

## HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

### JUDAS ISCARIOT

Betrayed by Judas, one of His twelve disciples. Betrayed by Judas for thirty pieces of silver. Betrayed by Judas with a kiss—imagine that, a kiss! Betrayed by Judas in a garden east of Jerusalem called Gethsemane. Betrayed! Jesus was betrayed for us. After betraying Jesus, Judas plunges into the depths of despair. He does not return to Jesus to seek forgiveness. But this Thursday, the day Jesus is betrayed, reminds us of the forgiveness, life, and salvation that Jesus provides for us in the Lord's Supper. May we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as we journey ever closer to the cross.

**PRELUDE** “Rhosymedre” -R. Vaughn Williams

**OPENING HYMN** “Go to Dark Gethsemane” *LSB* 436

- 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 suffering, 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.

Text: Public domain

+ **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** +

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

**People: to God my exceeding joy.**

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

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

## CONFESSIONAL ADDRESS

Pastor: 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 one another. 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 Body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the 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.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: 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.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**People: 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.**

Pastor: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**People: Amen.**

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

**People: Yes.**

Pastor: Let it be done for you as you believe. 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.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**INTROIT** *Psalm 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

Pastor: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;  
our God is merciful.

**People: I love the Lord, because he has heard  
my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

**People: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and  
anguish.**

Pastor: Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
“O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”

**People: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;  
our God is merciful.**

+ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** +

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O blessed Lord, in giving to us this precious gift through which we receive Your very body and blood, You bestow upon us the very forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation You accomplished upon the cross. Grant to us sure faith that we may worthily receive this Sacrament and ever rejoice in Your redemptive work; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Exodus 12:1–14*

Pastor: The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, the twelfth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. <sup>4</sup>And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, <sup>6</sup>and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. <sup>7</sup>Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs

they shall eat it. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. <sup>10</sup>And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. <sup>14</sup>This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### **EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 11:23-32*

Pastor: The Epistle is from First Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

<sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. <sup>27</sup>Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup>Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup>For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup>That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. <sup>31</sup>But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup>But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### **VERSE** *John 13:1b*

Pastor: Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

#### **HOLY GOSPEL** *John 13:21-30*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in His spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." <sup>22</sup>The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom He spoke. <sup>23</sup>One of His disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table close to Jesus, <sup>24</sup>so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom He was speaking. <sup>25</sup>So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered, "It is He to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when He had dipped the morsel, He gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. <sup>27</sup>Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." <sup>28</sup>Now no one at the table knew why He said this to him. <sup>29</sup>Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. <sup>30</sup>So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN** “When You Woke That Thursday Morning” *LSB* 445

- 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.

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**SERMON**

A few years ago, some family members went to the Vatican for Holy Week, and brought me back this souvenir—a tapestry of Leonardo da Vinci’s *The Last Supper*. I keep it on my back wall, and see it every time I step out to do a service. Da Vinci’s *The Last Supper* is one of the most recognized paintings in the world. With

lifelike facial expressions unable to be captured by anyone else at the time, the 15 x 29-foot painting became an instant masterpiece.

When Leonardo da Vinci was forty-three years old, the Duke of Milan asked him to paint this dramatic scene. Da Vinci worked for three years (1495–98, though not constantly) on the assignment, grouping the disciples into threes—two groups on either side of the central figure of Jesus. The main trio we will focus on is the one to the *left of Jesus*: John, Peter, and *Judas*.

When the masterpiece was finished, da Vinci said to a friend, “Look at it and give me your honest opinion.” His friend said, “It’s wonderful! Christ’s chalice is so real I can’t take my eyes off it!” Hearing that, immediately, da Vinci took a brush and painted over the chalice, exclaiming, “Nothing shall detract from Jesus!”

Nothing shall detract from Jesus! And why is that? Because Jesus *was betrayed*. Let that soak in. Jesus was betrayed. He experiences one of the biggest pains and surprises that life can give! The Words of Institution for the Holy Supper begin, “On the night when He was betrayed.” We hear these words so often that we don’t really hear them; the impact can be lost.

As we celebrate Maundy **Thursday**, we meet Judas—Judas Iscariot. And we meet him in the Upper Room the night Jesus was betrayed. “**Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me**” (John 13:21). It seems unimaginable, doesn’t it?

