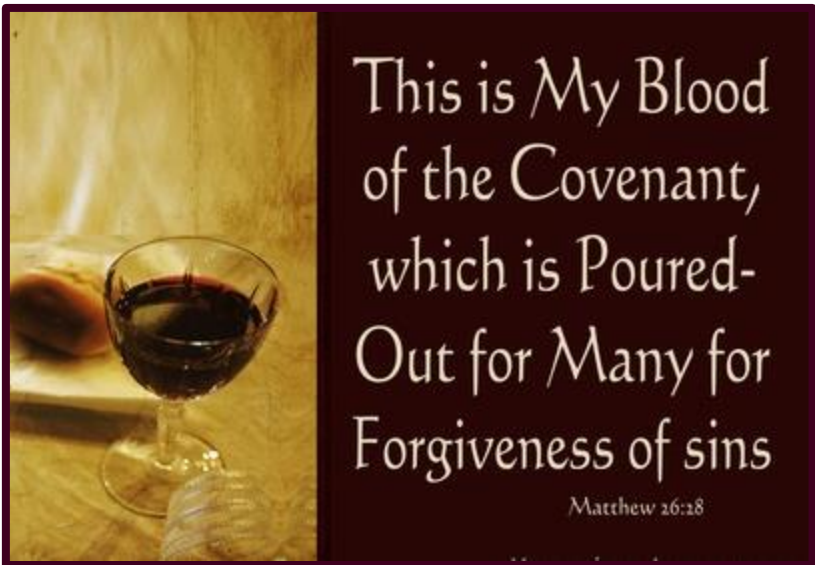


Maundy Thursday
April 9, 2020



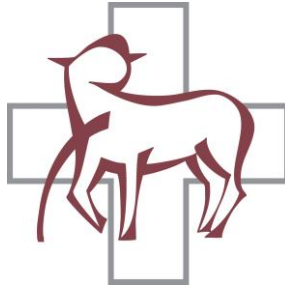
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-683-1300

www.hclchr.org



April 9, 2020

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)

9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes and Sunday School.....9:15 a.m.

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Office.....303-683-1300

Kristen Foss, Director, Early Learning Center.....303-683-1311

Fax..... 303-470-0165

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:
Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***

We remember, Lord Jesus, that on this night in which You were betrayed, You provided the blessed meal of Your Holy Supper for us. On the eve of the most dreadful hours of Your life, we should think of what You were facing. But You did not think of Yourself. You thought of us. You cared for us, and You remembered us so that we could remember often what You have done for our salvation. Accept now our thanks, Lord, and keep alive in us the hope that we shall break bread with You in eternity. Amen.



Confession and Absolution

435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -

by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**



Service of the Word

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- 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.**

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 24:3-11

Moses 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." 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. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. 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." 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."

Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, 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. And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-22

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. For where a will is involved, the death of the

one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel: Matthew 26:17-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. 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." Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it

to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for 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 again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Sit

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,

And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow

Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Public domain

Sermon

"The Blood of the Covenant"

Based on the Old Testament Reading

Stand



Creed

**☩ 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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**



Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer, we thank You that on the night You were handed over to Your voluntary suffering and death, You instituted for us the Holy Sacrament of Your true body and blood as a perpetual memorial of Your atoning sacrifice, a solemn pledge of Your mercy and continual presence, and a salutary means of grace.

- P** Lord, in Your mercy;

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** You are the true and only Passover Lamb in this Holy Supper, and by giving us Your body to eat and Your blood to drink You grant us a wondrous communion with You as very members of Your Body. Here do You impart and seal to us the merits of Your death and the forgiveness of our sins so that by these, Your gifts of life and salvation, we are righteous and acceptable in the sight of God.

- P** Lord, in Your mercy;

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** O Lord, we have in no way deserved Your goodness, nor can we ever sufficiently thank You for Your loving-kindness toward us. We beseech You, however, to strengthen and sustain us by this blessed and Holy Sacrament. Enable us, by Your grace, daily to appropriate and experience the blessings of Your Passion in such a way that we may heartily praise You for our redemption and from day to day be more intimately united to You by faith and love.

