

Order of Worship for Maundy Thursday

Grace Lutheran Church of Wayne, Nebraska

April 1, 2021 6:15 p.m.

On this night known in the Church as Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday, Jesus invites us to join Him once again at His Table. He knows our need for strengthening and reassurance. The place in which we gather is filled with the blessing of fellowship as we remember the new command of our Lord Jesus to love one another. Our Lord serves us in many ways, most singularly as the Host at His Table, where we receive His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Time and again we are invited to return to the Table, where truly we experience a foretaste of the feast to come.

Maundy Thursday marks the beginning of the celebration of the three days of Christ's Passover from death to life and from captivity to freedom, sometimes called the Triduum. At the close of tonight's service the altar is reverently stripped in preparation for the Church's observance of Jesus' death on Good Friday.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

♫ **OPENING HYMN: "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"** *LSB 636 sts. 1, 5, 7-8*

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
Come into the daylight's splendor, There with joy your praises render.
Bless the One whose grace unbounded This amazing banquet founded;
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**
- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You And, so favored, never leave You.**
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.**
- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited, Be Your love with love required;
By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me As Your guest in heav'n receive me.**

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CONFSSIONAL ADDRESS

Stand

- 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.

Silence for 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** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P** Let us pray. O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:3–11

³Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decrees And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." ⁴And 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. ⁵And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. ⁶And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he

threw against the altar. ⁷Then 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.” ⁸And 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.” ⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and 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. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

¹⁶The 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? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 14:12–26

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus’] disciples said to Him, “Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?” ¹³And 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, ¹⁴and 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?’” ¹⁵And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us.” ¹⁶And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. ¹⁸And 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.” ¹⁹They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, “Is it I?” ²⁰He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. ²¹For 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.” ²²And 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.” ²³And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴And He said to them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly, 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.” ²⁶And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

♫ **SERMON HYMN: "When You Woke That Thursday Morning"**

LSB 445

- 1** When You woke that Thursday morning, Savior, teacher, faithful friend,
Thoughts of self and safety scorning, Knowing how the day would end;
Lamb of God, foretold for ages, Now at last the hour had come
When but One could pay sin's wages: You assumed their dreadful sum.
- 2** Never so alone and lonely, Longing with tormented heart
To be with Your dear ones only For a quiet hour apart:
Sinless Lamb and fallen creature, One last paschal meal to eat,
One last lesson as their teacher, Washing Your disciples' feet.
- 3** What was there that You could give them That would never be outspent,
What great gift that would outlive them, What last will and testament?
"Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me as the Lamb of God:
Do this in remembrance of Me, Eat this body, drink this blood."
- 4** One in faith, in love united, All one body, You the head,
When we meet, by You invited, You are with us, as You said.
One with You and one another In a unity sublime,
See in us Your sister, brother, One in ev'ry place and time.

**5 One day all the Church will capture That bright vision glorious,
And Your saints will know the rapture That Your heart desired for us,
When the longed-for peace and union Of the Greatest and the least
Meet in joyous, blest communion In Your never-ending feast.**

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SERMON: “Return to the Lord: Return to the Table”

Pastor Erik

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Remembering Jesus’ love shown in both the washing of His disciples’ feet and in instituting the Lord’s Supper, let us bring our prayers before the Father, trusting in His abundant mercy for us. For the Church, that, following Jesus’ example of washing feet, we obey His command and love one another as He has loved us. And that, nourished by Christ’s body and blood in the Lord’s Supper, our lives reflect the One who first gave the Supper. In prayer,
- C** **we return to You, O Lord.**
- P** For leaders throughout the world, for national, regional, and local leaders, that they choose to lead as servants rather than as lords. In prayer,
- C** **we return to You, O Lord.**
- P** For those in our community who struggle with poverty, addiction, or unemployment, that You use us to serve them and love them as You loved and served them during Your earthly ministry. In prayer,
- C** **we return to You, O Lord.**
- P** For those who are sick, hospitalized, or dying, [*including . . .*]. Bless them with Your presence and heal them according to Your will. Use us to touch their lives in ways that reflect Your servant heart. In prayer,
- C** **we return to You, O Lord.**
- P** For this congregation, that You guide us toward being a people known in our community for serving others in love, as You loved and served Your disciples by the washing of feet and giving them the food of Your body and blood. In prayer,
- C** **we return to You, O Lord.**
- P** In remembrance of those who during their lives loved and served You and are now embraced in Your love forever, help us to follow their example of love and service, as we await that day when we join them in the eternal feast of heaven. In prayer,
- C** **we return to You, O Lord.**
- P** You make us one in the body and blood of Christ, O Lord. Let both our individual prayers and these prayers of our worshiping community rise to You, for You promise to hear them and to give us what is good, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

PREFACE

LSB 194

♪**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.**

P It is truly meet, 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**

LSB 195

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

C **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

LSB 197

PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

♪**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

♪**C** **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

♪**C** **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.**

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

♪ **“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”**

LSB 637

- 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.
- 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields, To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav’nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
- 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow As in this feast of love You bless us now.

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♪ **“The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord”**

LSB 634

- 1 The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress, Our heart’s sweet joy and happiness.
- 2 He blotted out with His own blood The judgment that against us stood;
For us He full atonement made, And all our debt He fully paid.
- 3 That this forever true shall be He gives a solemn guarantee:
In this His holy Supper here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
- 4 His Word proclaims and we believe That in this Supper we receive
His very body, as He said, His very blood for sinners shed.
- 5 We dare not ask how this can be, But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins: “Given and shed for all your sins.”
- 6 They who this word do not believe This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find— May we this warning keep in mind!
- 7 But blest is each believing guest Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain With all who here His grace obtain.
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest. Amen! They who believe are blest.

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Stand

♪ **POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: “Nunc Dimittis”**

LSB 199

- ☐ 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.**

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

♪**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

♪**C** **and His mercy endureth forever.**

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

♪**C** **Amen.**

♪**P** The Lord be with you.

♪**C** **And with thy spirit.**

♪**P** Bless we the Lord.

♪**C** **Thanks be to God.**

♪**P** 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.

♪**C** **Amen.**

♪**CLOSING HYMN AND STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR “Go to Dark Gethsemane”** *LSB 436*

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter’s pow’r;
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**
- 2 Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.**
- 3 Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.**
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris’n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.**

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Acknowledgments

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