

Maundy Thursday

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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.

Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution

Facing the altar, the pastor stands at the foot of the chancel and says:

- P In the name of the Father and of the 4 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... 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 O almighty God, merciful Father, 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. 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 + peace.
- 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.

Service of the Word

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. 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. 10 And 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."

Epistle 1 Cor. 11:23-32

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 covenant 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. 30 That 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.

Holy Gospel

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? 13 You 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."

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

- 1 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress; Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
- 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay; Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
- 3 Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God Pleads for the captives' liberty, Was also shed in love for me.
- 4 Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore, Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.

- 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies, This then shall be my only plea:
 Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me, For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Homily

Prayer of the Church

Offering

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks

for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

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

Lord's Prayer

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."
- P 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

C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray. O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

- Not all the blood of beasts
 On Jewish altars slain
 Could give the guilty conscience peace
 Or wash away the stain.
- But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
 Takes all our sins away;
 A sacrifice of nobler name
 And richer blood than they.
- 3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine, While as a penitent I stand, And there confess my sin.
- 4 My soul looks back to see
 The burden Thou didst bear
 When hanging on the cursèd tree;
 I know my guilt was there.
- Believing, we rejoice
 To see the curse remove;
 We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
 And sing His bleeding love.

629 What Is This Bread

- 1 What is this bread? Christ's body risen from the dead: This bread we break, This life we take, Was crushed to pay for our release. O taste and see—the Lord is peace.
- What is this wine?
 The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
 The cup of grace
 Brings His embrace
 Of life and love until I sing!
 O taste and see—the Lord is King.
- 3 So who am I,
 That I should live and He should die
 Under the rod?
 My God, my God,
 Why have You not forsaken me?
 O taste and see—the Lord is free.
- 4 Yet is God here?
 Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
 In mouth and soul
 He makes us whole—
 Christ, truly present in this meal.
 O taste and see—the Lord is real.

Is this for me?
 I am forgiven and set free!
 I do believe
 That I receive
 His very body and His blood.
 O taste and see—the Lord is good.

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
 That we may feast on You today;
 Beneath these forms of bread and wine
 Enrich us with Your grace divine.
- 2 Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood, The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n, The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.
- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the gift of love retold; All that You are we here receive, And all we are to You we give.
- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we, Rejoicing in our unity, Proclaim Your love until You come To bring Your scattered loved ones home.
- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:O keep us steadfast till that day

When each will be Your welcomed guest In heaven's high and holy feast.

Nunc Dimittis

C O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

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.

Benedicamus and Benediction

- P Let us bless 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.

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

- O sacred Head, now wounded,
 With grief and shame weighed down,
 Now scornfully surrounded
 With thorns, Thine only crown.
 O sacred Head, what glory,
 What bliss, till now was Thine!
 Yet, though despised and gory,
 I joy to call Thee mine.
- 2 How pale Thou art with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn! How doth Thy face now languish That once was bright as morn! Grim death, with cruel rigor, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life; Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor, Thy strength, in this sad strife.

- What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered Was all for sinners' gain;
 Mine, mine was the transgression,
 But Thine the deadly pain.
 Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
 Look on me with Thy favor,
 And grant to me Thy grace.
- My Shepherd, now receive me;
 My Guardian, own me Thine.
 Great blessings Thou didst give me,
 O Source of gifts divine.
 Thy lips have often fed me
 With words of truth and love;
 Thy Spirit oft hath led me
 To heav'nly joys above.
- What language shall I borrow
 To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
 For this Thy dying sorrow,
 Thy pity without end?
 O make me Thine forever!
 And should I fainting be,
 Lord, let me never, never,
 Outlive my love for Thee.
- 6 My Savior, be Thou near me
 When death is at my door;
 Then let Thy presence cheer me,
 Forsake me nevermore!

When soul and body languish,
O leave me not alone,
But take away mine anguish
By virtue of Thine own!

7 Be Thou my consolation,
My shield, when I must die;
Remind me of Thy passion
When my last hour draws nigh.
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,
Upon Thy cross shall dwell,
My heart by faith enfold Thee.
Who dieth thus dies well.

Psalm 22

Stripping of the Altar

As Psalm 22 is read, the communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday. At the conclusion of the Stripping of the Altar, all leave the church in silence.