



Maundy Thursday (3:30 service)

April 1, 2021

PRE-SERVICE READING

Matthew 26:17-19

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and Asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover.?" He replies, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him 'The teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS CALLS US TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN – LSB 445

"When You Woke that Thursday Morning"

♫ 1. When You woke that Thursday morning,
Savior, teacher, faithful friend,
Thoughts of self and safety scorning,
Knowing how the day would end;
Lamb of God, foretold for ages,
Now at last the hour had come
When but One could pay sin's wages:
You assumed their dreadful sum.

♪ 2. Never so alone and lonely,
Longing with tormented heart
To be with Your dear ones only
For a quiet hour apart:
Sinless Lamb and fallen creature,
One last paschal meal to eat,
One last lesson as their teacher,
Washing Your disciples' feet.

♪ 3. What was there that You could give them
That would never be outspent,
What great gift that would outlive them,
What last will and testament?
"Show Me and the world you love Me,
Know Me as the Lamb of God:
Do this in remembrance of Me,
Eat this body, drink this blood."

♪ 4. One in faith, in love united,
All one body, You the head,
When we meet, by You invited,
You are with us, as You said.
One with You and one another
In a unity sublime,
See in us Your sister, brother,
One in ev'ry place and time.

♪ 5. One day all the Church will capture
That bright vision glorious,
and Your saints will know the rapture
That Your heart desired for us,
When the longed for peace and union
Of the Greatest and the least
Meet in joyous, blest communion
In Your never-ending feast.

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in Your infinite love, You have invited us to this holy supper in which Your sacrifice, which was made once for all, might be given to us for our forgiveness and salvation. Bless us as we receive it, with faith to know Your real presence in the bread and wine, and strength to obey Your commands. And then receive our heartfelt thanks and praise. In Your most holy name.

C: **Amen**

MAUNDY THURSDAY INVITATION

P: For four hundred years, the Jewish people suffered in slavery in Egypt. When God delivered them through his servant, Moses, they left in haste, taking bread without yeast because they did not have time to wait for it to rise. Each year thereafter, the Jewish people have celebrated Passover by eating unleavened bread and other foods that symbolize this deliverance. In Jesus' day, Passover was celebrated by the Jews in their homes with their family and friends, not in a church or a synagogue. The Passover was celebration of God's deliverance. Jesus used that occasion to institute the Lord's Supper, through which he brings us the blessings of an even greater deliverance. Today, on this Maundy Thursday, we have gathered in church to hear the Word of God. We remember what God has done to rescue us from sin and death.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:1-12

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are.

You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover. "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 12:22-30

But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our “God is a consuming fire.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there.” They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!” They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this. A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

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 on Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON HYMN

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

♪ 1. Where charity and love prevail
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love
By love are we thus bound.

♪ 2. With grateful joy and holy fear
His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
Now love Him in return.

♪ 3. Forgive we now each other's fault
As we our faults confess,
And let us love each other well
In Christian holiness.

♪ 6. For love excludes no race or clan
That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all
Whose Father is the same.

SERMON

"Preparing for the Journey"

Rev. Mark W. Arendell

OFFERING

PRAYER

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Xhrist Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. O, Lord,

C: **You are compassionate and gracious.**

P: O Christ

C: **You are compassionate and gracious.**

P: O Lord,

C: **You are compassionate and gracious.**

P: We lift our hands to You, dear Father, knowing that You hear and answer our prayer. For this, O God,

C: **We give You thanks and praise.**

P: We pray for all who receive the Sacrament today, both here and around the world.

C: Grant us true understanding and a strong faith to receive Your blessings.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: As a deer pants for flowing streams,

C: so pants my soul for You, O God.

P: My soul thirsts for God,

C: for the living God.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: We are assembled to hear God's Word, to call upon Him in prayer, and to receive the body and blood of Christ. Let us think of our unworthiness, confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and realize also that by our own strength we cannot free ourselves from our sinful nature. Therefore, we take refuge in His infinite mercy, seeking and imploring His grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ and saying, God, be merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

C: Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to live everlasting. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † on and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PSALM 116

Selected Verses

Read responsively

P: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;

C: **our God is merciful.**

P: I love the Lord,

C: **because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

P: Because He inclined His ear to me,

C: **therefore, I will call on Him as long as I live.**

P: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of the grave laid hold on me;

C: **I suffered distress and anguish.**

P: Then I called on the name of the Lord:

C: **“O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

P: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;

C: **our God is merciful.**

THE LORD’S SUPPER

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O Lord, in this wondrous gift You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the mystery of Your body and blood given and poured out for us, 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.

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.

P: The apostle Paul wrote these words concerning the Lord's Supper in I Corinthians 11. "For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you." The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, 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." 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." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Come to the table of the Lord!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – LSB 628

"Your Table I Approach"

**♪ 1. Your table I approach;
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart
Prove hurtful to me there.**

♪ 2. Lord, I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at Your hands.

♪ 3. Your body and Your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord,
In blest reality.

♪ 4. Search not how this takes place,
This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more
Than what we think could be.

♪ 5. O grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

♪ 6. Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – LSB 618

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

♪ 1. I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

♪ 2. Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

♪ 3. Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never.
For Thou my faithful shepherd art:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

♪ 4. Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

♪ 5. What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace.
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

P: As Jesus and His disciples concluded their Passover Meal with a hymn, so we also sing.

CLOSING HYMN – LSB 436

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

♩ 1. Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away;
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

♩ 2. Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.

♩ 3. Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear Him Cry;
Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

♩ 4. Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom.
Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.

Ending the service without the benediction reminds
us that our worship continues tomorrow and concluded finally on Easter.

DISMISSAL

P: "When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."
Mark 14:26

The congregation leaves in silence.