

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

Est. 1864



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† Maundy Thursday †

April 9, 2020

Exhortation to Confession and Reception of the Lord's Supper

Stand. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

The following exhortation is adjusted from the Altar Book to account for the Live Streaming of a Service of the Word and our in-person Visitations for Absolution and Communion. Adjusted portions are bracketed and in italics.

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 the desire of every Christian to receive the Lord's Supper as often as he is in need of it and when he is worthy and well-prepared, and since*] it was on this night when our Lord Jesus Christ 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, [*your pastors exhort you to schedule a time during this pandemic to meet with us to confess your sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant you forgiveness.*]

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.

Hymn: 634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord



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.

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Service of the Word

Old Testament Lesson

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.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 111:4-5



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.

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

Holy Gospel

John 13:1-15, 34-35

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. . . .

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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



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.

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Sermon Not Now, But Afterward (John 13:7)

Stand

Prayer of the Church & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: 647 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Church's head, You are her one foun -
 2 O Lord, let this Your lit - tle flock, Your name a - lone con -
 3 Help us to serve You ev - er - more With hearts both pure and
 4 And for Your Gos - pel let us dare To sac - ri - fice all



da - tion; In You she trusts, be - fore You bows, And
 fess - ing, Con - tin - ue in Your lov - ing care, True
 low - ly; And may Your Word, that light di - vine, Shine
 trea - sure; Teach us to bear Your bless - ed cross, To



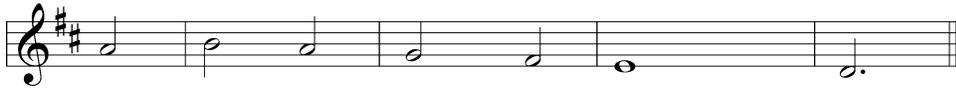
waits for Your sal - va - tion. Built on this rock se - cure,
 u - ni - ty pos - sess - ing. Your sac - ra - ments, O Lord,
 on in splen - dor ho - ly That we re - pen - tance show,
 find in You all plea - sure. O grant us stead - fast - ness



Your Church shall en - dure Though all the world de -
 And Your sav - ing Word To us, Lord, pure re -
 In faith ev - er grow; The pow'r of sin de -
 In joy and dis - tress, Lest we, Lord, You for -



cay And all things pass a - way.
 tain. Grant that they may re - main
 stroy And e - vils that an - noy.
 sake. Let us by grace par - take



O hear, O hear us, Je - sus!
 Our on - ly strength and com - fort.
 O make us faith - ful Chris - tians.
 Of end - less joy and glad - ness.

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Stripping of 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, glo- | rify 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 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!
- 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.

Please observe a moment of silence in your own household in reverence for the holy works of Christ which we shall remember over the next three days.

Acknowledgments

Holy Thursday from Lutheran Service Book

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