

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thursday – 6:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28th, 2024

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion **is** a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

“Hey, It's Not about Me!”

AS WE GATHER

The whole salvation story, woven throughout the pages of sacred Scripture, leads to a feast. As we gather for worship this Thursday of Holy Week, we experience the same: everything leads us to a feast. Who are the ones welcomed to this feast? Only those who are poor, crippled, blind, and lame are invited (Luke 14:21). Only the bankrupt are welcome here. Only those who know they can never repay the Host of this Meal for His loving kindness are welcome to sit at His Table. “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God” (Luke 14:15). How blessed we are to eat His bread and drink from His cup together this day! For in the sacred feast our nail-scarred Host has prepared, we who lack so much are given everything we could possibly need.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

LSB 435

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Luke 18:13

P: By means of His Word and Supper, we gather together this day to receive our Savior's mercy and respond to Him in thanksgiving and praise. Because of our sins of thought, word, and deed, we are spiritually bankrupt and unworthy of the grace we receive. Yet at the invitation of our loving Redeemer, we come to His Table and take our place

with Him. Acknowledging our sin, let us find refuge in our God of grace and say,
“God be merciful to me, a sinner.”

In silent prayer, we reflect on God’s Word and confess our sins to the Lord.

P: Together, let us pray:

C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life, that we may enjoy the fullness of Your presence at the feast You have prepared for all who trust in You. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise again for you so that you may be redeemed and restored. You have been invited to the eternal banquet, the heavenly feast, where our Savior and Host delights us with the richest of fare, the forgiveness of sins. Upon this your confession, I, as a servant of Christ and your pastor, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT Psalm 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

P: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

C: **our God is merciful.**

P: I love the LORD, because He has heard

C: **my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

P: Because He inclined His ear to me,

C: **therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.**

P: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

C: **I suffered distress and anguish.**

P: Then I called on the name of the LORD:

C: **“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

P: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

C: **our God is merciful.**

KYRIE! *God, Father*

LSB 942

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion.

C: **Grant that we who can never repay You for Your mercy may be blessed as we eat with You in the kingdom of God;**

P: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:3–11

(The blood of the covenant was offered for God's people.)

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a*

ALL: [Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance. He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

(A participation in the body and blood of Christ)

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE John 13:1b

P: Having loved His own who were in the world,

C: **He loved them to the end.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 14:12–26

(Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

Back inside cover of Hymnal

HYMN OF THE DAY

Not All the Blood of Beasts

LSB 431

SERMON & TEXT

"The Blood of The Covenant"

Exodus 24:3-11

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us lift up our hearts and voices to the God of all mercy as He has invited us to pray to Him in the name of our Savior and in the way in which He has taught us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Our Father in heaven, look with mercy upon us, for without Your aid we are spiritually poor, crippled, blind, and lame. Grant us grace that Your holy name is kept sacred among us and that, in all the world, Your Son may be known through the preaching of Your Word to the ends of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

- P: King of kings, may Your rule and reign come to us and expand throughout the world. Bring all who are blinded by sin and bound by death to know Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Work through our earthly leaders and public servants so that Your hand of blessing may be known to all. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that by faith we cling to the One who was betrayed and handed over to death for us. Into Your care we commend those who have needs in both soul and body. For these, and for all those we name before You in the silence of our hearts, we ask that Your will may be done among us [silence]. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: How blessed we are to eat bread in Your kingdom, O God! Lord Jesus, You alone are the Bread of Life, and You alone satisfy our hungry hearts. Grant to us our daily bread and help us to realize that You daily and richly provide for all that we need according to Your own riches and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us. Center our hearts and minds on You alone. As we recognize that we are spiritually bankrupt without Your mercy, grant that the spirit of unforgiveness be removed from us so that we live in peace with You and with one another. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us to take refuge in Your grace. On this very night, You were betrayed by one of Your own and handed over to death. Direct us to follow You to the cross of Calvary, where You laid down Your life to deliver us from the evil one and all his works and all his ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: We belong to You, O Lord. Renew us, guide us, and lead us so that we may bless Your holy name and celebrate the feast You have prepared for us,
- C: for Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.**
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.**
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our

Lord, who invites the poor, crippled, blind, and lame to take their places at His feast. Only those who can never repay Him are invited to the Table, where His mercy is freely given to us all. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 961

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Because He is the very Bread of Life who satisfies our hungry hearts, we say with the Scripture:

C: Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!

P: Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of Christ's cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven....

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

LSB 630

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

LSB 627

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee*

LSB 632

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.

Blessed Savior, we can never repay You for the grace You have shown us in this sacred Meal. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of Your final coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the feast in Your kingdom, which knows no end; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

According to local custom, the chancel items and communion vessels may be removed, while the congregation may join in a responsive psalm, then depart from the sanctuary in silent reflection.

PSALM *Psalm 22:1–10*

P: My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?

C: O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

P: Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

C: In You our fathers trusted; they trusted, and You delivered them.

P: To You they cried and were rescued; in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

C: But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

P: All who see Me mock Me; they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;

C: “He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”

P: Yet You are He who took Me from the womb; You made Me trust You at My mother’s breasts.

C: On You was I cast from My birth, and from My mother’s womb You have been My God.

The congregation departs from the sanctuary in silent reflection. Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2023 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.