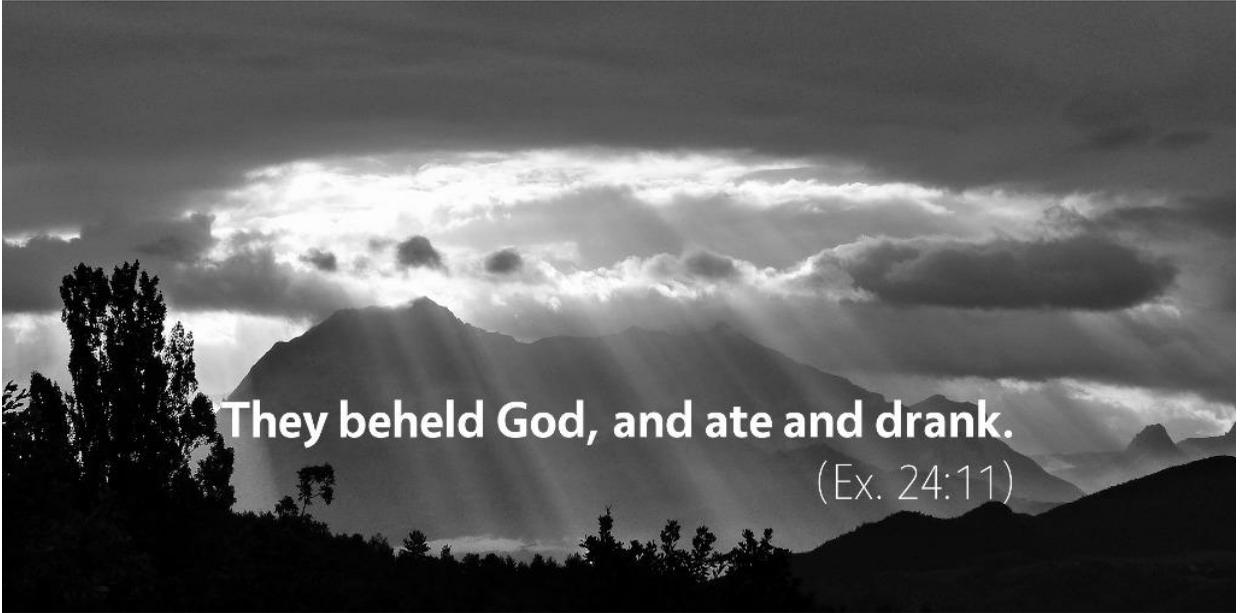


Maundy Thursday Service



April 1, 2021
4:45 and 7 PM

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Columbus, Indiana

The Order of Divine Service

Prelude

Rêverie—L. Vierne

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn

445

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.

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.

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."

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.

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.

Confession of Sins (Christian Questions and Answers from the Small Catechism)

please stand

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

P 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 each other. 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 sins, humbly confess them, and hunger and thirst for righteousness. And so in the presence of God, I now ask you:

P Do you believe that you are a sinner?

C Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.

P How do you know this?

C From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.

P Are you sorry for your sins?

C Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

P What have you deserved from God because of your sins?

C His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.

- P** Do you hope to be saved?
- C** **Yes, that is my hope.**
- P** In whom then do you trust?
- C** **In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.**
- P** Who is Christ?
- C** **The Son of God, true God and man.**
- P** How many Gods are there?
- C** **Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**
- P** What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?
- C** **He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.**
- P** Did the Father also die for you?
- C** **He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.**
- P** How do you know this?
- C** **From the Holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His holy body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.**
- P** What are the Words of Institution?
- C** **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."**
- P** Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?
- C** **Yes, I believe it.**
- P** What convinces you to believe this?
- C** **The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.**
- P** What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?
- C** **We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.**
- P** Why should we remember and proclaim His death?
- C** **First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and true man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone and through faith in Him be saved.**
- P** What motivated Christ to die and make full atonement for your sins?
- C** **His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners.**
- P** Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?
- C** **That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.**
- P** What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?
- C** **First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.**
- P** But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?
- C** **To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of the sinful flesh. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble.**

Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace within or without.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

G Amen.

Salutation and Collect for the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Let us pray. O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:3-11

Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and they saw the God of Israel. There was under His feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. And He did not lay His hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

[Paul writes:] The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Truly Present, Christ Is With Us—G. Wismar

Truly present, Christ is with us
In the bread and in the wine.

At His table is forgiveness,
Full salvation, love divine.

Truly present is His body
And His blood: Lifegiving food
Freely offered, strength providing
For our everlasting good.

Truly present is our Savior
Under elements now blessed;
Here begins the feast of heaven
We shall share as grateful guests.

