



Maundy
Thursday

*See the Cross of Christ
In the Feast of Paradise He Shares with Us*



Maundy Thursday
Holy Communion Service

April 1, 2021

Worship focus: *See the Cross of Christ in the
Feast of Paradise He Shares with Us*

A note about the service: The word “Maundy” comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means command. Jesus said, “A new command I give you that you should love one another, as I have loved you.” (John 13:34) He showed us his love by sacrificing himself in our place and giving us his body and blood in the Sacrament to connect us to his sacrifice. As we remember the institution of the Lord’s Supper, our service takes us from that Upper Room, where he instituted that Lord’s Supper, to the altar, where he bids us to eat and drink.

Please stand.

Opening Hymn **313**– “Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior” (verses 1, 2, & 4)

**1. Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior,
Turned away God's wrath forever;
By his bitter grief and woe
He saved us from the evil foe.**

**2. As his pledge of love undying,
He, this precious food supplying,
Gives his body with the bread
And with the wine the blood he shed.**

**4. Useless would be Jesus' passion
If salvation you could fashion.
Do not come if you suppose
You need not him who died and rose.**

Please be seated.

SERMON Text: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Theme: "Do this in Remembrance of Me."

- I. Even when you are at your worst,
- II. Jesus Gives You the Best
- III. To proclaim what he has done.

Hymn 313 v. 6-8 – "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior" (verses 6-8)

**6. Then hold fast with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the souls who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.**

**7. Praise the Father, who from heaven
Unto us such food has given
And, to mend what we have done,
Gave into death his only Son.**

**8. If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
Surely you will be his guest
And at his banquet ever blest.**

Please stand.

Confession of Sins

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness

C: **Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess that I have not loved you with all my heart, in what I have done and left undone. I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.**

I am truly sorry for my sins.

I repent of them.

I beg for your mercy, O Lord.

P: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

C: Cleanse me from my sins.

Release me from my guilt.

Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

P: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and made us at peace with God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be at peace with one another.

All: Brothers and sister, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

P: Let us pray

Lord Jesus Christ, in the sacrament of Holy Communion you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON – Exodus 12:21-30

The Passover pointed ahead to the great sacrifice that Jesus would make to save us from death.

²¹ Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. ²² Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. Not one of you shall go out the door of his house until morning. ²³ When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.

²⁴ “Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. ²⁵ When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. ²⁶ And when your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ ²⁷ then tell them, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.’ ” Then the people bowed down and worshiped. ²⁸ The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron. ²⁹ At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. ³⁰ Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

THE PSALM

Psalm 116

Spoken responsively

P: I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;

C: he heard my cry for mercy.

P: Because he turned his ear to me.

C: I will call on him as long as I live.

P: The Lord is gracious and righteous;

C: when I was in great need, he saved me.

P: For you, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death,

C: my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

P: How can I repay the Lord

C: for all his goodness to me?

P: I will lift up the cup of salvation

C: and call on the name of the Lord.

**ALL: 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.**

SECOND LESSON – 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17

Holy Communion is real, not just symbolic. Jesus' body and blood connect us to God and his forgiveness. They also unite us with each other.

¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY 309 -- "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"
(verses 1 & 3)

**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.**

**3. Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;
In this your feast of love be with us now.**

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, author of the everlasting covenant and giver of salvation,

C: We gather in your courts to offer you our praise and thanksgiving.

P: For fulfilling your promise to establish a new covenant through the blood of your Son, Jesus Christ,

C: We give you humble and hearty thanks.

P: As our Lord Jesus Christ gave thanks when he broke, as he gave thanks to you when he took the cup,

C: We also give thanks to you.

P: Precious Savior, both Priest and offering, awe and wonder fill our hearts as we partake of your body broken for us and your blood shed for us.

C: We praise you, bless you, and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ.

P: In our poverty of righteousness, we have nothing to offer. Without tremendous sacrifice, we would still be in our sins,

C: But through, your sacrament of the New Testament, we are assured that our iniquities are forgiven and our sins are no longer remembered.

P: O Holy Spirit, dwell within us as we remember our Lord's death in this sacrament. Enter our hearts to strengthen our faith and fill us with gratitude for your great mercy.

C: Move us to encourage one another to love and to do good works.

