

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

Noting the solemnity of this holy day, except for the hymns, the entire liturgy is spoken.

This service for Holy or “Maundy” Thursday is the first service in the celebration of the holy three days of Christ’s Passover, commonly known as the Triduum. It culminates our Lenten period of preparation for Christ’s Passion and Resurrection and leads into His sacrifice on our behalf. As such, the service, like that for Good Friday, exhibits a mood of restrained joy. It consists of four parts: the Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution, the Service of the Word, the Service of the Sacrament, and the Stripping of the Altar. The service ends simply without the post-communion canticle/hymn. Because the services of the Triduum (Thursday, Friday, & Easter) are to be seen as a unit, the Benediction is omitted on both Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

The Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution signals the end of our Lenten preparations with the absolution and peace of Christ that stand at the center of the Three Days. The Service of the Word focuses upon Christ’s humble service demonstrated in His washing of His disciples’ feet, a servanthood enacted on the Cross and whose benefits are bestowed in the Lord’s Supper. The service culminates with the Lord’s ministry to His people through the Sacrament of the Altar.

The depth of Christ’s servanthood is demonstrated as the altar is reverently stripped in preparation for the Church’s observance of Jesus’ death. In this service, the Church begins the journey through the three days of Christ’s Passover from death to life and from captivity to freedom.

Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution

Please stand as the pastor enters.

In keeping with the simplicity of the service, there is no opening hymn. Facing the altar, the pastor stands at the foot of the chancel and says:

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the 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.**

P During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord’s call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil -- all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. For this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sins, humbly confess them, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

On this night our Lord showed his love not only in instituting the Supper but by washing His disciples' feet. So we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine from many grapes and the one bread is made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C Amen.

Kneel for silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in T peace.

C Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

LSB 435

+ Service of the Word +

Please stand for the Collect.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, by Your life-giving Word and wondrous Sacrament, You give to us the benefits of Your death and resurrection. Guide us as we remember You and receive what is Yours alone to give—life and salvation, full and free. Grant that as we are loved and forgiven, we may love and forgive others through the lives we live in You; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 12:1-14

¹The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. ⁷“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord’s Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*spoken by all*)

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

[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.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 11:20–32

²⁰When you come together, it is not to eat the Lord's supper that you eat. ²¹For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. ²²What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not. ²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. ²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Verse *(please stand while the verse is spoken by the pastor)*

P Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Holy Gospel

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." ¹²When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. . . . "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³²If God is

glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn

Jesus, Greatest at the Table

LSB 446

The Sermon

Stand

The Prayers

Sit

The Offering

+ Service of the Sacrament +

Stand

Preface

LSB 194ff

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. 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

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n 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

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

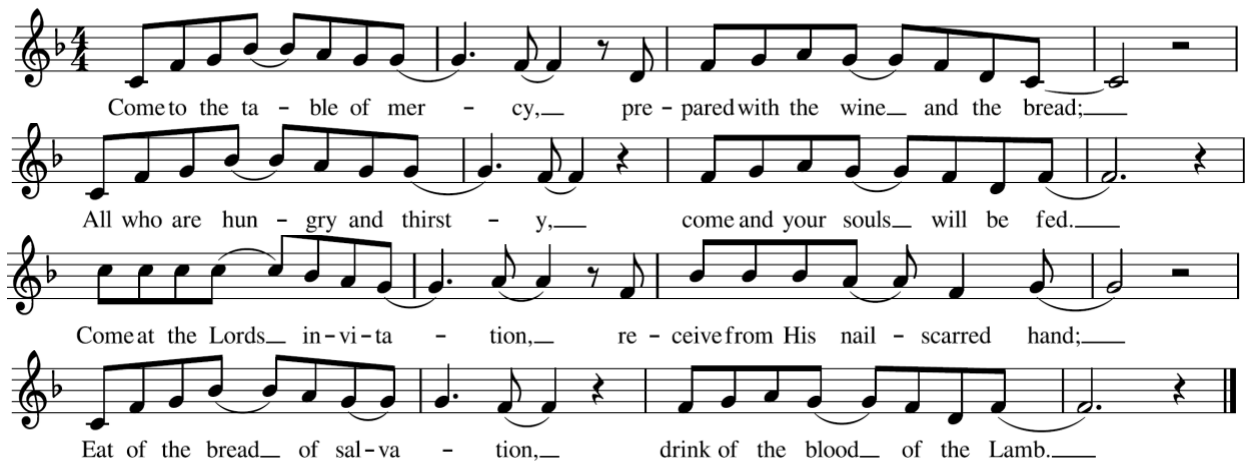
The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Distribution & Distribution Hymns

