

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MAUNDY THURSDAY—MARCH 28, 2024
“My Close Friend”

On **MAUNDY THURSDAY** we remember our Savior's institution of the new covenant of His body and blood. On the eve of His suffering and death, the Lamb of God thought of us and cared for us, even to the giving of this extraordinary gift by such ordinary means. As His gift is received this evening, we also remember His care and concern for the truths of God's Word. Believing that the Bible clearly sets forth doctrinal unity for those receiving the Sacrament together, we practice close communion and ask **guests** desiring to commune to kindly speak with the pastor before the service.

THE OPENING HYMN #625 “Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread”



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, life - giv - ing bread, May I in grace
2 To pas - tures green, Lord, safe - ly guide, To rest - ful wa -
3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's de - light, For full and free
4 I do not mer - it fa - vor, Lord, My weight of sin



pos - sess You. Let me with ho - ly food be fed,
ters lead me; Your ta - ble well for me pro - vide,
re - mis - sion I come with prayer be - fore Your sight
would break me; In all my guilt - y heart's dis - cord,



In hun - ger I ad - dress You. Pre - pare me well
Your wound - ed hand now feed me. Though wea - ry, sin -
In sor - row and con - tri - tion. Your righ - teous - ness,
O Lord, do not for - sake me. In my dis - tress



for You, O Lord, And, hum - bly by my prayer im - plored,
ful, sick, and weak, Ref - uge in You a - lone I seek,
Lord, cov - er me That I re - ceive You wor - thi - ly,
this com - forts me That You re - ceive me gra - cious - ly,



Give me Your grace and mer - cy.
To share Your cup of heal - ing.
As - sured of Your full par - don.
O Christ, my Lord of mer - cy!

(please stand)

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: **Amen.**

(Silence for repentant reflection)

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **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.**

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.

C: **Amen.**

THE PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 116:12-17 (ESV)

P: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

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

P: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.

C: **Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.**

P: O Lord, I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant;

C: **You have freed me from my chains. I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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 redeeming work may always be demonstrated in our lives, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 24:3-11(ESV)

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." 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.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE GRADUAL Hebrews 9:12a, c; 15a; Psalm 111:9a

P: [Christ] entered once for all into the Most Holy Place, by means of His own blood;

C: He secured an eternal redemption.

P: Therefore He is the Mediator of a new covenant,

C: So that those who are called may receive the promised inheritance.

P: He sent redemption to His people;

C: He has commanded His covenant forever.

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (NKJV)

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we all partake of that one bread.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(please stand)

THE VERSE John 13:1b (ESV)

C: *(spoken)* Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 14:12-26 (ESV)

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

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?" 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.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

(please be seated)

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

1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,
2 Nev - er so a - lone and lone - ly, Long - ing
3 What was there that You could give them That would
4 One in faith, in love u - nit - ed, All one
5 One day all the Church will cap - ture That bright

teach - er, faith - ful friend, Thoughts of self and safe - ty
with tor - ment - ed heart To be with Your dear ones
nev - er be out - spent, What great gift that would out -
bod - y, You the head, When we meet, by You in -
vi - sion glo - ri - ous, And Your saints will know the

scorn - ing, Know - ing how the day would end;
on - ly For a qui - et hour a - part:
live them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?
vit - ed, You are with us, as You said.
rap - ture That Your heart de - sired for us,

Lamb of God, fore - told for a - ges, Now at
Sin - less Lamb and fall - en crea - ture, One last
"Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me
One with You and one an - oth - er In a
When the longed - for peace and u - nion Of the

last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's
pas - chal meal to eat, One last les - son as their
as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance
u - ni - ty sub - lime, See in us Your sis - ter,
Great - est and the least Meet in joy - ous, blest com -

wa - ges: You as - sumed their dread - ful sum.
teach - er, Wash - ing Your dis - ci - ples' feet.
of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."
broth - er, One in ev - 'ry place and time.
mu - nion In Your nev - er - end - ing feast.

THE SERMON *"My Close Friend"* Text: Psalm 41:9; John 15:13

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS #425 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

1 **When I survey the wondrous cross**
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

4 **Were the whole realm of nature mine,**
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

(please stand)

THE PRAYERS

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in the upper room You gathered with Your apostles to eat Your last meal with them before Your suffering, death, and resurrection. We thank You for gathering with us sinners now, being with us throughout our lives, and bringing us into Your resurrection. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in the upper room You taught Your comforting and strengthening truth to Your apostles. Support our partner churches around the world and defend our persecuted brothers and sisters. Cause the saving Gospel to be proclaimed here and in all places. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, as You prayed for Your executioners, "Father forgive them," so enable us to love and bless our enemies, and by Your grace enable us to be reconciled to those with whom we are estranged. Let the spirit of reconciliation fill Your people that our lives and words may witness to Your forgiving love. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in the upper room You gave the soul-healing medicine of Your Body and Blood. Grant peace and comfort to all who are sick, recovering, and burdened, especially those we name before You in our hearts. According to Your gracious will heal them or give them grace to accept their afflictions. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Resurrection You conquered death for us. Comfort all who mourn the death of loved ones with Your victory over the grave and the gathering of all saints in heaven and on earth with You. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