P: As our Lord served his disciples by washing their feet, so may we also humbly serve one another.

**C: Help us live our lives as sacrifices of thanksgiving to him who first loved us.
Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Please stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Mark 14:12-26

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 14.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord. (*spoken*)

¹² On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³ So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴ Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵ He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." ¹⁶ The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷ When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸ While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely not I?" ²⁰ "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

²² While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." ²³ Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴ "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. ²⁵ "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."

²⁶ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts to the Lord.

C: We lift them up 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 and right to give you thanks, O Lord, mighty Father, everlasting God through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this night gave us a new command and a new covenant, which he established by his sacrifice on our behalf. Therefore, we approach your table with repentant, yet expectant hearts, yearning for the forgiveness you have so freely given us through our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI **268** – "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" (verse 3)

**3. Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross did suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Yourself to scorn did offer.
All sins you carried for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Your peace be with us, O Jesus!**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION “Eat This Bread”- Trinity Quartet (*Amy Rettig, Beth Rausch, David Baumann, Dan Webb, accompanied by Julia Lisanti*)
Handbell Choir

Please stand.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Though you had every cause to condemn us for our sins, O Lord, your mercy came to our rescue and delivered up your own Son to be our Savior and Redeemer. He willingly accepted the cross, its suffering, and its death, that his cross might be raised up as the means to hope and salvation for all who trust in him. Give us every comfort through our cross and inspire us to faithfully raise it up through the witness of our words and our lives, that all may know with us the love that has set us free; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. (*spoken*)

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 on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen. (*spoken*)

Please be seated.

HYMN 108 – “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary” (verse 2)

**2. Dare we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
As we see you wounded, bleeding,
See your thorn-encircled brow?
Since your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest,
Only what your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner's deep distress. Amen.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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HOLY COMMUNION: The Bible teaches us that Holy Communion is a public demonstration of participants' united confession of the Bible's teachings (1 Cor. 10:17). Since we strive to follow all that the Bible teaches, we believe that members of this congregation or the WELS or ELS synod are united in the true teaching and may commune together. All guests should speak with a pastor before Communion, to first determine if unity of faith exists. We're eager to establish a unity of faith and to declare this oneness at Communion with you.

THERE WILL BE a call meeting immediately following the Maundy Thursday service this evening to call a 1st & 2nd grade teacher as well as a 7th & 8th grade teacher/principal. All voters and members, men and women, are encouraged to attend.

A SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING will be held Sunday, April 11, immediately after second service. We will be discussing the future of busing at our school as well as necessary masonry work needed on the school building. The congregation (all voters, men, and women) and school parents are encouraged to attend to voice your opinions on these important matters.

CALL MEETING: There will also be a call meeting Sunday, April 11 to call a pastor. Please plan on attending both meetings.

JOIN US tomorrow evening, April 2, at 7:00pm as Holy Week worship continues with our Good Friday service. Easter Sunrise service begins Sunday, April 4 at 6:30am, with the second service beginning at 9:30am. Join in the celebration of new life in Christ!

THE SEASON OF LENT

The season preceding Easter resulted from two elements: an extended fast in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection and a regulated period of preparation for baptism. In Egypt there was a post-Epiphany fast of forty days that followed the celebration of the baptism of our Lord and recalled his baptism (Matthew 4). This pattern of a forty day fast affected the development of the Lenten fast in other areas of the church.

The Council of Nicea (325 AD) mentions an undefined forty-day period, but the actual length of the season differed considerably in the various regions of the church depending on which days were included in the fast. Finally, in the 7th century, the Roman church marked the season with the Wednesday in the seventh week preceding Easter. The Sundays in Lent were not counted as part of the 40 days, since they were not fast days but retain their significance as “little Easters.”

Our word “lent” comes from an Old English word for spring (“lengthen,” the time of year when the days grow longer). For us, the Lenten season is a time to meditate deeply on the meaning of Christ’s suffering and death for our salvation as well as a time in which to concentrate on the continuing importance of amending our sinful lives.

The color of the paraments during this season is purple. Purple is the color of mourning and repentance. As we remember the great sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for us, we also turn from our sin and turn to God to save and redeem us. Then, in the peace of forgiveness, we praise the Lord by turning from our sins and living a life that gladly follows his law.

