

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School (LCMS)

Est. 1864



Pastors:

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Important Announcements

For *those who watch services on Live-Stream*
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Maintaining Piety when Worshiping at Home: The best way to get the most out of this temporary set-up is to keep things in your household as regular as possible:

- Print the bulletin or use your hymnals
- Dress like you would dress for church
- Stand when we stand, sit when we sit
- Sing along with the hymns
- Watch at the live time, Sunday morning, setting it aside as first priority instead of looking for whatever time is most convenient for you
- Limit the distractions, toys, and tech so that the time is truly "sacred" (set-apart) for Christ and His means of grace

These ideas can help you focus on the Service of the Word and will also help you prevent bad habits from developing.

† Maundy Thursday †

April 6, 2023

Preacher: Pr. Matthew Moss
Liturgist: Pr. Matthew Johnson
Kantor: Dr. Katie Moss
Choir: St. John's Adult Choir

***Special Note for the Live Stream:** Because the Absolution and Communion are sacramental acts that require the in-person interaction of penitent & pastor and communicant & pastor, we will not Live Stream those portions of the Divine Service. If you desire a more detailed explanation of the status of the controversies in Christianity and the LCMS around these acts that have led us to this decision on this practice, your pastors are more than willing to discuss it with you.*

(Note: Tonight begins the "Triduum" or three-day Passion celebration. To remind us of this a Prelude is played tonight and the Postlude will be heard on Easter Day, the conclusion of the Triduum.)

Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution

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 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.

Sit

P 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 testament 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 testament, 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/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

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.

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.

P 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.

When all have been absolved, they may greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you."

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.

Service of the Word

Epistle

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 111:4–5; John 6:55–56

He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

My flesh is true food, and my blood is | true drink.*

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and | I in him.

Holy Gospel

John 13:1–15

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

C 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

choir sings stzs. 2, 4, 6, 8



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's
 2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious
 3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you
 4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this



wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,
 are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,
 food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,



He saved us from the e - vil foe.
 And with the wine the blood He shed.
 His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.
 Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
 That this food is to be taken
 By the sick who are distressed,
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor
 Were the cost of God's high favor;
 Do not come if you suppose
 You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,
 And receive My grace and favor:
 Those who feel no pain or ill
 Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying
 If not for your justifying?
 And what use this precious food
 If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes
 And your mouth your sin confesses,
 You will be your Savior's guest,
 Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourish
 That its fruit of love may flourish
 And your neighbor learn from you
 How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369-1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (sts. 1-2, 4-5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.
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 Text (sts. 1-2, 4-5, 7, 9) and tune: Public domain

Sermon: *A Pledge of Love Undying* (1 Cor. 11:26, 32 and John 13:1)

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Distribution Hymns

634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

st. 4 - men; st. 5 - women



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

- 5 We dare not ask how this can be,
But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins:
“Given and shed for all your sins.”
- 6 They who this word do not believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—
May we this warning keep in mind!
- 7 But blest is each believing guest
Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain
With all who here His grace obtain.
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1-4, 6-8): Haquin Spegel, 1645-1714; (sts. 1-4, 6-8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841-1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite
Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742
Text and tune: Public domain

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.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal Hymn:

617 O Lord, We Praise Thee



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
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Post-Communion Collect

A 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 in 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.

Sit

Stripping of the Altar

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.

- 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!”
- 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;
- ¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,*
like a ravening and roaring | lion.
- 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.
- 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!
- 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, glorify him,*
 and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
- ²⁴For 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.
- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation,*
 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 forever!
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
 and turn to the LORD,*
 and all the families of the nations
 shall worship before 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 himself alive.
- ³⁰Posterity shall serve him,*
 it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
- ³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,*
 that he has done it.

All leave the church in silence.

Acknowledgments

Holy Thursday from Lutheran Service Book
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The Stripping of the Altar

Following the reading of the Gospel the altar is stripped as the choir sings Psalm 22, prayed by our Lord from His cross. The stripping of the altar reminds us of how the soldiers humiliated our Lord, as Scripture records it, “Then they stripped him . . . and led him away to crucify him.”

Note: The lack of a benediction (and organ postlude) this evening and tomorrow reminds us that the three days (the “Holy Triduum”)—Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter—flow together as one Divine Service. The Divine Service tonight continues through tomorrow night and Saturday night into Sunday morning when the Triduum concludes with our celebration of our Lord’s resurrection, the Benediction, and the organ postlude.

† Schedule of Services †

Good Friday (April 7):

Chief Service of the Word 12:30 pm

Tenebrae Vespers 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday (April 8):

Sunrise Divine Service 6:00 am

EASTER SUNDAY (April 9):

(7:00 am-10:00 am — Easter Breakfast Served)

Divine Services 8:00 & 10:30 am