Come To The Table (sung twice)



Cometo the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread; _____

All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come and your souls will be fed. _____

Come at the Lords in - vi - ta - tion, re - ceive from His nail - scarred hand; _____

Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion, drink of the blood of the Lamb. _____



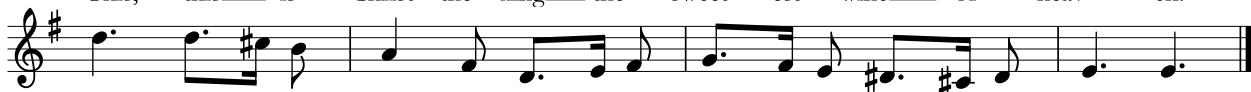
1. What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
 2. What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
 3. What wine of love is of - fered here, what ho - ly drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
 What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what wond - rous word is giv - en?
 What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Stand

The Post-Communion Prayer

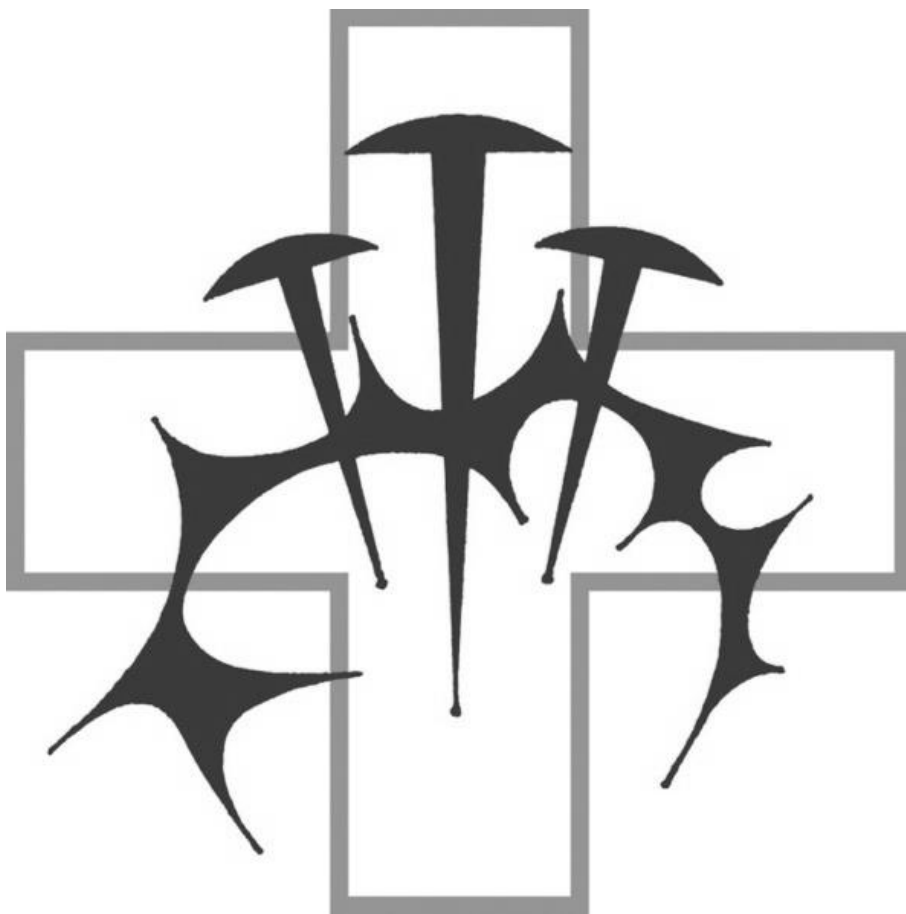
P Let us pray: Lord Jesus, as You have promised, You have graciously visited us in body and blood and have satisfied us with Your pardon and peace. May we continually hunger and thirst after You and Your gracious promises to forgive; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

+ The Stripping of the Altar +

The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, the chancel is cleared, and the lights are dimmed in preparation for Good Friday. While this is being done, Psalm 22 is sung by the cantors. At the conclusion of the Stripping of the Altar, all leave the church in silence. The service continues tomorrow evening, Good Friday, at 7:00p.m.



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