

My Close Friend

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024

Dale Scheiderer – Organist

AS WE GATHER

Have you ever been betrayed by someone close to you? You are not alone. King David prayed in Psalm 41:9, “Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.” To have a heel lifted against you is to receive a tremendous kick. It is a kick that sends you reeling and knocks the breath out of you—much like the feeling of being betrayed by a trusted friend. When trust has been broken, you can pray David’s words as your own and put your trust in the One whose betrayal they prophesy. For your Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took the pain and shame for you.

HYMN

“Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread”

LSB 625

+ PREPARATION +

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 34:1, 3, 8-9, 15, 22

- P** I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- C** Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!
- P** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!
- C** Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!
- P** The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and His ears toward their cry.
- C** The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Jesus, Greatest at the Table”

LSB 446

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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. ⁷“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. ¹⁰And 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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SERIES PSALM

“Be Gracious to Me”

Psalms 41:9-10

A May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

C May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

A Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!

C May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 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. ³⁰That 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

VERSE

John 13:1b

Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:1-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

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? ¹³You 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. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate My bread has lifted his heel against Me.' ¹⁹I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am He. ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives the one who sent Me." ²¹After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in His spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." ²²The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom He spoke. ²³One of His disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table close to Jesus, ²⁴so Simon Peter motioned to Him to ask Jesus of whom He was speaking. ²⁵So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when He had dipped the morsel, He gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." ²⁸Now no one at the table knew why He said this to him. ²⁹Some thought that, because Judas had the

moneybag, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON: “MY CLOSE FRIEND” - Psalm 41:9

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 + of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

OFFERING

+ **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** +

PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION *(as found on page 6 of this worship program)*

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.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

LSB 161

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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.

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.

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

☩ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☩ Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared”

LSB 622

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

LSB 680

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

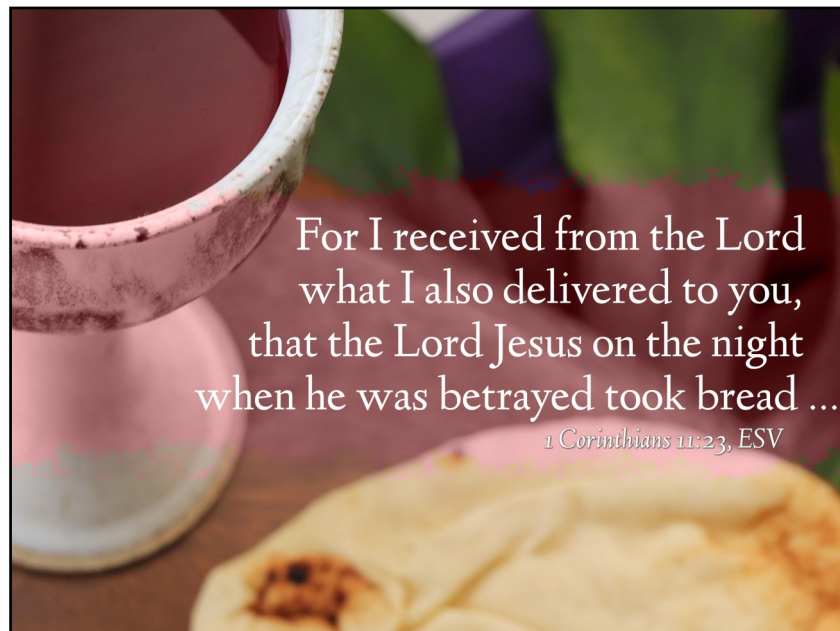
HYMN

“When You Woke That Thursday Morning”

LSB 445

+ **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR** +
WE LEAVE IN SILENCE

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PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1 Corinthians 11:27-29

The following is a summary of what we believe and teach as Missouri Synod Lutheran Christians. Because we care for you, we ask that you carefully review the following statements:

1. I have been baptized into the name of the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:16-20*
2. I have been instructed concerning the meaning of Holy Communion, understand the importance of self-examination prior to coming to the Lord's Supper and have made my confirmation of faith. *1 Corinthians 11:27-29*
3. I confess that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness. I am sorry for my sins. *1 John 1:8-9*
4. I believe that Jesus Christ, God's Son, is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil. *Romans 3:21-24*
5. I believe that the body and blood of Jesus Christ are really present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, and I desire to receive Christ's body and blood, given and shed for my forgiveness. *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*
6. If possible, so far as it depends on me, I seek to live peaceably with all. *Romans 12:17-19*
7. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I desire and intend to lead a more Godly and Christ-like life, trusting in God's promises and obeying His commands. *Galatians 5:22-24*

If you unreservedly agree with the seven points above, you are invited to come to the Lord's Supper. If you do not agree with one or more of the seven points, please refrain from participating in Holy Communion lest you sin against the body and blood of the Lord. If you agree with the seven points above but are not a member of St. John's, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and invite you to give prayerful consideration to joining our partnership in the Gospel. You are encouraged to speak with a pastor or elder prior to communing regarding any point(s) of disagreement and/or regarding the process of joining St. John's.

Gluten-Free Communion Wafers: A gluten-free communion wafer option is now available for those who are allergic. They are located in the brass cup in the middle of the communion plate.

Communion Wine: For those who have health related, or other issues with drinking alcohol, please take the purple individual communion cup. It contains all water with one drop of wine.

