

HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO THE UPPER ROOM

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 6, 2023, 6:30 P.M.



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APRIL 6, 2023 | Maundy Thursday

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship this evening! In our service we gather before our almighty and saving God to hear His holy and powerful Word and celebrate His life-giving Sacraments, offering our prayers and praises as He strengthens our faith and walks us ever closer to our eternal home with Him.

SERVICE NOTES

If you need any assistance, please ask any of our ushers for help. In inclement weather, or if walking from your car is difficult, please make use of the carport. The ushers will gladly park and/or retrieve your car for you if needed.

If you are a visitor with us today, please sign the Guest Book before you leave today (the red binder in the front of church). If you would like to learn more about our church or are interested in church membership, please speak with Pastor Van Kampen.

If you have small children, please note that there is a Parents' Room at the rear of the sanctuary if you need to temporarily calm a child. From the Parents' Room you can still see, hear, and participate in the worship service.

For your convenience tonight's order of service is printed on the following pages. The order of service is based on the "Christian Questions and Answers" portion of Luther's Small Catechism, a series of questions and answers designed to promote self-examination prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

Holy Communion: We hold to the ancient, biblical practice of "close communion," communing only confirmed members of our church or churches of our fellowship (ELS and WELS). Guests, please speak with the pastor prior to the service if you wish to commune. Thank you for your courteous respect of our beliefs and practices.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Minister Rev. S. Piet Van Kampen

Organist Deb Meyer

Elder on Duty

Ben Brodhagen

Altar Guild Donna Carter & Linda Koch

Stripping of the Altar Volunteers from the Altar Guild

TONIGHT'S FOCUS

Tonight the season of Lent comes to a close as we begin the Triduum, the three holy days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. This evening we follow Jesus as His final steps lead Him to the upper room, where our Savior shows the full extent of His love in service and sacrifice, preparing His disciples for His death by feeding them with His body and blood, the very price of their salvation, under bread and wine, to strengthen and uphold them in the peace of the forgiveness of sins. Strengthened by His love and forgiveness, which He freely bestows on us in the Sacrament of the Altar, we are free to love one another as He has loved us.

Christian Questions and Answers

With Holy Communion

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand.

INVOCATION & RESPONSIVE DIALOGUE—Psalm 116

- M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- **M:** I love the LORD, because He has heard My voice and my supplications. Because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I will call upon Him as long as I live.
- C: The pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow.
- **M:** Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I implore You, deliver my soul!" Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; Yes, our God is merciful.
- C: The LORD preserves the simple; I was brought low, and He saved me.
- **M:** Return to your rest, O my soul, For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. For You have delivered my soul from death, My eyes from tears, And my feet from falling.
- C: I will walk before the LORD In the land of the living.
- M: I believed, therefore I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted."
 I said in my haste, "All men are liars."
 What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?
- C: I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.
- **M:** I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people. Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His saints.

O LORD, truly 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 will call upon the name of the LORD.
- **M:** I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people, In the courts of the LORD's house, In the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!
- C: 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.

M: Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, in the sacrament of Holy Communion You give us Your true body and blood as a remembrance of Your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us so firmly to believe Your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

You may be seated.

OPENING HYMN

'Twas On That Dark, That Doleful Night | 164

THE QUESTIONS BEGIN

- M: Do you believe that you are a sinner?
- C: Yes, I believe it; I am a sinner.
- M: How do you know this?
- C: From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
- **M:** Are you also sorry for your sins?
- C: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
- M: What have you deserved from God by your sins?
- C: His wrath and displeasure, temporal death and eternal damnation.
- M: Do you also hope to be saved?
- C: Yes, such is my hope.
- M: In whom, then, do you trust?
- C: In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
- M: Who is Christ?
- C: The Son of God, true God and man.

- **M:** How many Gods are there?
- C: Only one; but there are three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- M: What, then, has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?
- C: He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.
- M: Did the Father also die for you?
- C: He did not; for the Father is God only, along with the Holy Spirit; but the Son is true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.
- M: How do you know this?
- C: From the holy Gospel and from the words of the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.
- **M**: How do those words read?
- C: "Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, 'Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'"
- M: You believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?
- C: Yes, I believe it.
- M: What induces you to believe this?
- C: The words of Christ: "Take, eat, this is My body... Drink from it, all of you; this... is... My blood."

FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 24:1-11

God's people were sprinkled in the blood of the covenant.

Now He said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. ² "And Moses alone shall come near the LORD, but they shall not come near; nor shall the people go up with him."

- ³ So Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the LORD has said we will do."
- ⁴ And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD. And 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. ⁵ Then he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. ⁶ And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. ⁷ Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient."

⁸ And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words." ⁹ Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, ¹⁰ and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. ¹¹ But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank.