- P** Lord, in Your mercy;

C **hear our prayer.**

P Kindle in us always such a fervent longing for blessed communion with You in the Holy Supper that we may come often to Your Table. By your Holy Spirit also work in us true repentance and a steadfast faith in Your gracious promises, a sincere desire to be in perfect charity with all people, and the earnest purpose to amend our sinful lives. Thus may we be worthy recipients of the Holy Sacrament and, with full pardon of all our sins, be enlivened in the way of righteousness, serve You in holiness and pureness of living and give You continual thanks for all Your goodness to us.

P Lord, in Your mercy;

C **hear our prayer.**

P May Your Holy Supper be a source of comfort to the penitent, a means of enrichment to the poor in spirit, to the sick a sweet relief from the bitterness of pain, and to the dying a pledge of their inheritance with the saints in light.

P Lord, in Your mercy;

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord Jesus, abide in Your Church with Your gracious presence, and let her at all times be a faithful keeper and dispenser of the heavenly treasures entrusted to her for those who believe in You. Bless the right use of the means of grace wherever the remembrance of Your death is kept until You come to judge the living and the dead. Let Your Word and Sacrament strengthen our souls during the days of our pilgrimage on earth, until hereafter we partake of Your Supper with You in Your Father's kingdom; for You live and reign with Him and with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

We commend all for whom we pray into Your hands, O Jesus Christ our Lord, trusting in Your mercy.

C **Amen.**





Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many so that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the Paschal Feast in sincerity and truth. 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,**

Lord God of power and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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

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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

Lutheran Chorale



Distribution

Nunc Dimittis

C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
A light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.
Risen Savior, You are the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. May we who have partaken of the fruits of Your cross bear resurrection fruit unto eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

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 𐀓 give you peace.

C Amen.

The extinguishing of the candles.

The Stripping of the Altar

(For silent contemplation)

The Stripping of the Altar is an ancient feature of Maundy Thursday. It is symbolic of the humiliation of Jesus at the hands of the Roman soldiers in the Garden of Gethsemane on the eve of His crucifixion. Immediately after the candles have been extinguished at the conclusion of the Divine Service, the communion vessels and other appointments are removed from the altar, the paraments are stripped from the altar, the lectern, and the pulpit, and the offering plates are removed from their stand. The chancel has been cleared for the solemn services on Good Friday.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." On the cross on Good Friday our Light is covered in the darkness of sin. The extinguished candles are removed from the altar.

The missal stand holds the worship book that guides our prayers and thanksgiving to God. It also holds the Bible, the Scriptures that testify about Jesus. We remember the anguish of our Lord as the worship book, the Bible, and the missal stand are removed from the altar. All praises and words are silenced as darkness covers the earth.

Our offerings are part of our service to our neighbor. In His death our Lord offers all of Himself for us and for our salvation. As the offering plates are removed from the chancel, we recall our Lord's body offered for us, which was removed from the cross and laid in the tomb.

Less than twenty-four hours before Jesus drew His last breath, our Lord instituted the New Testament in His blood. Jesus and His disciples left the Upper Room and went to the Garden of Gethsemane where He prayed prior to the suffering He was to endure. So we remove the elements and vessels of His Holy Meal in preparation for acknowledging His tremendous sacrifice.

Our altar is the Lord's Table: here Jesus serves as Host and Meal. The altar linens and paraments are made of fine cloth, materials appropriate for feasting with our King. As our Lord's body was stripped in crucifixion, so our chancel and its furniture are stripped of their coverings.

Our chancel has been prepared for the solemn worship services on Good Friday.





Soli Deo Gloria !

(To God alone be the glory.)



*In a most solemn and intimate setting with His disciples on the eve of His death, Jesus spoke fewer than fifty words to institute the Holy Supper. Jesus said what He meant and meant what He said when He said, “This **is** My body ... This **is** My blood.”*

Good News, Vol. 2, No. 3, Holy Communion, p. 4.
Good News is published by the Concordia Mission Society.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.