He is betrayed by Judas, one of His twelve disciples, a man who lived and traveled with Jesus for three years. He is betrayed by Judas for thirty pieces of silver, a huge sum. He is betrayed by Judas with a kiss—image that, a kiss, a symbol of love, affection, and friendship! He is betrayed by Judas in a garden east of Jerusalem called Gethsemane. Betrayed! That’s why da Vinci exclaimed, “Nothing shall detract from Jesus!” Jesus was betrayed for us.

According to Matthew 26:25, Judas was seated close to Jesus—close enough for the two of them to carry on a private conversation. It may be that Jesus singles out Judas as an important guest. Then Jesus gives Judas a morsel of bread, even while Judas is still holding on to his plan to betray Jesus. John then gives this haunting words: “**Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him**” (John 13:27). The term Satan is only used to tell this story in John’s Gospel. This accents the absolute seriousness of the situation. John 6:70 calls Judas a devil, while Mark 5:13 and Luke 8:30 employ the same vocabulary to describe evil spirits entering the Gerasene demoniac.

Interestingly, da Vinci paints the spilled saltshaker next to the elbow of Judas Iscariot. (Remember, he is to the left of Jesus, next to the young man, John, and the old man, Peter). Judas is the only one with his elbow on the table, and he is lower than anyone else. What for? He betrays Jesus! In Matthew 5:13, Jesus tells His disciples, “**You are the salt of the earth.**” Judas lost his salt because of greed. We lose our salt because of our greed—our constant lust for more.

Notice, too, what the *disciples* are eating. The painting depicts the disciples eating herring. In da Vinci’s northern Italian dialect, the word for herring is *renga*. *Renga*—in that dialect—also describes someone *who denies religion*. Cool, huh? Judas isn’t the only sinner present at the Supper. Peter denied Jesus in the high priest’s courtyard. The disciples denied Jesus in Gethsemane. *Renga!* All of them! *Renga!* All of us, too!

John writes, “**After receiving the morsel of bread, he [Judas] immediately went out. And it was night**” (John 13:30). It is dark. The whole scene is dark. Jesus warned that night is coming (John 9:4). Night and darkness now come with a vengeance.

Why did Jesus allow all of this to happen? It was *for you*. “For you” are powerful Gospel words! Let’s break it down. *For*. God is not against you or in opposition to you. God is not your enemy. God is *for you*. Not just for her and him, for those and them. Not just for us and you all. God’s love is intensely personal. It is intimate and individual. It is for you, singular! And in the Lord’s Supper, real body and real blood are given for you!

Martin Luther writes, “This is something more than the sermon; for although the same thing is present in the sermon as in the sacrament, here there is the advantage that it is directed at *definite individuals*.” It is given *for you*. That’s because Jesus never gives up on you. You may give up on you, but Jesus will never give up on you. When soldiers spit in His face, Jesus didn’t give up. When a whip ripped open His back, Jesus

didn't give up. When nails crushed His nerves, Jesus didn't give up. Come what may, even when we betray and deny Him, Jesus doesn't give up. Jesus will never give up on you.

Did you know that since its completion in 1498, *The Last Supper* has been falling apart? Leonardo da Vinci—always the inventor—tried using new materials for this painting. Instead of using the customary wet plaster, he used dry plaster. The dry plaster worked well artistically, but not well for sustainability. Experts have been working on restoring the original ever since.

And how fitting that is! The Lord's Supper is for people whose lives, like the painting, are always falling apart. In this life, we never get it right! We fall short, we mess-up, and we still sin. Thank God we have the Gospel words "for you"!

In the Lord's Supper, God acts for you—right now. God delivers Christ's true body and true blood here and now. Holy Communion is the opposite of remembering a dead man. Holy Communion is a meal with a man who lives!

How so? The word "is." The word "is" in the phrases "Take, eat; this is My body" and "Take, drink; this is My blood" means "is." The word "is" doesn't mean "signifies," "represents," or "symbolizes." "Is" means "is." This opposite view didn't arise until the eleventh century when it was promoted by a French theologian named Berengar of Tours. Sadly, his views are echoed by many other Christians groups, [today](#), especially in American Protestantism and non-denominational groups. Berengar's watchwords were "flee to reason." But, he is wrong. Flee to Scripture! "This is for you!" What a gift others miss out on!

