

The Service of Confession and Absolution for Maundy Thursday
Holy Cross Lutheran Church (LCMS) – Moline, Illinois
March 28, 2024

The congregation sits in reverent silence during the ringing of the bells and the organ prelude. Then all stand for the Invocation. The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

I will go to the altar of God,

to God my exceeding joy.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

Sit

The Confessional Address

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 cup. For just as the one cup is filled with 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.
Amen.

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.

If you are able, please stand in moments of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

O almighty God, merciful Father,
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.

God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

Amen.

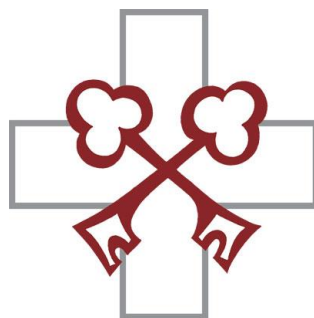
Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

Yes.

Let it be done for you as you believe.

*All come forward and stand/kneel individually or as families and groups
to receive absolution at the inside end of the communion rail closest to the Baptismal font.
As they lay hands on each penitent, the pastors say:*

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.



During Individual Absolution the following hymns are sung:

Hymn: *I Lay My Sins on Jesus*

LSB 606



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



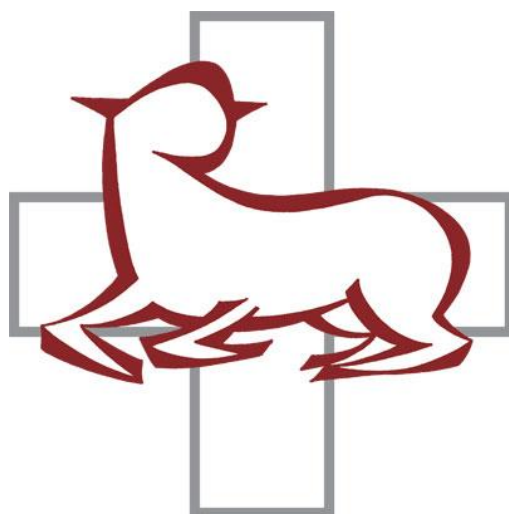
He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.



(Please turn the page for the next hymn)



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
 Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
 Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter passion;
 For these words I now believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
 From the Law I stand acquitted.
 Christ hath purchased my release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Also I have been forgiven;
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to Him I cleave:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

When all have been absolved the pastor pronounces this blessing:

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.

Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

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.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 29:3–11

³You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket, and bring the bull and the two rams. ⁴You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the tent of meeting and wash them with water. ⁵Then you shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the coat and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastpiece, and gird him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod. ⁶And you shall set the turban on his head and put the holy crown on the turban. ⁷You shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. ⁸Then you shall bring his sons and put coats on them, ⁹and you shall gird Aaron and his sons with sashes and bind caps on them. And the priesthood shall be theirs by a statute forever. Thus you shall ordain Aaron and his sons. ¹⁰“Then you shall bring the bull before the tent of meeting. Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the bull. ¹¹Then you shall kill the bull before the LORD at the entrance of the tent of meeting,

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.



Choir: *Come, Ye Disconsolate*

Johnson

*Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish. Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;
Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.*

*Joy of the desolate, Light of the straying, Hope when all others die, fadeless and pure!
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot cure.*

*Here see the Bread of Life, See waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above.
Come to the feast of love; Come, ever knowing
Earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.*

Epistle

I Corinthians 10:16-17

¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Mark 14:12-26

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.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

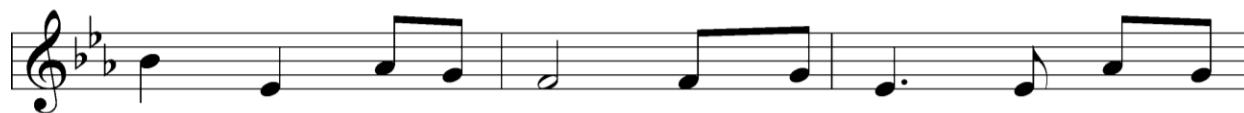
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: When You Woke That Thursday Morning

