

**Holy Thursday**  
*March 28, 2024*



Welcome to *ASCENSION!*

*We are delighted to have you with us today.* That we may know you better, please sign the Guest Registry in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor after the service. May God bless you with the assurance of His forgiveness, life, and salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you, and ... **Peace be with you!**



**Rev. James D. Gier, Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. Gary Zieroth, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. John Stube, Pastor Emeritus**  
**Dcs. Pamela Buhler, Deaconess**  
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## ✠ HOLY COMMUNION ✠

Holy Communion is administered to **COMMUNICANT MEMBERS** of Ascension, of other Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations, and of Lutheran Church bodies in declared fellowship with the LCMS, who have been instructed, examined, and *confirmed* in the Christian faith as taught by the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and so publicly declared their unity of faith in all doctrines of Holy Scripture in fellowship with LCMS.

All **COMMUNICANT MEMBERS** desiring to commune today are to fill out a *Member Communion Card* or *Guest Communion Card* and hand it to the Ushers when coming forward to commune.

*All others we kindly and respectfully request to abstain from communing until such public declaration is made in keeping with Christ's institution.*

If you would like to know more about receiving Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak to the Pastors after the service and they will be glad to instruct you to that end.  
*Thank you!*

***Preacher*** ✠ Rev. Gary Zieroth

***Liturgist and Celebrant*** ✠ Rev. James Gier

***Organist*** ✠ JoAnn Zieroth

***Soloist*** ✠ Adam Schweyer

***Prelude*** ~ “O Lord, We Praise Thee” – Jacob Weber

***Confession/Absolution*** ~ “Lord Jesus, Think On Me” – Raymond H. Hass

## THEME VERSE

Isaiah 52:15 “so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.”

## HOLY THURSDAY



This service for Holy Thursday is the first service in the celebration of the holy three days of Christ's Passover, commonly known as the Triduum. It culminates the 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 of Corporate Confession and Absolution signals the end of the 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 and her catechumens begin the journey through the three days of Christ's Passover from death to life and from captivity to freedom.

**Note: Since Holy Thursday serves as a point of transition from the preparatory season of Lent to the Triduum, restrained joy is characteristic of this service. It is a simplified and reflective celebration of the Divine Service. As a result, various aspects of the Divine Service may be omitted: *Hymn of Invocation, Introit/Opening, Hymn/Kyrie/ Gloria in Excelsis, Verse, Creed, Offering/Offertory, Post-Communion Canticle.***

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# Holy Thursday

March 28, 2024

(Series B)

## DIVINE SERVICE 4

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### Corporate Confession and

Absolution p. 290

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

Scripture Readings *bulletin*

**Exodus 24:3-11**

“What Shall I Render...” **LSB 159**

**1 Corinthians 10:16-21**

Hymn **#420 (v.7)**

**Mark 14:12-26**

The Apostle’s Creed p. 207

**Hymn of the Day #431**

**The SERMON** (Is. 52:15 “Blood Bath”)

Prayer of the Church

The Offering **taken at the door**

### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

The Preface and Sanctus p. 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 209

The Lord’s Prayer p. 209

**The Words of Our Lord p. 209**

The Pax Domini p. 209

The Agnus Dei p. 210

The Distribution **#634#624#429**

The Nunc Dimittis **omitted**

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benedicamus and Benediction **omitted**

### ✠ Stripping of the Altar ✠

### Psalm 22

(Soloist)

*After the Stripping of the Altar, all leave  
in silence.*

**Old Testament Reading – *Exodus 24:3-11 (ESV)*** <sup>3</sup> Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, “All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do.” <sup>4</sup> And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>5</sup> And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. <sup>6</sup> And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. <sup>7</sup> Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” <sup>8</sup> And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.” <sup>9</sup> Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup> and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup> And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading – *1 Corinthians 10:16–21 (ESV)*** <sup>16</sup> The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup> Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. <sup>18</sup> Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? <sup>19</sup> What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? <sup>20</sup> No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. <sup>21</sup> You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 14th chapter.

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

**Holy Gospel – *Mark 14:12–26 (ESV)*** <sup>12</sup> And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, “Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?” <sup>13</sup> 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, <sup>14</sup> 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?' <sup>15</sup> And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." <sup>16</sup> And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>17</sup> And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. <sup>18</sup> 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." <sup>19</sup> They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" <sup>20</sup> He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. <sup>21</sup> 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."

<sup>22</sup> 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." <sup>23</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. <sup>24</sup> And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. <sup>25</sup> 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."

<sup>26</sup> And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.  
Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** (sing) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

#### MY SERMON NOTES

*"Faith comes from hearing and hearing through the Word of Christ." ~ Rom. 10:17*