Truly present, Christ is with us
In the bread and in the wine.
With thanksgiving, taste forgiveness,
Full salvation, love divine.

Gospel Reading

please stand Mark 14:12-26

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the fourteenth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus'] disciples said to Him, "Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?" And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is My guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me." They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

And as they were eating, He took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is My body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

please be seated

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day

617

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee, In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given, Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid; Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us; Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

Sermon

Seeing, Eating, and Drinking

Exodus 24:3-11

Hymn of Response

639

Wide open stand the gates adorned with pearl, While round God's golden throne
The choirs of saints in endless circles curl, And joyous praise the Son!
They watch Him now descending To visit waiting earth.
The Lord of Life unending Brings dying hope new birth!

He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless: "This is My flesh and blood!"
He bids us eat and drink with thankfulness This gift of holy food.
All human thought must falter— Our God stoops low to heal,
Now present on the altar, For us both host and meal!

The cherubim, their faces veiled from light, While saints in wonder kneel,
Sing praise to Him whose face with glory bright No earthly masks conceal.
This sacrament God gives us Binds us in unity,
Joins earth with heav'n beyond us, Time with eternity!

Prayers

please stand

Service of the Sacrament

pages 208-210

Distribution

631 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face; Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the_ eternal grace, And all my weariness upon Thee lean.
Here would I feed upon the bread of God, Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load, Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.
This is the hour of banquet and of song; This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.
I have no help but Thine; nor do I need Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed; My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.
Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness; Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace: Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear; The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here; Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

634 The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress, Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.
He blotted out with His own blood The judgment that against us stood;
For us He full atonement made, And all our debt He fully paid.
That this forever true shall be He gives a solemn guarantee:
In this His holy Supper here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
His Word proclaims and we believe That in this Supper we receive
His very body, as He said, His very blood for sinners shed.
We dare not ask how this can be, But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins: "Given and shed for all your sins."
They who this word do not believe This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find— May we this warning keep in mind!
But blest is each believing guest Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain With all who here His grace obtain.

Help us sincerely to believe That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest. Amen! They who believe are blest.

431 Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace Or wash away the stain.

But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb, Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.

My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand, And there confess my sin.

My soul looks back to see The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursèd tree; I know my guilt was there.

Believing, we rejoice To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice And sing His bleeding love.

Post-Communion Prayer

please remain seated

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Stripping of the Altar

The altar is stripped as Psalm 22 is chanted. Psalm 22 speaks of the suffering of Christ on the cross. The Stripping of the Altar symbolizes Christ being stripped of His clothes and mocked by the Roman soldiers. At the conclusion of the Psalm, all leave the church in silence.

Good Friday and Easter Services

Good Friday

10 AM Midday Service

10:45-11:30 AM Together as Family Activities in the Fellowship Room

4:45 PM COVID-Sensitive Communion Service concluding with the Service of Darkness

7 PM Communion Service concluding with the Service of Darkness

7 PM Spanish Good Friday Service

Easter Eve

4:45 PM COVID-Sensitive Festival Communion Service

Easter Sunday

6:30, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 AM

Festival Communion Services

11:00 AM Spanish Easter Service

As We Gather...

As you walked into church tonight you may have wondered if Easter had come early. The color for tonight is not purple as it has been for all of Lent, but white, the color of joy and celebration. However, this color is appropriate as we rejoice in the gift of the Holy Supper that the Lord gave to His church on the night before His death. Maundy Thursday is actually the most festive day of Lent as we gather to receive the feast of victory and salvation.

The word "Maundy" is a Latin word that means command. (From the word "Maundy" we get the English word "mandate".) This name was chosen for this night because of the command that our Lord gave to His disciples in the Upper Room: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34-35). The word "Maundy" also reminds us of the commands that our Lord has given to us in the Lord's Supper: "Take, eat; this is My body," "Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in My blood," and "do this in remembrance of Me."

Although our service this evening is festive in nature, it ends by looking ahead to the events that occurred late in the night and early into the morning. Jesus was arrested, put on trial, stripped of His clothes and beaten. This is symbolized by the stripping of the altar where the communion vessels, candles, and paraments are removed. As this is done, Psalm 22 is chanted. Psalm 22, authored by King David under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, is actually a Psalm whose author is Jesus Himself. The Psalm begins with our Lord's words from the cross, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" The Psalm goes on to say, "All who see Me mock Me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads," "they have pierced My hands and My feet," and "they divide My garments among them and cast lots for My clothing." Having witnessed the stripping of the altar, we leave in silence and return tomorrow to observe our Lord's death.

On this holy night, rejoice in the gift your Lord has given to you, His body and blood, under the bread and wine, for the forgiveness of all your sins.