to keep alive in us what Jesus taught and did.

Reader: That our words may carry his good news, and that our lives may bear the shape of the cross of the One who lives and reigns with You and with the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Those who want to participate in the foot washing come to the Altar

Invitation to the Table

Hymn: Only By Grace Can We Enter

[Only by grace can we enter \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Only by grace can we enter, only by grace can we stand.
Not by our human endeavours, but by the blood of the Lamb.
Into your presence you call us, You call us to come
Into your presence you draw us and now by your grace we come.
Lord if you count our transgressions, who would stand?
Only by grace we are cleansed, by the blood of the Lamb
Only by grace can we enter, only by grace can we stand.
Not by our our human endeavour, but by the blood of the Lamb.

This was just a cup filled with wine (gesture towards the cup) this was just ordinary bread, baked for guests (gesture towards the bread) until Jesus took them, took and drank from the cup, even though it was his cup of pain, filled with the agony of the world; took and broke the bread - even though his body was too young to be broken.

Pastor: This (gesture towards self), and these (gesture to the community) would be ordinary lives unless the bread, unless the wine, is poured into them: and the mystery of grace takes place.

Come not because you fully understand, but because you need to reach out and receive the life that is offered to you.

Prayer at the Table

(Each person takes small pieces of everything on the plate onto their fork and say these words then feed it to the person on their right).

**All: Receive this meal; feed on it with thanks; it is the gift of God to sustain and nature; it is Jesus incarnated and given for us. Give thanks.
Please give the fork you fed your neighbor with to them.**

(each person takes the tot with wine, say these words and give it to the person on the right)

**All: Drink this wine with thanks; it is the gift of God to bring us joy; it was a hard-won battle; it is Jesus poured out for our redemption.
Give thanks.**

A Sending for Maundy Thursday

Pastor: This night is our calling to go into the world, scattered to the ends of the earth to love as Christ loved and serve in the name of Christ.

Reader: It is our calling to remember, even in our darkest hour, who we are.

All: We remember that Christ is always with us. And we remember that on this night, we were taught how to love.

Reader: On this night, eternity begins, and the fullness of God's Reign begins to spill into our lives. So, go into the world to give yourself for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Pastor: Go into the world and love in the name of the One who loved you until the end. It all begins and ends and begin again with Love.

Stripping of the Altar

Pastor: Strips the Altar

→ **Assistants:** Receives the items and take them to the Vestry.
The Cross is brought down to lean against the Altar.
The lights are shut off.

The congregation carries the candles/ the light out of the church in silence.

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Thanks to

We would like to thank Pastor Sybil Chetty for her presentation for our online seminar “Best Practices from Across the Globe.”

Sybil Chetty is a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Africa (Cape Church) and works at Strand Street Church in Cape Town.

Further Information

You can find more interesting events, information about the ELM, and the opportunity to support our work financially on our homepage: www.elm-mission.net.

More resources from the Online Seminar: www.elm-mission.net/en/ressources-holy-week-easter.

Contact

You are also welcome to contact us directly:

Bradn Buerkle, Secretary for Theological Education in International Church Partnerships:

b.buerkle@elm-mission.net, T +49 (0)5052 69-293.

Indra Grasekamp, Secretary for Worldwide Spirituality: i.grasekamp@elm-mission.net, T +49 (0)5052 69-234.



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