



April 14, 2022 – Maundy Thursday Service

As We Gather: Welcome to this service for Maundy Thursday. Tonight, we continue our “In View of God’s Mercy” series. As the bread is broken and the cup is poured in this service, Christ’s body and blood serve as agents of mercy to us who are broken by sin and thirsting for righteousness. We rejoice and give thanks for God’s mercy that comes to us through this Sacrament.

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 628 “Your Table I Approach”

Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: On the night in which he was betrayed Jesus took bread and wine and gave it to his disciples as the meal of the New Covenant. Tonight as we prepare to receive the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper, we confess that we have betrayed our Lord by our sinful thoughts, words and deeds. We repent of that sin, and we seek God’s mercy to forgive our iniquity.

All: **Most merciful God, we are not worthy to receive you. We are sinful and unclean. We have disobeyed your Word and disregarded your will for us. We ask you not to remember our evil but instead to forgive our transgression. For the sake of Jesus Christ, who sacrificed his body and blood for our salvation, pardon us and restore us in righteousness. Renew us so that we walk in obedience to your Word, to the glory of your holy name.**

Pastor: We cry to you for mercy!

All: **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, God’s mercy is greater.)

Pastor: Hear the good news! God’s Word declares: “the blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you. For Christ’s sake God forgives you all your sins and gives you his righteousness, making you holy in his sight. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, in the Upper Room you left us a memorial of your passion in a wonderful meal of forgiveness and life. Grant that we may share in this sacred supper of your body and blood so that your redeeming work may continue to abide in us. In view of your mercy, form us by your Spirit to remember him who comes to us in the bread and wine. We pray these things in the holy name of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:1-14 (*The institution of the Passover.*)

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ²“This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb^[a] for his family, one for each household. ⁴If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. ⁸That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ⁹Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. ¹⁰Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. ¹¹This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD’s Passover.¹²“On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. ¹³The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.¹⁴“This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (*Paul passes on what he has received from the apostles about the Institution of the Lord’s Supper.*)

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 26:26-29 (*Matthew’s account of Jesus celebrating the Passover with the disciples and His institution of the Lord’s Supper.*)

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: LSB 637 “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

Sermon: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 & Matthew 26:26-29 “Mercy in Bread and Wine”

Prayers

Choir Anthem: “Come, Find Forgiveness and Love”

Preparing Ourselves

Pastor: Once more we are about to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. As we do, let us take time to meditate on what we are doing. What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

All: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in, with, and under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself.

Pastor: For what purpose do we go to the Lord’s Supper?

All: We go to the Lord’s Supper, to receive forgiveness of our sins, to be strengthened in our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and to obtain strength to live a more Christian life.

Pastor: How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

All: It is not the eating and drinking indeed that does them, but the Words of God, “Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.” For it is the Word of God that gives this Sacrament its power; and whoever believes these words has what they say and express, namely, the forgiveness of sins.

Pastor: Who then is worthy and prepared to go to Holy Communion?

All: A person is truly worthy and well prepared, if they repent of their sins and seek God’s forgiveness; if they believe in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior; if they believe Christ is truly present in the Sacrament; and if, with the help of the Holy Spirit, they intend to amend their sinful life.

Communion Liturgy

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Pastor: 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. Holy are You, and great is the majesty of Your glory. You so loved the world that You sent Your only Son to be our Redeemer and our King. By His sacrificial life, He has brought us salvation and has shown us the path to life eternal. 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 (*Words and music in hymnal page 195*)

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Words of Institution

The Greeting of Peace

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

People: Amen.

Agnus Dei: Lamb of God (Words and music in hymnal page 198)

All: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymn: LSB 436 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon (Words and music in hymnal on page 199)

All: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. 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.

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Christ our Savior, we give You thanks for having fed us through this Sacrament. Strengthen us, we pray, that we may live in obedience to You and help us daily to remember You and all that You did to bring about our salvation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Hymn: LSB 632 "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, To Thee"