

I will lift up the CUP OF SALVATION and call on the name of the LORD ...

Psalm 116:13



4940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 5508 651-439-7831 www.salemlutheran.org



Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise.

- **PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Loving Savior, you come to us in Word and Sacrament to comfort us with the assurance of forgiveness and life. Bless us as we worship you this Holy Week. Amen.
- **THEME OF THE DAY:** Our evening services this Lenten season have focused on Jesus' final steps as he moved toward the cross. Tonight we find Jesus nearly at his final destination. In the Upper Room with his disciples. Maundy Thursday receives its name from the Latin word "mandatum," which means "command." On the night our Savior was betrayed he gave his disciples the "new commandment" to love one another. That same evening Jesus ate what we call the "Last Supper" with his disciples. There he gave his disciples another new command when he instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion and instructed believers to "do this in remembrance of me."

It is on this second command that we focus this year in our Maundy Thursday service. The Lord's Supper is more than a command. It is most importantly the very body and blood of Christ which we receive in this sacred meal for the forgiveness of our sins.

A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Ryan Wolfe	Piano: Madison Boerner
Choir Director: Roger Zolldan	Duet: Luke & Alli Dorn

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Order of Worship



M: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.C: Amen.

Confession

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

M: As we begin the solemn celebration of our Lord's passion, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

- I have not loved you with my whole heart;
- I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

- M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- M: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.
- C: Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on a cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading

Exodus 24:1-11

When God made a covenant with his people Israel, the contract was sealed with the blood of a sacrifice. This "Old Covenant" would not last.

¹Then the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. You are to worship at a distance, ²but Moses alone is to approach the LORD; the others must not come near. And the people may not come up with him."

³When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD has said we will do." ⁴Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said.

He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD. ⁶Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar.

⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey."

⁸Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

⁹Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up ¹⁰and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as bright blue as the sky. ¹¹But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.

- M: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-29

The Apostle Paul teaches that every time we celebrate the Supper we receive the body and blood of Jesus, sealing again a new covenant of forgiveness.

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night 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, 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." ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. ²⁹For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem

An Upper Room with Evening Lamps Ashine By David W. Music

An upper room with evening lamps ashine, The twelve disciples, and the table spread; Now in our turn Christ bids us pour the wine, And in remembrance bless and break the bread. We see by faith upon the cross displayed His body broken and his blood outpoured; In that dread robe of majesty arrayed We gaze in worship on the dying Lord.

Dead for our sins, yet reigning now above; Still to our hearts we find his presence giv'n; Take for ourselves the pledges of his love, Foretaste and token of that feast in heav'n.

So send us out, to love and serve and praise, Filled with his Spirit, as the Master said: Love, joy and peace the wine of all our day, Christ and his life our true and living bread.

Please stand.

Gospel

John 13:1-15, 34

In the Upper Room, Jesus teaches his disciples about humility and love.

¹It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

⁹"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

¹⁰Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

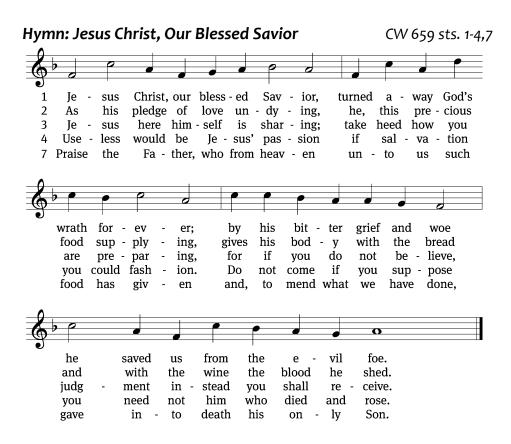
³⁴"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion



Sermon

Based on 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

"Forgiveness in the Upper Room— Do this in remembrance of me"

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.

This evening we prepare our hearts to receive the Lord's Supper using questions and answers from Martin Luther's Small Catechism.

Confession: The Institution of the Lord's Supper

- M: First: What is the Sacrament of Holy Communion?
- C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Confession: The Blessings of the Lord's Supper

- M: Second: What blessing do we receive through this eating and drinking?
- C: That is shown us by these words: "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." Through these words we receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation in this sacrament. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Confession: The Power of the Lord's Supper

- M: Third: How can eating and drinking do such great things?
- C: It is certainly not the eating and drinking that does such things, but the words "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words are the main thing in this sacrament, along with the eating and drinking. And whoever believes these words has what they plainly say, the forgiveness of sins.

