

Maundy Thursday April 2, 2015



O LORD
You have freed me
from my bonds.
I will serve you
FOREVER

PSALM 116:16

AS WE GATHER

Holy Thursday, occurring on the eve of our Lord's crucifixion, begins the celebration of the three holy days of Christ's Passover. The service on this day culminates the Lenten period of preparation for Jesus' Passion and resurrection and leads into His sacrifice on our behalf. This service exhibits a mood of restrained joy. The Holy Thursday service includes Jesus' ministry to His people through the Sacrament of the Altar. Whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing the Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him, and he has eternal life. As our Lord on this night exemplified His love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

CALLING ON GOD

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

People: Amen.

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

Pastor: We are gathered on this most holy night when God the Son humbly served His friends by washing their dirty feet. This night our Lord Jesus sealed His oneness with His followers through a simple meal of bread and wine. On this night we receive the most precious gift of the forgiveness of sins. God our Father desires a relationship with all His children. For this purpose, He has established the new testament through His Son, Christ Jesus, who gave His body and shed His blood for our life and salvation.

The Father declares, "I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (Jeremiah 31:33). Gathered in the name and presence of the Blessed Trinity, we the people of God make our confession before God and before one another.

People: We are each born in sin and are by nature unclean.

Pastor: We name before You our faults and our sins.

People: We have not been persuaded by Your love for us; selfishness and unkindness have pervaded our words, thoughts, and deeds. We have not loved and served our neighbors, but instead have served ourselves and sought to protect our own interests.

Pastor: We flee to Christ Jesus, who alone washes away our sins and restores our relationship with the Father.

People: Having been called, gathered, and enlightened by the Holy Spirit, we cry out to Jesus for mercy and grace, holding on to nothing but His cross.

Time for Reflection

Pastor: Jesus died giving His body and shedding His blood for you. Only through Jesus can anyone receive forgiveness and everlasting life. In the stead and by the command of Him whose blood stained Calvary's cross and is now given to us in the Holy Sacrament, I as a called and ordained servant of Christ announce the grace of God to all of you—in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit—your sins are forgiven.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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; 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

The Lord institutes the Passover.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. 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. 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. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, 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. "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. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 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. 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. 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. "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.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 14:12–26**

Jesus' Supper with the Twelve

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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

[HYMN OF THE DAY "Green Book" 122 Love Consecrates.....](#)

[SERMON – *A Last Will and Testament*](#)

[*CREED](#)

People: I have faith in God, in response to overwhelming love.....I believe that God created me and all that I have, and has given to me gifts beyond measure.....I have faith in Jesus, who emptied Himself out of His love for me.....I believe that Christ died on a cross for my sin, conquered death and the power of evil, and was raised to life on the third day. His death is mine, His resurrection is mine, new life is mine because of Jesus' words and work.....I believe in the Holy Spirit in response to overwhelming love....I believe that the Holy Spirit is present here among us and lives within each person. The Spirit continues to call people by the Gospel, and creates and builds the church of Christ. Through the power of the Spirit I have power to stand in strength and against all adversity.....I believe that Jesus is preparing a place for me and will come again to take each of us to be with Him. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. O God,

People: You are gracious and merciful.

Pastor: O Christ,

People: You are gracious and merciful.

Pastor: O God,

People: You are gracious and merciful.

Pastor: We raise our hands before You, our Father, trusting that You both hear and answer our prayers. For this, dear Lord,

People: we thank and praise You.

Pastor: You have found us, Your lost sheep, and have saved us by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. For this, dear Lord,

People: we thank and praise You.

Pastor: For all who are sick, injured, or suffering; for all who mourn; and for those who suffer with addiction, loneliness, depression, or any kind of need, we pray, dear Lord,

People: grant them health and recovery. Use us as people of peace and ministers of Your compassion among all who suffer.

Pastor: We pray for all who gather around the Lord's Table this day, both here and in every place.

People: Give us sincere repentance and a heart full of faith to receive Your grace and blessing.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

*PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

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, 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 singing:

***SANCTUS** (*p. 89 in hymnal*)

***WORDS OF OUR LORD** *Matt. 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Cor. 11:23–25*

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."

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: 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:

***LORD'S PRAYER**

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Green Book" 212

"Red Book" 89

Let Us Break....

Feed Us Now

***POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Lord God, our Father, during this week of Jesus' Passion, when we remember and attend to all that Your dear Son gave for us, You have provided us with a memorial of the Passover meal and the freedom from bondage and slavery it embodies. Through the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood, You have freed us and granted us Your peace. Hold us fast in the living hope that all our sins are forgiven through Jesus until we come at last to celebrate with all Your saints the Lamb's high feast in His kingdom which lasts forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Note – this is the end of recording

† STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR †

As the verses of the psalm are read, the lights are lowered and all linens and adornments are removed. The candles are extinguished. These are signs that our Lord Jesus was stripped, beaten, and crucified. Word. Psalm 22

Pastor:

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

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

O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

Yet You are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In You our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and You delivered them.

To You they cried and were rescued;
in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

All who see Me mock Me;
they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;

“He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver Him;
let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”

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

On You was I cast from My birth,
and from My mother’s womb You have been My God.

Be not far from Me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

Many bulls encompass Me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround Me;

they open wide their mouths at Me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

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;
My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and My tongue sticks to My jaws;
you lay Me in the dust of death.
For dogs encompass Me;
a company of evildoers encircles Me;
they have pierced My hands and feet—
I can count all My bones—
they stare and gloat over Me;
they divide My garments among them,
and for My clothing they cast lots.
But You, O LORD, do not be far off!
O You My help, come quickly to My aid!
Deliver My soul from the sword,
My precious life from the power of the dog!
Save Me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild oxen!
I will tell of Your name to My brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise You:
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!
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.
From You comes My praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear Him.
The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek Him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!
All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations

shall worship before You.
For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and He rules over the nations.
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.
Posterity shall serve Him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that He has done it.

After the altar and chancel are stripped, a time of silence is observed.

***CLOSING PRAYER**

Pastor: Gracious Father, grant that we may put off our old selves with all our sinful deeds and put on the new person that when we let go of our earthly habitation, we may not be found unclothed, but being transformed may receive the garment of a new glorious body like His, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace,

People: In the name of the Lord.

The Congregation departs in silence.

