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April 2, 2026

Maundy Thursday



Maundy
Thursday

"This is My blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many."

Mark 14:24

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 116 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 445 *When You Woke that Thursday Morning*

LSB 445

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P I will go to the altar of God,

C **to God my exceeding joy.**

P Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C **who made heaven and earth.** Psalm 43:4; 124:8

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P I now ask you before God, who searches our hearts:

Do you confess that you have sinned against God and have deserved His wrath and punishment? – Then declare so by saying, "I do confess."

C **I do confess.**

P Do you repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed? – Then declare so by saying, "I do repent."

C **I do repent.**

P Do you believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, has forgiven you all your sins? – Then declare so by saying, "I do believe."

C **I do believe.**

P Do you intend that with the help of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life and conform it to the will and Word of God? – Then declare so by saying, "I do so intend with the help of God."

C **I do so intend with the help of God.**

P Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins? – Then declare so by saying, “I do believe.”

C **I do believe.**

P Upon this your confession, I, as a called servant of Christ, and by His command and authority, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May God give us His Holy Spirit, that by His strength, our faith may prosper and produce the fruits of the Spirit in our daily lives.

C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

O Lord, in this wonderful Sacrament of the Altar You have left us a remembrance of Your suffering and death. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be evident in our hearts and lives. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Psalm 116:12-19 (Responsive) (ESV)

P What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me?

C **I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,**

P I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.

C **Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.**

P O LORD, I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

C **I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.**

P I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people,

C **in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (EHV)

P The second reading is from 1 Corinthians 10:16-17.

G Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion [“fellowship; sharing”] of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

G Praise to You, O Christ!

Nicene Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 206

**G I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,**

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: "What Grace is This?"

395 CW21

1 What grace is this! My Lord and King has set his
2 What grace is this— that ver - y God would stoop to
3 What grace is this! Though Lord of all, he yields to

face to suf - fer - ing. My God e - ter - nal dies to
lift a cross of wood and walk a road of rock and
Pon - tius Pi - late's law and lets the Ro - man ham - mers

bring e - ter - nal life to me.
blood, a sin - ner's road, for me.
draw a rush of blood for me.

Last time

**4 What grace is this! Rude agonies!
With common thieves he hangs and bleeds.
The sinless Son bears each misdeed;
he pays for all, for me.**

5 ***What grace is this! Once wrapped in cloths
and gently laid in manger-trough,
he's taken, dead, from wretched cross
and wrapped again for me.***

6 ***What grace is this? How can it be?
He wears this raw humility
to lift me to eternity.
Such grace-sweet grace-for me.***

Text: Laurie F. Gauger, b. 1965

Music: G. A. Hennig, b. 1966; alternate organ setting: arr. Jeremy S. Bakken, b. 1981

Text: © 2005 Laurie F. Gauger, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

Music: © 2005 G. A. Hennig, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources; alternate organ setting: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House

Sermon Text: Mark 14:12-26 (ESV)

¹² On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus'] disciples said to Him, "Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?" ¹³ And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, ¹⁴ and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is My guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?' ¹⁵ And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." ¹⁶ And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷ And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me." ¹⁹ They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, "Is it I?" ²⁰ He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. ²¹ For the Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

²² And as they were eating, He took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is My body." ²³ And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴ And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Sermon Theme: "Return to the LORD"– Return to the Table

- † What are the various "**communions**" ("fellowship; sharing") that take place during the Lord's Supper? (see **1 Corinthians 10:16-17** from our Scripture reading earlier).
- † In what way do we very much NOT belong at the Lord's table?
- † How is it then that we very much DO belong at the Lord's table?
- † Why is it important for you to continually take Jesus up on His invitation to **Return to the Table** of the Lord's Supper? (see **Matt. 26:28; 1 Cor. 11:23-26**)

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

The Words of Institution / Responsive Prayer

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, established the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
- C** **Praise be to You, O Lord, for giving us this sacrament by which we are strengthened in our faith, uplifted in our spirits, and built up in our love for You and for our neighbor.**
- P** Jesus took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples.
- C** **We give thanks to You, Lord Jesus, for this special meal by which You would nourish and sustain the souls of Your disciples.**
- P** He said to His disciples, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you."
- C** **How great and marvelous is Your power in this sacrament, O Lord, in giving us to eat of Your very body which was lifted up on the cross to make us redeemed children of God and heirs of heaven.**
- P** Concerning the sacramental eating of His body, Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of Me."
- C** **Help us, dear Lord, to make frequent use of this sacrament, and to be reminded through it of the great sacrifice You made for our eternal salvation.**
- P** In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to His disciples.
- C** **We give thanks to You, Lord Jesus, for being willing to drink the bitter cup of suffering on the cross as our Savior, so that in this sacrament the cup of blessing might be received for spiritual refreshment.**

P He said to His disciples, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

C **How marvelous it is, dear Savior, that in this sacrament You give of Your very blood which was poured out on the cross in atonement for all our many sins. In this precious blood we find the sure and certain guarantee of Your forgiveness and covenant of grace.**

P Concerning the sacramental drinking of His blood, Jesus said, "Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of Me."

C **May Your precious blood, Lord Jesus, given here in this sacrament, always serve to remind us of God's forgiving love through You.**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C **Amen.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, in Your infinite love You have invited us to this holy supper in which Your sacrifice, which was made once for all, might be given to us for our forgiveness and salvation. Bless us, as we receive it, with faith to know Your real presence in the bread and wine. Give us strength to obey Your commands and show our love for You by loving others. Receive our heartfelt thanks and praise for all Your goodness to us. In Your saving name we pray, as we pray now the prayer that You taught us,

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn of Preparation

“Your Table I Approach”

LSB 628 v. 1-3, 6



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
6 Oh, may I nev - er fail To thank You day and night



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
For Your true bod - y and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

The Distribution

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us today. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world “This is what we believe!” But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

Communion Hymns: “Draw Near” 662 CW21 (Music and lyrics on p. 16);
“What is this Bread?” 629 LSB

Prayer After the Lord's Supper

Adapted from *The Lutheran Hymnal*, p. 4

C O blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Your faith and favor. As You live in me, let me also live in You. May Your body and blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life! Amen.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness!