Confession: The Reception of the Lord's Supper

- M: Fourth: Who, then, is properly prepared to receive this sacrament?
- C: Fasting and other outward preparations may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words: "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is not prepared, because the words "for you" require nothing but hearts that believe.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

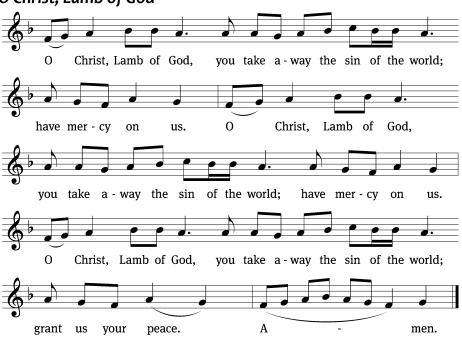
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.



O Christ, Lamb of God

Communion Distribution

For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

Communion Duet

Behold the Lamb (Communion Hymn) By Keith & Kristyn Getty

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away slain for us, and we remember The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross

So we share in this bread of life and we drink of His sacrifice As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King

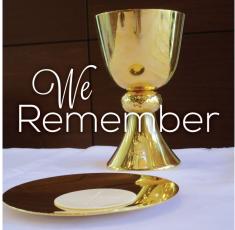
The body of our Savior Jesus Christ torn for you, eat and remember The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one

So we share in this bread of life and we drink of His sacrifice As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin shed for you, drink and remember He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God

So we share in this bread of life and we drink of His sacrifice As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond and to remember Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth



As we share in His suffering we proclaim, "Christ will come again" And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King Around the table of the King

Response of Thanksgiving

- M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
- C: His mercy endures forever.
- M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
- C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Psalm 118:1

1 Corinthians 11:26

Closing Prayer

- M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

While Pastor reads Psalm 88, the altar is solemnly stripped in remembrance of the Lord's abandonment by his disciples and in preparation for Good Friday.

Candles extinguished — Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The events of Good Friday snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the Light of the world. As even creation was dark when he suffered, so we extinguish our candles.

Altar book removed — The Altar Book and hymnal guides our worship together as we hear his Word and respond with prayer and songs of praise. As Jesus suffers these normally joyful sounds grow quiet.

Communion vessels removed — Jesus offered his body and blood as the payment for our sins. They have been given to us in, with and under the form of bread and wine in this Holy Supper. As he was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of this Sacrament.

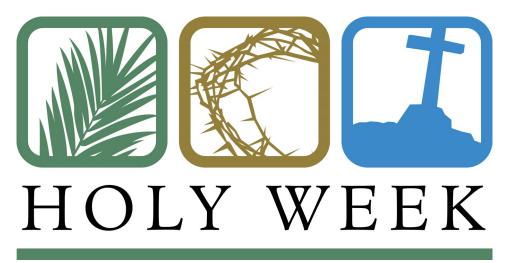
Paraments removed — Paraments are the cloths that cover our altar and display symbols of our God and salvation. Purple, the color of Lent, also points to the purple robe Jesus wore as the soldiers mocked him. As Jesus was stripped of the purple robe, and of his dignity, so we remove the paraments from the altar.

After the completion of the psalm, there is no blessing. These services of Jesus' Passion flow together as one event until Easter. The church is dark. Worshipers may remain for prayer and meditation before dispersing quietly.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®]. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[™] Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense # 48708 and CCLI # 630266



SPECIAL SERVICES CONTINUE

Good Friday, April 7th (10am & 7pm)

"His punishment, our peace"

Easter Sunday Dawn, April 9th (7am)

He Lives...to dry tears and remove fears!

Easter Sunday Festival, April 9th (9 & 10:45am)

He Lives...to take me from death to life!



Salem members serve a fellowship breakfast between services Easter Sunday morning. All are welcome!

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Also printed in the hymnal)

- Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?
- *A*: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.
- Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?
- A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?
- Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?
- *A:* I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.
- Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?
- *A*: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.
- Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?
- A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.
- Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?
- A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."
- Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?
- *A*: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Welcome to worship!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help. Please take note of a few helpful things:

- **+ Restrooms** are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Both men's and women's restrooms are equipped with **diaper changing tables** for your convenience.
- ★ Our sanctuary is equipped with an amplified "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position.
- You will find a connection card in your pew. We ask members and guests to share their names and contact info, and invite you to share requests for contact or prayers. Cards can be placed in the offering basket or left on the table near the sanctuary entrance.
- Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing and pray and grow with us in our services. Please note these special worship aids and helps for families:

- ★ Children's bulletins & "quiet bags" for your child's use in worship are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ★ If your child needs to be nursed or quieted for a few moments you can use our "cry room" down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is shown live on a TV in the room.
- Sunday mornings, before the hymn of the day and sermon, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for a short devotion on God's Word. Parents may accompany their children as they wish.

Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.