RESPONSORY HYMN

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior | 311 v. 1-2

THE QUESTIONS CONTINUE

- **M:** What ought we to do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and thus receive the pledge?
- C: We ought to remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: "Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."
- M: Why ought we to remember and proclaim His death?
- C: That we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins but Christ, true God and man; and that we may learn to look with terror at our sins, and to regard them as great indeed, and to find joy and comfort in Him alone, and thus be saved through such faith.
- M: What was it that moved Him to die and make satisfaction for your sins?
- C: His great love to His Father and to me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; Ephesians 2.

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-28

"Take, eat; this is My body..."

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. ²⁷ Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

RESPONSORY HYMN

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior | 311 v. 3-4

THE QUESTIONS CONCLUDE

- M: Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?
- C: That I may learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of great love, as said before; and that I may also learn of Him to love God and my neighbor.
- M: What should admonish and incite a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?
- C: In respect to God, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord should move him; and in respect to himself, the trouble that lies heavy on him, on account of which such command, encouragement, and promise are given.
- **M:** But what shall a person do if he is not aware of such trouble and feels no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?
- C: To such a person no better advice can be given than that, in the first place, he put his hand into his bosom, and feel whether he still have flesh and blood, and that he by all means believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7. Secondly, that he look around to see whether he is still in the world, and keep in mind that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John chapters 15 and 16; First John, chapters 2 and 5.

Thirdly, he will certainly have the devil also about him, who with his lying and murdering, day and night will let him have no peace within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John chapters 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; Second Timothy 2.

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 13:1-15, 34

A new command: Love one another.

Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. ² And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. ⁵ After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

- ⁶ Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?"
- ⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this."
 - ⁸ Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!"

Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."

⁹ Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!"

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."
¹¹ For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."

¹² So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. ¹⁴ "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you...

³⁴ "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

C: 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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

You may be seated.

SERMON – Mark 14:12-17

His Final Steps Led Him to the Upper Room

- 1. Where His disciples carefully prepared for Passover.
 - 2. Where God's Lamb carefully prepared to die.

THE OFFERING

Please stand.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

- M: Holy Lord, Your Son taught us that as often as we eat His bread and drink His cup, we proclaim His death until He comes. Use every proclamation of Christ to turn those without faith to trust in the Passover Lamb who offered Himself for our salvation. Bless our partner churches throughout the world, not only the churches of our own Evangelical Lutheran Synod, but also our brothers and sisters in the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference. Strengthen our common confession, so that we rejoice in the oneness You give us.
- C: Provide opportunities to encourage one another and proclaim together Your Son, who poured out His blood of the covenant for us.
- **M:** Lord, we remorsefully confess that we are prone to stray from You. Guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world and our own sinful human nature. Forgive our sins and strengthen our faith.
- C: Keep us as Your own until You bring us to feast with angels, archangels and all Your saints at Your heavenly table.
- **M:** As Your Son washed His disciples' feet and then offered Himself in service by going to the cross, give us humble hearts that are ready always to serve our families, our friends, our communities and even our enemies, caring for everyone in Your name and using our lives to do Your will.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

- **M:** Christ entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood; He has redeemed us and inaugurated Your new covenant. Teach us to examine ourselves, so that confessing our sins, we come in repentance to receive our Savior's body and blood.
- C: By these gifts, grant us Christ's forgiveness and renew us in faith.

M: Into Your hands, O Lord, we place ourselves and all those for whom we pray, confident of the mercy that You show to us because of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

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 INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

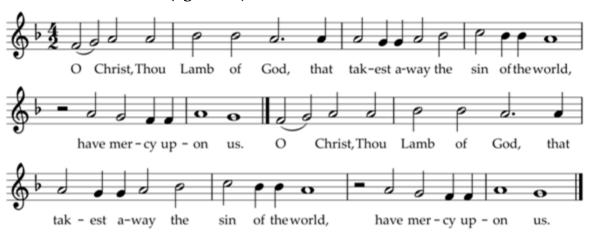


After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: Amen.

THE LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)





You may be seated.

During the Distribution, communicants may come forward at the direction of the ushers.

THE DISTRIBUTION

LADIES' ENSEMBLE

Take and Eat

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

The Death of Jesus Christ Our Lord | 163

Following the Sacrament, the congregation will stand and sing the HYMN OF THANKSGIVING.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

O Lord, We Praise Thee | 313

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

During the closing hymn, women from the congregation will remove the Communion vessels and solemnly strip the altar and chancel of vestments to remind us all of the Lord's abandonment by his disciples and in preparation for Good Friday. When the women have finished removing all the paraments from the chancel, they will exit the sanctuary. Upon a moment for meditation and reflection, the congregation is also dismissed.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Good Friday Tenebrae Service (Comm.) – April 7, 6:30 p.m. Easter Festival Service (Comm.) – April 9, 8:00 a.m.



Easter Breakfast will be served following the Easter Festival Service.