Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

April 6, 2023 Maundy Thursday



Water and Blood

On this night when our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed into the hands of sinful men, we receive the blessings of forgiveness and new life as we partake of the Lord's Supper. Looking ahead to the death of Jesus on Calvary's cross, we remember with the apostle John that both water and blood flowed from Jesus' side as He was pierced by the spear of a Roman soldier (see John 19:34). The flowing water reminds us of the mystery of our Baptism, as God the Father cleanses us of our sin and makes us His children. The flowing blood reminds us of the deep love of the Savior, who allowed Himself to die a horrific death so that we may experience a glorious resurrection, and it points to the Sacrament of our Lord's body and blood. May the blessings of Jesus flow into our lives as we gather to worship Him.

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Church E-mail: mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com Website: www.mtpisgahlutheran.com

Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH 9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday



We are delighted to have you worship with us today. May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER



Holy Communion is celebrated at all services every Sunday and on special festivals. This Sacrament is the means by which Jesus Christ, the bread of life, gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. In this Meal, Jesus forgives our sins, gives us victory over death and Satan, and delivers his eternal salvation to us. Since this is the true body and true blood of Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, we do not treat this sacrament lightly; rather, we receive it with great reverence and gratitude

to our merciful Savior. Moreover, St. Paul writes: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself (1 Cor. 11:27-29)." An order of self-examination is located on pages 329-330 of your hymnal.

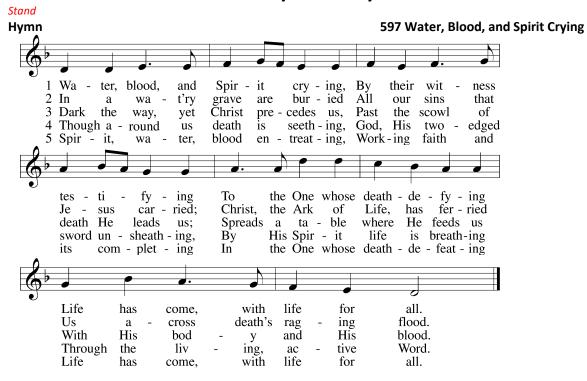
To ensure that all who participate in this sacrament receive this sacred gift as the blessing it is intended to be and not to their condemnation, this congregation, with Christian love and in accordance with Holy Scripture, practices closed communion with those who have been instructed and share our public profession of the Christian faith in all its articles. We therefore ask our guests who wish to commune to speak with the Pastor before the service.

We provide both the common cup and individual cups. The individual cups in the center of tray are alcohol free for those with medical requirements that prevent them from receiving alcohol. Wine, however, is the preferred means to receive the blood of Christ, if and when possible, since wine is what Jesus used to institute this sacrament. Likewise, we use unleavened bread, as our Lord did. Gluten-free hosts are also available for those with medical needs. Please alert the Pastor or an Elder of any needs.

Rev. Jonathan Christensen - Pastor mplc.pastor@gmail.com Office: (828) 692-7027 ex.402

Cell: (920)530-8606

Maundy Thursday



Corporate Confession and Absolution

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.

Opening Sentences

2 Corinthians 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5

- P For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,
- so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.
- P But He was wounded for our transgressions;
- He was crushed for our iniquities;
- **P** upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
- and with His stripes we are healed.

Sit

During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been

instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new covenant, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

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, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Kneel/Remain Seated

Confession and Absolution

Based on Philippians 2:1–11

Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

- **P** With humble hearts, let us pray together:
- Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.
- P By the water and blood that flowed from Your pierced side, our redemption has been guaranteed and our salvation has been secured.
- Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—
- **P** to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.
- With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
- 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.

Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was betrayed, slandered, and sentenced to death on the cross. By the water and blood that flowed from His pierced side, Jesus pours out His cleansing forgiveness upon us all. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the H- Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- 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

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the

rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle 1 John 5:5–12

⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gradual

Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a Tone E



[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of | his own blood,* thus securing an eternal re- | demption.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new | covenant,*

so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal in- | heritance.

He sent redemption to his | people;*

he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

Holy Gospel Mark 14:12–26

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.
- 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.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene 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.



