
MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2022



WELCOME

INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP: (From Psalm 116)

Pastor: How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?

People: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

HYMN: “Chief of Sinners Though I Be” (LSB #611)

Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.



MAUNDY
Thursday

Oh, the height of Jesus’ love,
Higher than the heav’ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.

Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

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PRAYER

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 12:1-14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ²“This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³Tell 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. ⁴If 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. ⁵The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷Then 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. ⁸ That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ⁹ Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire—head, legs and inner parts. ¹⁰ Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. ¹¹ 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. ¹² "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. ¹⁴ "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance.

EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 10:15-39

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: ¹⁶ "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." ¹⁷ Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more." ¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin. ¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵ Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. ²⁶ If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, ²⁷ but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. ²⁸ Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." ³¹ It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. ³² Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering. ³³ Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. ³⁴ You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. ³⁵ So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. ³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. ³⁷ For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. ³⁸ But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." ³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.

SONG: “Come into the King’s Chambers” (Daniel Gardner)

O Come into the King’s chambers

And worship before His throne.

O come into the King’s chambers,

And His glory shall be shown.

O come into His holy presence

And magnify His name.

O come into the King’s chambers;

You will never be the same. (Repeat)

(C. 1981 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music. Used by permission. CCLI #522460)

GOSPEL READING: Luke 22:7-20

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed.

⁸ Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.”

⁹ “Where do you want us to prepare for it?” they asked. ¹⁰ 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, ¹¹ 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?’ ¹² He will show you a large upper room, all furnished.

Make preparations there.” ¹³ They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they

prepared the Passover. ¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table.

¹⁵ And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶

For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷ After taking

the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸ For I tell you I will not

drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹ 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.” ²⁰ 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.

SONG: “Feed Us Now” (Robin Mann)

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;

Let us know your love anew; We hunger for you.

Feed us now, Bread of life, come and live within;

Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus we pray.

Piece of bread, glass of wine: Lord, this food is good!

Love and mercy come to us; Your promise we trust.

Piece of bread, glass of wine; Who can understand

How His mercy works in these? Yet, Lord we believe.

God is here, O so near; Nearer than our thoughts.

Stay with us where’er we go; Lord, help us to grow.

God is here, O so near, In this heaven’s meal.

May we always feed on you - On bread that is true.

(C. 1976 Robin Mann. Used by permission. CCLI #522460)

SERMON: Matthew 26:17-30

“The King’s Feast” or “The Only Passover that Didn’t Work”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *(Adapted excerpts from the Formula of Concord)*

We believe, teach, and confess according to Jesus’ words, that the true body and blood of Christ are really present in the Holy Supper under the forms of bread and wine and that they are distributed and received. Therefore we are to believe in all humility and obedience the explicit, certain, clear, and earnest words and commands of our Creator and Redeemer, without any doubts or arguments as to how it is to be reconciled with our reason or how it is possible. The Lord who has spoken these words is himself infinite Wisdom and Truth and can certainly accomplish and bring to pass whatever he promises. This is for our good, for the Lord’s Supper was instituted to testify that those who truly repent and comfort themselves through faith in Christ there receive the grace and merits of Christ, are incorporated into Christ, and are washed by the blood of Christ.

OFFERING

PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

People: 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.

CONFESSION OF SIN:

Pastor: It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He now showed them the full extent of His love. *(John 13:1)*

People: “The Blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you.” *(Exodus 12:13)*

Pastor: Today we remember the love of Christ and His blood shed for us. Most merciful God,

People: We confess to You that we are sinners. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have sinned against You. We have not served others as You served us. We have not shown love for You or others. We have often failed to see Your love for us, and failed to show gratitude for it. Cover us with blood of Your Son so the punishment we deserve for our sin may pass over us. For the sake of Jesus, our serving Lord, forgive us. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HYMN: "What is This Bread" (LSB #629)

What is this bread?

**Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break,
This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
O taste and see - the Lord is peace.**

What is this wine?

**The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace
Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing!
O taste and see - the Lord is King.**

So who am I,

**That I should live and He should die
Under the rod?
My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me?
O taste and see - the Lord is free.**

Yet is God here?

**Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
In mouth and soul
He makes us whole -
Christ, truly present in this meal.
O taste and see - the Lord is real.**

Is this for me?

**I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe
That I receive
His very body and His blood.
O taste and see - the Lord is good.**

(Text/tune C. 1991 Fed and Jean Baue. Used by permission LSBHymnLicense.net#100014389)

IN THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WE BELIEVE our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins (Matt 26:26-28). In it we are united with him and with the whole Church. Baptized and confirmed Christians who believe, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that Christ's body and blood are present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament, who acknowledge their sin, set aside any refusal to forgive (Matt 6:15), are sorry, repent (Mark 1:15) and look to Christ alone for forgiveness and strength to live the new life, are welcome to eat and drink at the Lord's table in remembrance of Him. (1 Cor 11:25-25) You may register for Communion as the Friendship Folder is passed to you in the pew. If you have any questions, please speak to the Pastor or a Lay Minister before communing.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Instrumental music during distribution)

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR:

(The stripping of the altar is an ancient feature of Maundy Thursday, symbolic of the humiliation of Jesus at the soldiers' hands.)

Pastor: After the Last Super, less than 24 hours remained in the earthly life of our Lord.

People: Events moved rapidly; prayer in Gethsemane, betrayal by Judas, arrest, mock trial, painful beating, the trudge to Golgotha and execution.

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows Me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."

People: The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the light of the world.

Pastor: As even creation was dark when Jesus suffered, so we extinguish our candles and remove them.

People: Extinguish the candles and take them away.

Pastor: As Jesus' body was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of the Sacrament.

People: Take away the holy vessels dedicated for use in the supper of our Lord.

Pastor: We leave now in silence. Our Holy Week devotion continues tomorrow on Good Friday, as we ponder the death of our Lord and Savior Jesus.

People: Lord, we worship You in life and in death. Amen.

(The congregation leaves in silence.)



Scripture References

April 14, 2022

Matthew 26:17-30

¹⁷ On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸ He replied, "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.'" ¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover. ²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. ²¹ And while they were eating, he said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me." ²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³ Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" Jesus answered, "Yes, it is you." ²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." ²⁷ Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

John 3:16

¹⁶ "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son...

John 1:1-3

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Colossians 1:15-17

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Ephesians 1:22

²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church

Matthew 26:28,29

²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom."

“The King’s Feast” or “The Only Passover that Didn’t Work!”

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1. What happened the first Passover night?
2. How many firstborn children were at the meal Jesus ate with his disciples the night before he died?
3. What do Jehovah Witnesses believe about Jesus?
4. How do we know Jesus isn’t a created being?
5. What does it mean to say Jesus is the “firstborn” over all creation?
6. How was the Passover meal Jesus ate with his disciples different than the very first Passover meal?
7. Why don’t we celebrate the Passover meal today?
8. What’s special about the Lord’s Supper?
9. What makes every day special for us as believers in Christ?