

March 28, 2024

Maundy Thursday

TAKE AND EAT
this is my body.
TAKE AND DRINK
*This is my blood of the
covenant, which is poured
out for many for the
forgiveness of sins*



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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.

SERIES THEME: Our midweek Lent series theme is ***God on Trial***. The unbelieving world has always insisted on putting God on trial. As our society becomes more secular, we Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God—and his people—are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model—and our motivation—in Jesus. This series takes us back to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

THEME OF THE DAY: The Lord's Supper is a respite for believers in an antagonistic world. In it we find peace, reconciliation, and communion with Christ and one another. In this room, we are safe—and strengthened for our task. Even Jesus longed for this before his suffering!

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: Luke Dorn Clarinet: Roger Zolldan

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Order of Worship



Hymn: When You Woke that Thursday Morning

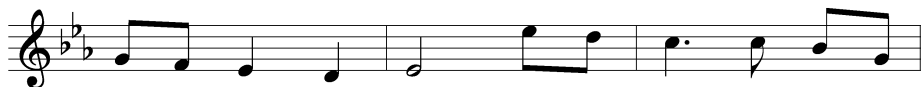
CW 416 sts. 1-4



1 When you woke that Thurs-day morn-ing, Sav-ior, teach-er,
2 Nev-er so a-lone and lone-ly, long-ing with tor-
3 What was there that you could give them that would nev-er
4 One in faith, in love u-nit-ed, all one bod-y,



faith-ful friend, thoughts of self and safe-ty scorn-ing, know-ing
ment-ed heart to be with your dear ones on-ly for a
be out-spent, what great gift that would out-live them, what last
you the head, when we meet, by you in-vit-ed, you are



how the day would end; Lamb of God, fore-told for
qui-et hour a-part: sin-less Lamb and fall-en
will and tes-ta-ment? "Show me and the world you
with us, as you said. One with you and one an-



a-ges, now at last the hour had come when but One could
crea-ture, one last pas-chal meal to eat, one last les-son
love me, know me as the Lamb of God: do this in re-
oth-er in a u-ni-ty sub-lime, see in us your



pay sin's wa-ges: you as-sumed their dread-ful sum.
as their teach-er, wash-ing your dis-ci-ples' feet.
mem-brance of me, eat this bod-y, drink this blood."
sis-ter, broth-er, one in ev-'ry place and time.

M: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger 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 12:21-30

God delivered his people from Egypt in a plague of blood, but saved his people with the blood of a lamb. The people were to remember this deliverance in the Passover every year.

²¹Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb.

²²Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning. ²³When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.

²⁴"Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. ²⁵When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. ²⁶And when your children ask you, 'What does this

ceremony mean to you?' ²⁷then tell them, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.' " Then the people bowed down and worshiped. ²⁸The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.

²⁹At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. ³⁰Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: I Will Lift Up the Cup of Salvation

Psalm 116A

Refrain

I will lift up the cup of sal - va - tion and
call on the name of the LORD.

Tone

I love the LORD, for he / heard my voice;
he heard my cry for / mercy.
Because he turned his / ear to me,
I will call on him as long / as I live.
For you, LORD, have delivered / me from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from / stumbling,
that I may walk be- / fore the LORD
in the land of the / living. *Refrain*

What shall I return / to the LORD
for all his good- / ness to me?
I will lift up the cup of sal- / vation
and call on the name / of the LORD.
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

The Apostle Paul teaches that when we celebrate the Supper we confess our unity in faith with all who partake with us.

¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel

Luke 22:7-20

Jesus institutes the meal of the New Covenant. In this sacrament his body and blood are the food and drink that satisfy our every spiritual need.

¹²On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¹³So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

¹⁶The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

¹⁹They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

²⁰"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹The 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."

²²While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

²³Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

²⁴"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. ²⁵"Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

²⁶When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated.

Choir Anthem

Thy Will Be Done

Craig Courtney

1. Our cup was filled with darkness.
Our cup was filled with death.
Christ took our cup and drank it, and gave us life,
and gave us hope, gave us Himself.

Refrain: My Father, let this cup pass from me,
Yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done.

2. In blackest night we hear Him in dark Gethsemane.
Pleading with the Father
For one more way, for one more hope,
For one more day. *Refrain*
3. Then they took our Savior, and led Him to a tree;
And there they broke His body,
Poured out his life,
Put Him to death to rise again! *Refrain*

Children's Devotion

Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

CW 667 sts. 1-4



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,
ev - 'ry - where and 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, and there is



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.
naught you can - not do, for you, Lord, are al - might - y.

Sermon

Based on Luke 22:7-20

God on Trial: We find a moment of respite

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

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

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.

Anthem

Remember Me

By Aaron Adams and Stephen Andrews

At the close of the day in an upper room, the Lord sat down with the twelve.
It was then that he took the bread, broke it and blessed it and said:
"Take, eat and remember Me. This is My body I give for you.
Take, eat and remember Me. Remember Me."

The disciples ate with their Lord that night, not knowing this was the last.
It was then that He took the cup, raised it and blessed it and said:
"Take, drink and remember Me. This is my lifeblood I give for you.
Take, drink and remember Me. Remember Me."

Hymn: I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

CW 670 sts. 1, Ref, 2-5, 10



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to your ta - ble, for weak and
 2 O grant that I in man - ner wor - thy may eat and
 3 I should not be your sheep, dear Sav - ior; I stray in
 4 O let me loathe all sin for - ev - er as death and



wea - ry is my soul; O Je - sus, you a -
 drink and be re - stored, and, dwell - ing on your
 sin's ac - cursed ter - rain. And yet you par - don
 poi - son to my soul, that I through will - ful



lone are a - ble to sat - is - fy and make me whole.
 bound - less mer - cy, look on - ly un - to you, O Lord.
 my be - hav - ior; my faith - ful Shep - herd you re - main.
 sin - ning nev - er may see your judg - ment take its toll!



Lord, may your bod - y and your blood be for my soul the high - est good.

5 Your holy heart has one obsession,
 one blessèd thing it burns to do—
 to cleanse the sinner from transgression;
 so I, a sinner, come to you. (Refrain)

10 My heart has now become your dwelling,
 O blessèd, holy Trinity.
 With angels I, your praises telling,
 shall live in joy eternally. (Refrain)

Response of Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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.

Psalm Prayer: Lord Jesus, as I face death, turn my thoughts to your body, broken for me, and your blood, spilled for me. Let me rise as you have risen from the dead, to walk with you forever in the land of the living. I call on your name, for you have promised to be with me. Amen.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

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 with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ 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 donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

For those with young children

We love to see families worship together, and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, on the wall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome, too!

**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.**