On [April 11](#), 2009, Susan Boyle walked out from behind a theater curtain for the show "Britain's Got Talent." Her hair was going every direction. Her outfit wasn't flattering, or complimenting. She was middle-aged and spoke with a Scottish-accent. As the audience saw her come out, they rolled their eyes and let out a collective sigh of disappointment. No one expected anything from her, that is, until she began to sing. Her voice was amazing! The judges were shocked. After her song, people exploded with applause. The video clip of Susan Boyle's audition became the most-watched YouTube video at the time. Her first recording broke all sales records. Susan Boyle wasn't what people expected. Susan Boyle *was much more!*

Here's my point. What may look ordinary can be completely extraordinary. The Lord's Supper is like that. When Christ's words—"Take, eat; this is My body; and take, drink; this is My blood"—are spoken over bread and wine, it's not what we expect. It's so much more! Christ's body and blood are *in, with, and under* the bread and wine. What may look ordinary is completely extraordinary.

But there's more! There's always more in the Gospel. The Supper is also a foretaste of what is to come. Da Vinci understood this. Da Vinci's *The Last Supper* includes a view of heaven. The Lord's Supper is a foretaste of the feast to come. Jesus is coming to restore all things. At the heavenly banquet, we will no longer have to look at our sin. We will be perfect, wearing white robes washed in the blood of Jesus. At the heavenly banquet, we will no longer be sad because of broken hearts and broken lives. In heaven, we will be gathered together with angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven. At the heavenly banquet, we will no longer need Jesus to come to us in the Sacrament. We will see Jesus face-to-face, and He will fill us with unspeakable joy that will never end!

People use a lot of words when they speak about Holy Communion. Words such as Sacrament ("mystery") and Eucharist ("to give thanks"). But some of the most important words about Communion are two short words, with three letters each—"for you."

For you—in the past, Christ died. For you—right now, Christ is present. For you—in the future, you will partake of the marriage feast of the Lamb that will have no end! Amen.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **OFFERING**

*We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.*

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

### **PREFACE**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### **PROPER PREFACE**

**Pastor:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS** *LSB* p. 208

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;**

**Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.**

**Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;**

**Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *LSB*, p. 209

**Pastor:** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:



## **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.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He 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. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** *LSB*, p. 210

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMN "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table" *LSB* 618**

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: Refrain

ref 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. Refrain

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: Refrain

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. Refrain

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. Refrain

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**NUNC DIMITTIS** *LSB* p. 211

**O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.**

#### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

Pastor: Let us pray. O gracious God, You have so richly fed us with the very flesh and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that what we have here received with our lips, we may confess in our lives, rejoicing forevermore in Him who took on the burden of our sin and death to set us free from the prison of sin and the grave; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

#### **+ STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR +**

*The Communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.*

#### **PSALM** *Psalm 22*

<sup>1</sup>My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?

<sup>2</sup>O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,  
and by night, but I find no rest.

<sup>3</sup>Yet You are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>In You our fathers trusted;  
they trusted, and You delivered them.

<sup>5</sup>To You they cried and were rescued;  
in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man,

scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

<sup>7</sup>All who see Me mock Me;  
they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;

<sup>8</sup>“He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver Him;  
let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”

<sup>9</sup>Yet You are He who took Me from the womb;  
You made Me trust You at My mother’s breasts.

<sup>10</sup>On You was I cast from My birth,  
and from My mother’s womb You have been My God.

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from Me,  
for trouble is near,  
and there is none to help.

<sup>12</sup>Many bulls encompass Me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround Me;

<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at Me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water,  
and all My bones are out of joint;  
My heart is like wax;

it is melted within My breast;  
<sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and My tongue sticks to My jaws;  
You lay Me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup>For dogs encompass Me;  
a company of evildoers encircles Me;  
they have pierced My hands and feet—

<sup>17</sup>I can count all My bones—  
they stare and gloat over Me;

<sup>18</sup>they divide My garments among them,  
and for My clothing they cast lots.

<sup>19</sup>But You, O LORD, do not be far off!  
O You My help, come quickly to My aid!

<sup>20</sup>Deliver My soul from the sword,  
My precious life from the power of the dog!

<sup>21</sup>Save Me from the mouth of the lion!  
You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild oxen!

<sup>22</sup>I will tell of Your name to My brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise You:

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise Him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him,  
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>For He has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and He has not hidden His face from Him,  
but has heard, when He cried to Him.

<sup>25</sup>From You comes My praise in the great congregation;  
My vows I will perform before those who fear Him.

<sup>26</sup>The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek Him shall praise the LORD!

May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember

and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before You.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD,  
and He rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;  
before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep himself alive.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve Him;  
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,  
that He has done it.

*All leave the church in silence. We continue tomorrow with our Good Friday service at 11:30 a.m. and on Sunday with our Easter service at 9:30 a.m.*

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