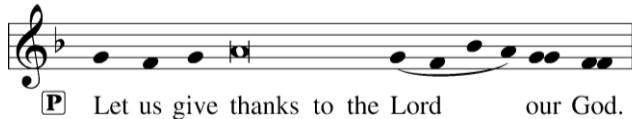
P: Lord Jesus Christ, in the upper room You gave the Sacrament of Your Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and as a gift for all ages. Make us ever hunger and thirst for this most precious communion with You in Your Body and Blood. Cause us to receive You in repentant faith in Your saving mercy. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, grant us Your peace, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,

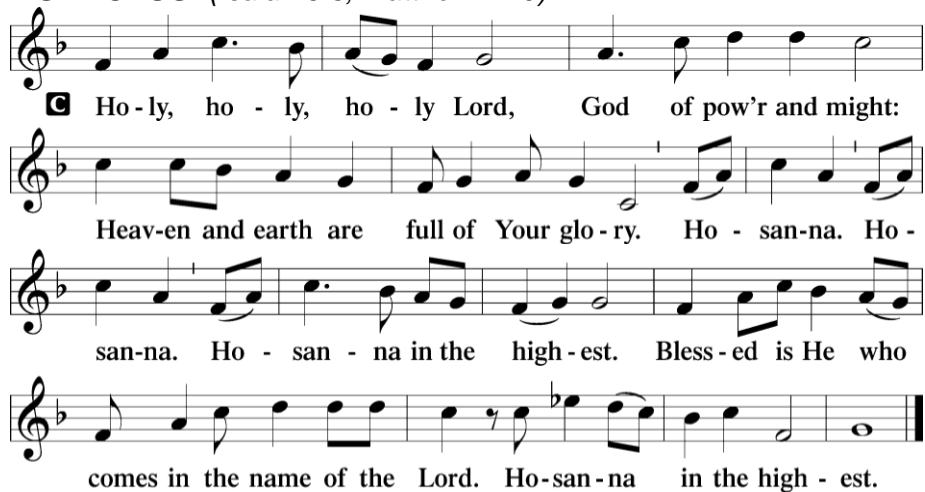
C: Amen.

THE PREFACE *(responses are sung) (page 160 in the hymnal)*



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

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

(1 Corinthians 11:26)

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(Revelation 22:20)

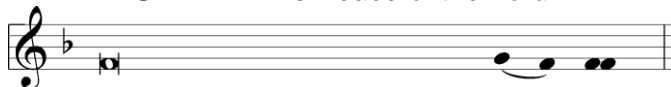
P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray . . .

THE 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 PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

(John 20:19)



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

THE AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

(John 1:29)



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

(please be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee"



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
 2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
 3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
 Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
 That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that

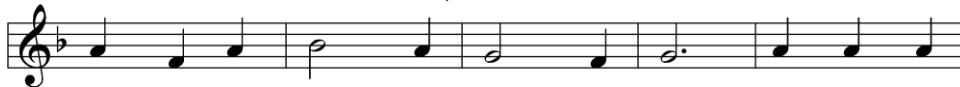


sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

#634 "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
sol - emn guar - an - tee; In this His ho - ly
Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

**5 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."**

**6 They who this word do not believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—
May we this warning keep in mind!**

**7 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.**

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

#436 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - raigned; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

(please stand)

Text and tune: Public domain

THE DISMISSAL

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in ✠ peace.

C: Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled to serve You constantly; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: *(sung)* **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 22 is chanted at this time. The congregation is invited to turn to Psalm 22 (in the very front of the hymnal) to follow the text of the Psalm.

The stripping of the altar is an ancient feature of Maundy Thursday worship services. This act is symbolic of the humiliation of Jesus at the soldier's hands. Psalm 22 rehearses that and other themes of the Passion. No other Psalm pointed beyond itself so fully in a prophetic manner to the circumstances of Jesus at His arrest and crucifixion.

Following the stripping of the altar and the chanting of Psalm 22, the congregation is asked to leave in humble silence.

Psalm 22 (ESV)

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
- ² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.
- ³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴ In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- ⁵ To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- ⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.
- ⁷ All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;
- ⁸ "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"
- ⁹ Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.
- ¹⁰ On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- ¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.
- ¹² Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- ¹³ they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
- ¹⁴ 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;
- ¹⁵ my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.
- ¹⁶ For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet--
- ¹⁷ I can count all my bones-- they stare and gloat over me;
- ¹⁸ they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.
- ¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
- ²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!
- ²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!
- ²² I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
- ²³ 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!
- ²⁴ 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.
- ²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
- ²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
- ²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.
- ²⁹ 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.
- ³⁰ Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
- ³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.