Sermon

Stand

Prayer

- P Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You that You have gathered us together on this night when Your Son instituted the Supper we are privileged to receive.
- Grant that the promised treasures of Your Word remind us of the mercy You give to us by the water and the blood.
- Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.
- Encourage our hearts and minds as we hold fast to Your Word, knowing that all You accomplished during Holy Week was done for our salvation.
- P Holy Spirit, make us one through this sacred Meal we now prepare our hearts to receive, that in the communion of saints we may be strengthened in our fellowship with Christ Jesus and with one another.
- All glory, honor, and praise be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Were You There That Thursday Morning Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 160

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- 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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

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 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:

LSB 161

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.

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 ⅓ 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."



Proclamation of Christ

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

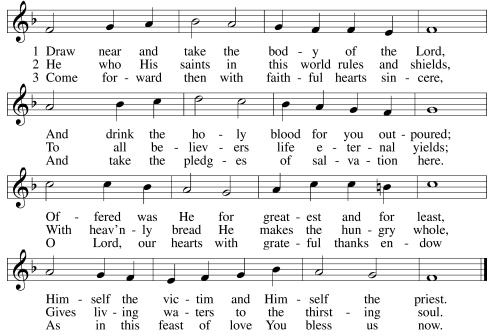
Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Sit

Distribution Hymn

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord



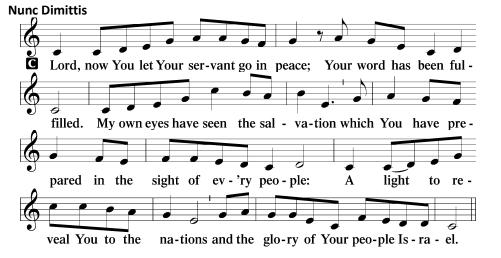
Distribution Hymn

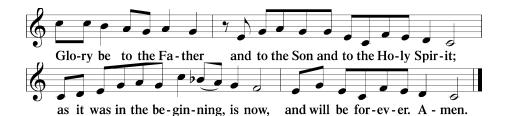
641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

LSB 165



Stand





Post-Communion Collect

- A Let us pray... O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.



Stripping of the Altar

The chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.

The Cantor will chant Psalm 22, and the congregation will sing responses from Hymn #431,



¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*
Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,* and by night, but I | find no rest.

³Yet you are | holy,*

enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

⁴In you our fathers | trusted;*

they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

⁵To you they cried and were | rescued;*

in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and | not a man,*

scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

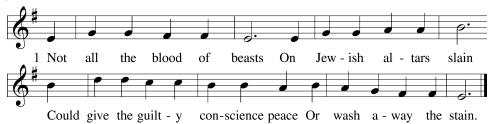
⁷All who see me | mock me:*

they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

8"He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;* let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!"

Hymn

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts st. 1



⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;* you made me trust you at my | mother's breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast | from my birth,*

and from my mother's womb you have | been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble | is near,* and there is | none to help.

¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;* strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;

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<sup>13</sup>they open wide their | mouths at me,* like a ravening and roaring | lion.
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Hymn

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts st. 2



¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me;*

a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my | hands and feet—

¹⁷I can count | all my bones—*

they stare and gloat | over me;

¹⁸they divide my garments a- | mong them,* and for my clothing they | cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!*

O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,*

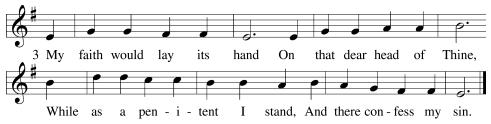
my precious life from the power | of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!*

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!

Hymn

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts st. 3



²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*

in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,* and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!

¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are | out of joint;* my heart is like wax; it is melted with- | in my breast;

¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;* you lay me in the | dust of death.

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<sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his | face from him,* but has heard, when he | cried to him.
<sup>25</sup>Form your companies in the great companies in the great companies.
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²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;* my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.

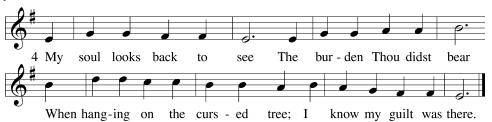
²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!*

May your hearts live for- | ever!

Hymn

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts st. 4



²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember

and turn | to the LORD,*

and all the families of the nations

shall worship be- | fore you.

²⁸For kingship belongs | to the LORD,* and he rules over the | nations.

²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;* before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.

³⁰Posterity shall | serve him;*

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;

³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,* that he has | done it.

Hvmn

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts st. 5



We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed-ing love.

All leave the church in silence.