

Welcome to Saint Michael Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday

+ March 28, 2024 + 6:30 pm +

About the Next Three Days

The name for this day, "Maundy Thursday," comes from the Latin word "mandatum," meaning "commandment" and refers to the "new commandment" Jesus gave His disciples on the night He was betrayed, namely "love one another." It was also on this night He instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, commanding His disciples to "do this in remembrance of Me." Tonight's service is the first portion of what the early church observed as "The Triduum," a three-day observance of our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection as if it were one continuous service. Therefore, we begin with an invocation but will not conclude with the benediction until Easter.

+ + +

(* = please stand)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

* **OPENING HYMN #436:** "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Dear friends in Christ, as we remember this night that our Lord Jesus was betrayed by one of His own disciples, denied by another, and ultimately abandoned to an unjust trial, torture, and terrible death, let us remember that it was for our sins that He suffered, and confess those sins before Him now. *(We pause for silent confession)* O Lord Jesus Christ. . .

C: We poor sinners confess that we too have betrayed and denied You by our sinful thoughts, words, and deeds, both by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. But for the sake of Your innocent suffering and death on the cross, have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may desire Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of Almighty God, our Lord Jesus Christ was given into the hands of sinners so that He might suffer for us everything that our sins deserve. Now that Jesus has died for us and has risen from the dead, God declares righteous all those who believe in Him. Therefore, having heard your confession and acknowledging your faith in Christ, at His command and in His place I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

* PSALMODY *(Selected Portions of Psalm 116)*

A: I love the LORD, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy.

C: Because He turned his ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live.

A: The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me;

C: I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.

A: Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, save me!"

C: The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

A: The LORD protects the simple-hearted; when I was in great need, He saved me.

C: Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.

A: For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,

C: That I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

A: How can I repay the LORD for all His goodness to me?

C: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

A: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

C: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, graciously remember us for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to suffer and die on the cross. Grant us the grace to remember our Redeemer in sincere faith, and so to receive worthily the testament of His true body and blood for our forgiveness, life, and salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 24:3-11 (*Eating and drinking with God on Mt. Sinai*)

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 10:15-17 (*the communion of Christ with the sacramental elements*)

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

* **GOSPEL READING:** Mark 14:12-26 (*Jesus betrayed on Passover night*)

P: The Holy Gospel according St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

P: (*After the reading the following is said. . .*) This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

* NICENE CREED

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY #445: "When You Woke that Thursday Morning"

BIBLE MESSAGE

* PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord Jesus Christ, on this holy night in which You were arrested and handed over to Your enemies as our Passover Lamb so that death might pass over us, pour out Your Spirit upon us, so that we might keep in remembrance Your holy Passion in true repentance and faith;

C: O Lord, have mercy upon us and hear our prayer.

A: Lord Jesus Christ, on this holy night when Your own disciples betrayed and denied You, keep Your church leaders and pastors watchful in prayer; and when Satan seeks to sift them like wheat, uphold them with Your grace that their faith may not fail them;

C: O Lord, have mercy upon us and hear our prayer.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, on this holy night when You united Your Church in the fellowship of Your body and blood, bless our believing brothers and sisters throughout the world, especially those persecuted for Your name. Strengthen us all in the confession of Your truth, and help us to proclaim it boldly and faithfully until You come again;

C: O Lord, have mercy upon us and hear our prayer.

A: Lord Jesus Christ, on this holy night when You wrapped a towel around Your waist and filled a bowl of water to wash the feet of Your disciples, form in us Your sacrificial heart of love that we too may graciously serve others in our daily callings;

C: O Lord, have mercy upon us and hear our prayer.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, on this holy night when You entered into the dark night of the soul, comfort and help all those who

suffer from depression, grief, or pain in mind, body or spirit, that they may be kept from despair, and have hope and confidence in Your compassionate care, for into Your hands we commend them and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, for Your name's sake.

C: Amen.

LAVABO (*"I wash my hands in innocence, and go about Your altar, O LORD" – Psalm 26:6*)

CHORAL ANTHEM: *"Can You Drink the Cup?" by Pamela Martin & Craig Courtney*

*** SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right and proper for us to give Him thanks and praise.

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, with Your whole Church on earth and with all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and glory, thanksgiving and praise, for the great sacrifice of Your Son for the forgiveness of our sins and for earning for us through Him our eternal salvation. With the angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven we join our voices in praising and magnifying Your holy name, forever saying. . .

C: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts! Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

P: Gathered in the name of Jesus, and remembering His saving work, we are bold to pray. . .

C: 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.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which 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." 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 My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: Amen.

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#438: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

#439: "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken?" (*as many stanzas as time allows*)

*** POST-COMMUNION PRAYER** (*based on Romans 8:17-18*)

A: If indeed we share in His sufferings

C: We will also share in His glory.

A: For we consider our present sufferings are not worth comparing

C: With the glory that will be revealed in us.

A: Let us pray. Glorious God, grant that we who have received the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in this Sacrament might express our gratitude not only with our lips but also with our lives as we give ourselves to Your service and walk before You in holiness and righteousness all our days. Deliver us from sin and error, from the frailties of the flesh, from the allurements of this present age, and from the temptations of the devil.

C: Give us faith that works in love;

A: Hope that never disappoints;

C: Kindness that never fails;

A: Confidence in You that never wavers;

C: Patience that does not grow weary;

A: And courage always to confess Your Son as our only Savior,

C: That we may live in Your mercy and die in Your peace;

A: Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit as one God now and forever.

C: Amen.

(please be seated for the stripping of the altar and then leave the sanctuary in silence)

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR (*Chanting of Psalm 22*)

The stripping of the altar (i.e., the removing of all ornaments, linens, and paraments), is an ancient custom of the church done on Maundy Thursday to symbolize the humiliation of Jesus at the hands of the soldiers as they stripped Him of His clothes and robbed Him of His dignity as well as of His earthly garments. Jesus willingly gave up Himself to be arrested, imprisoned and crucified so that He might clothe us with robe of His righteousness and the garments of salvation for all eternity. After the stripping of the altar, all may leave in silence.

Assisting and Preaching (A): Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann

Presiding Minister (P): Rev. Daniel Maske

Organist: Keith Eiser

Exodus 24:3–11

Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." ⁴ 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. ⁵ And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. ⁶ And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. ⁷ 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." ⁸ 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." ⁹ Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

1 Corinthians 10:15-17

I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶ 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? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Mark 14:12–26

And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ 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?' ¹⁵ And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." ¹⁶ And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷ And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ 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." ¹⁹ They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" ²⁰ He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. ²¹ 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." ²² 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." ²³ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴ And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.