The Thanksgiving

“My Heart Has Now Become Thy Dwelling”

LSB 619 v. 5

5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy
prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. →

Refrain
Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862 Tune: Public domain

Stripping of the Altar

P This is the night on which our Lord was betrayed. After He had instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, He and the eleven disciples went out to the Garden of Gethsemane, where He knew Judas would come to set in motion the events leading to His crucifixion.

This evening, the items on our altar, which are symbols and reminders related to our Lord, are stripped from the altar—which represents Jesus Himself—just as He was struck, humiliated, tortured, and taken to the cross.

As the various items are removed, we speak together the words of Psalm 22, which was a prophecy of our Lord's suffering and death. We then receive the Lord's blessing, sing a hymn, and depart until our worship continues tomorrow.

Psalm 22 (NKJV)

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

**O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear;
And in the night season, and am not silent.**

But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

Our fathers trusted in You;

They trusted, and You delivered them.

They cried to You, and were delivered;

They trusted in You, and were not ashamed.

But I am a worm, and no man;

A reproach of men, and despised by the people.

All those who see Me ridicule Me;

They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

"He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him;

Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"

But You are He who took Me out of the womb;

You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts.

I was cast upon You from birth.

From My mother's womb You have been My God.

Be not far from Me, For trouble is near; For there is none to help.

Many bulls have surrounded Me;

Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.

They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.

**I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.
My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
And My tongue clings to My jaws;
You have brought Me to the dust of death.**

**For dogs have surrounded Me;
The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me.
They pierced My hands and My feet;
I can count all My bones.
They look and stare at Me.
They divide My garments among them,
And for My clothing they cast lots.**

**But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me;
O My Strength, hasten to help Me!
Deliver Me from the sword,
My precious life from the power of the dog.
Save Me from the lion's mouth
And from the horns of the wild oxen!**

**You have answered Me.
I will declare Your name to My brethren;
In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.
You who fear the LORD, praise Him!
All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,
And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!
For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted;
Nor has He hidden His face from Him;
But when He cried to Him, He heard.**

**My praise shall be of You in the great assembly;
I will pay My vows before those who fear Him.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
Those who seek Him will praise the LORD.
Let your heart live forever!**

**All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD,
And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You.
For the kingdom is the LORD's, And He rules over the nations.**

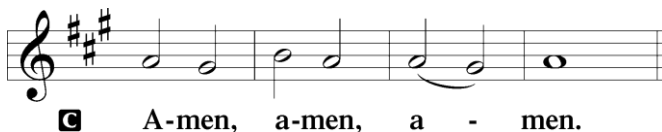
**All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship;
All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him,
Even he who cannot keep himself alive.**

A posterity shall serve Him.

**It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation,
They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born,
That He has done this.**

Benediction *The Apostolic blessing (2 Corinthians 13:14).*

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The love of God the Father,
And the the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



Closing Hymn: 883 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

(please stand for the last verse)

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

This Week: *Holy Week*
Thursday – **Maundy Thursday Worship w/ Communion – 6:30pm**
Friday – **No School at MLS** (Easter Break – School Resumes Tues. 4/7)
Good Friday Tenebrae Service – 8pm

Church Cleaning: Team #3 (3/28-4/3); Team #4 (4/4-4/10)



Sunday:
4/5/26

Easter Sunday – Resurrection Day

Worship – 9am

Easter Brunch – 10:15am



Remembrance Lilies for Easter Sunday - We would like to decorate the altar with lilies on Easter Sunday in celebration of Christ's resurrection and in memory of loved ones who have died in the Lord and who, in light of Christ's resurrection, will surely rise again in glory at His return. If you would like to provide a lily in memory of a loved one, let Pastor know and he will include the names in the Easter bulletin.

Tomorrow - Good Friday Tenebrae Service – Fri. 4/3 @ 8pm – On Good Friday we will hold our customary tenebrae service. Tenebrae is a Latin term meaning “shadows, darkness.” This service is an ancient form of worship dating from the fourth century. The tone is very somber as candles are extinguished, and the sanctuary is gradually darkened to remind worshipers of the three hours of darkness which blanketed the earth during Christ's crucifixion as He suffered the punishment of being forsaken by God for our sins. The darkness of Good Friday prepares us for the brilliant dawning of Easter. The Good Friday tenebrae begins at **8:00 p.m.**



"Draw Near" 662 CW21

Refrain

Draw near, draw near! Take the bod - y of your Lord.

Draw near, draw near! Drink the blood for you out-poured!

- 1 Draw near and take the bod - y of your Lord,
- 2 Christ our Re - deem - er, God's e - ter - nal Son,
- 3 Let us ap - proach with faith - ful hearts sin - cere
- 4 With heav'n - ly bread he makes the hun - gry whole,

and drink the ho - ly blood for you out-poured.
 has by his cross and blood the vic - t'ry won.
 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
 gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.

Saved by his bod - y and his ho - ly blood,
 He gave his life for great - est and for least,
 Christ, who in this life all the saints de - fends,
 Lord of the na - tions, to whom all must bow,

Refrain

with souls re - fresh - ed we give our thanks to God.
 him - self the of - f'ring and him - self the priest.
 gives all be - liev - ers life that nev - er ends.
 in this great feast of love be with us now.