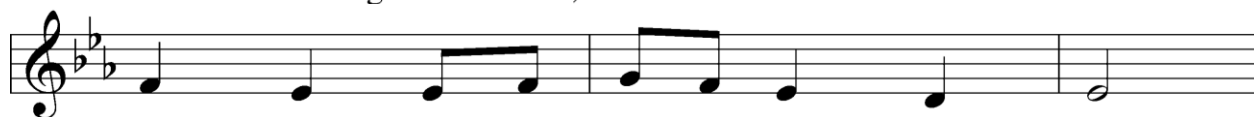
LSB 445



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,
 2 Nev - er so a - lone and lone - ly, Long - ing
 3 What was there that You could give them That would
 4 One in faith, in love u - nit - ed, All one
 5 One day all the Church will cap - ture That bright



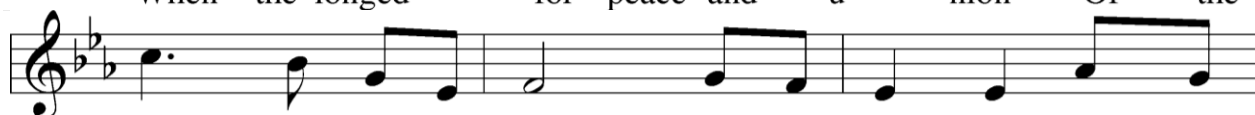
teach - er, faith - ful friend, Thoughts of self and safe - ty
 with tor - ment - ed heart To be with Your dear ones
 nev - er be out - spent, What great gift that would out -
 bod - y, You the head, When we meet, by You in -
 vi - sion glo - ri - ous, And Your saints will know the



scorn - ing, Know - ing how the day would end;
 on - ly For a qui - et hour a - part:
 live them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?
 vit - ed, You are with us, as You said.
 rap - ture That Your heart de - sired for us,



Lamb of God, fore - told for a - ges, Now at
 Sin - less Lamb and fall - en crea - ture, One last
 "Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me
 One with You and one an - oth - er In a
 When the longed - for peace and u - nion Of the



last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's
 pas - chal meal to eat, One last les - son as their
 as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance
 u - ni - ty sub - lime, See in us Your sis - ter,
 Great - est and the least Meet in joy - ous, blest com -



wa - ges: You as - sumed their dread - ful sum.
 teach - er, Wash - ing Your dis - ci - ples' feet.
 of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."
 broth - er, One in ev - 'ry place and time.
 mu - nion In Your nev - er - end - ing feast.

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.**

Prayer, Lord's Prayer, The Words of Institution

Agnus Dei (*Sung*)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

Since Holy Communion presupposes a common unity of faith among those who participate together in this Sacrament, we ask that those who desire to commune with us be confirmed members of a Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregation. Those not able to come to the chancel may speak to the pastor or an elder to commune in their pew. First time communicants please speak to the pastor or an elder. If you are not communing, but would like to come to the chancel for a blessing, please stand or kneel at the rail with your arms crossed over your chest.

Distribution Hymn: *Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared*

LSB 622



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
 2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel
 3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious

our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
 hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence
 hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent
 Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y

and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
 they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
 e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.
 and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.

As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
 And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are

You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
 and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

Organ Interlude

5 Though reason cannot understand,
Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now
At once in many places.
I leave to You how this can be;
Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said;
Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust,
And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears
Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins,
May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for Your grace
And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be
A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

Post-Communion Collect

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 towards one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Because Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter are seen as one service in three parts, no Benediction will be spoken until the Easter Vigil.

Hymn: *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*

LSB 434



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de-spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de-spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de-spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Please remain seated after the final hymn as the altar is stripped of all its appointments, signifying the depth of our Lord's servanthood for us. Then leave the sanctuary in reverent silence, refraining from conversation until you are in the entryway or outside.

The words spoken at the beginning of the stripping of the altar are from Psalm 22:

*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?
Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?
O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.*



+ + +

Officiant and Preacher: Rev. Dr. Wilfred Karsten
Assisting Minister: Rev. Cecil Murdock
Liturgist: Vicar J. Riley Corrigan
Elder: Rich Kraft
Organist: Lynette Karsten
Banners: Barbara Rauh
Vocalists: The Holy Cross Choir
Videographers: Rick Serre, Max Serre, Dale Farmer

Good Friday

12:00-3:00 – Rock Island Circuit Tre Ore Service at Holy Cross
8:00 – Tenebrae, A service of Darkness

Holy Saturday

10:00 Journey to the Cross
8:00 Easter Vigil

Please assemble in the courtyard or the entryway.
We process into the darkened church after the lighting of the Paschal Candle.

Easter Sunday

7:00 – Divine Service with Holy Communion
8:30 – Easter Breakfast
9:30 – Sunday School/Bible Class
10:45 – Divine Service with Holy Communion

Acknowledgments

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