



Maundy Thursday Worship

April 1, 2021

First Lutheran Church

Charlotte, Michigan

Luke 20:20

*In the same way, after supper Jesus took the cup, saying,
"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."*

THOUGHTS FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

As we commemorate Jesus' last meal with His disciples in our worship service, we pray that everyone will be spiritually uplifted. We thank you for gathering together to share on this special occasion.

There is a lot for us to learn from the Biblical account of Maundy Thursday. As we review events today, reflect on their meaning and implication for you and our congregation. As we share Christ's body and blood at the Lord's Table this evening, we pray that the reality of Jesus' death on the cross for us becomes even more vivid in your mind and precious to your soul.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

Tomorrow, April 2

Worship at 1:00 and 6:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

Next Sunday, April 4

Worship at 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Please bring family, friends, and neighbors with you to worship..

PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

Our First Lutheran Church Communion Policy

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at First Lutheran in the belief and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold any understanding different from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

CREDITS

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE PREPARE THROUGH PRAYER

AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S BLESSING AND OUR RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Pastor: Our Lord had promised a redeemer for Israel. Blessed is His holy name.
The Messiah came to set His people free. Blessed is His holy name.
Thru Him we have the final victory.

All: Blessed is His holy name.

Pastor: Shout alleluias to our Lord and King!
Salvation, joy, and lasting peace He brings.
Thru-out eternity all earth will sing:

All: Blessed is His holy name.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THIS DAY

OUR PRAYER IN SONG - LSB 440 - "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" - stanzas 1, 4, 5

Jesus, I will ponder now on Your holy Passion.

With Your Spirit me endow for such meditation.

Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish . . .

of Your suffering, pain, and death that I may not perish.

**Grant that I Your passion view with repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You by unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun ev'ry sinful pleasure . . .
since for me God's holy Son suffered without measure?
Jesus, Lord, my heart renew; help me bear my crosses . . .
learning humbleness from You, peace despite my losses.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
that I may in heaven above sing Your praise forever.**

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING - Jeremiah 23:23-24; 31:31-34 (NIV)

"Am I only a God nearby," declares the LORD, "and not a God far away? {24} Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the LORD. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the LORD. {31:31} "The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. {32} It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. {33} "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. {34} No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

A PRAYER IN SONG - LW 234 - "To You, Omniscient Lord of All"
. (accompaniment TLH 600)

THE GOSPEL READING FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY - Luke 22:1-24 (NIV)

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, {2} and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus, for they were afraid of the people. {3} Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. {4} And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. {5} They were delighted and agreed to give him money. {6} He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present. {7} Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. {8} Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." {9} "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked. {10} He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the

**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.**

A PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**I believe in You, O God – Father, Son, and Spirit, for You have entered my life.
Spirit of God, You have made me Yours.**

**I confess, Holy God, that, I am unclean.
I sin against You and Your commandments.
There are sins of which I am aware . . . and sins of which I am unaware.
For each of these I deserve temporal and eternal punishment.**

**I am sorry for my sins and sincerely repent of them.
I want Your forgiveness offered to me through Jesus.
With Solomon we say: "Hear from heaven, Your dwelling place.
Forgive . . . since you know our hearts . . .
for You alone know the hearts of us people." (2 Chronicles 6:30)**

OUR PETITION IN SONG - PRb 94 - "Lord, Have Mercy"

**Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us. Come and heal our hearts.
Cleanse with Your fire, heal with Your touch.
Humbly we bow and call upon You now:
Oh, Lord, have mercy on us.**

Choir: Oh, Lord, have mercy on us.

**Choir:: Lord, have mercy on us. Come and heal our hearts.
Cleanse with Your fire, heal with Your touch.
Humbly we bow and call upon You now:
Oh, Lord, have mercy on us. . .**

All: Oh, Lord, have mercy on us.

**Lord, have mercy on us. Come and heal our hearts.
Cleanse with Your fire, heal with Your touch.
Humbly we bow and call upon You now:
Oh, Lord, have mercy on us. Oh, Lord, have mercy on us.**

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH

**Jesus, You are my Savior and Lord, the only Son of the Father.
You suffered under Pontius Pilate and were crucified for my sins.
You died, were buried, and descended into hell to proclaim victory,
You came out of the tomb.
Yes, You rose from the dead. You ascended into heaven . . .
and sit on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
To You alone, Holy God, belongs all praise now and forever.**

(sing)

**Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me,
and that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee. O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**Just as I am, Thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down.
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

LSB 570 - "Just as I Am" - stanzas 1, 5, 6

THE ABSOLUTION

WE RECEIVE THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

THE PREFACE TO CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

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

Pastor: Jesus, we give thanks to You, our Messiah, the only-begotten Son of the Father, that You took on human flesh and manifested the fullness of the glory of God. As a Servant and Savior You took the punishment for our sinfulness and sins. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and exalt Your glorious name:

All: (sing)

LSB page 161

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

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 and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, He also took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant (testament) which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

A SONG OF FAITH – "Lamb of God" (Agnus Dei)

LSB page 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

The elders and pastors will commune first and then all others.

If you are a guest with us today, please see "OUR FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COMMUNION POLICY" on page 2 of the Order of Worship.

We will be distributing the Lord's Supper both at the altar rail and with continuous flow.

If you wish to commune at the altar rail, use one of the outside aisles.

An usher there will assist you.

If you wish to commune using continuous flow, come forward in the middle aisle on the baptismal font side. An usher will assist you there.

During the distribution of the Lord's Supper, please join in singing these hymns:

LSB 537 - "Beautiful Savior"

LSB 685 - "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

LSB 698 - "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"

OUR POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

WE GO OUT WITH PRAYER AND A BLESSING

A GOSPEL READING – Matthew 26:36-39

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." ³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

THOUGHTS ABOUT JESUS – "When You Prayed Beneath the Trees" - the adult choir

A PRAYER FOR JESUS

OUR CLOSING PRAYER IN SONG - "Jesus, Now My Praise I Give"
(tune of LW 503, TLH 653)

**Jesus, now my praise I give, You once died that I would live.
All my blessings come from You through Your gracious, loving will.**

**Let my near and dear ones stand . . . in the hollow of Your hand.
Lord, bring me and all I love to Your perfect home above.**

**O my blest and dearest Friend, You will love me to the end.
Make me love You more and more . . . always better than before.**

**In my heart, before my eyes, it is You, my Lord, I prize.
In this life and in my death, Lord, in You I find my rest.**

THE BENEDICTION

*Silent Prayer
Announcements*

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THANKS FOR WORSHIPING!

May God use His Word and Spirit to renew and strengthen your faith in Him,
your love and reverence for Him, and your zeal for serving Him.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 2

Friday Worship at 1:00 and 6:30

On Maundy Thursday we are celebrating every member communion.

EASTER SUNDAY

TWO WORSHIP SERVICES - 8:30 and 11:15 am.

Please invite your neighbors, friends, relatives, co-workers to worship with you.

A CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus, what a privilege it is to be Yours. You rescued us and changed our lives. Help us always desire to have You at the center of our lives. There is no better place for us than to be around You. And, Spirit of God, work in us - draw us closer to Jesus, but help us to invite others and encourage others to wrap their lives around Jesus too. Merciful and gracious God, fill us with joy as we experience the blessings of Your presence in our lives. Amen

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