



## Maundy Thursday

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Lord's Supper is surely what it is when it is the Lord's doing. He has done Calvary. 'The passion of Christ occurred but once on the cross. But whom would it benefit if it were not distributed, applied and put to us?' If you want your sins forgiven you do not go to Calvary, but to the Lord's Supper. At Calvary it was achieved but not given out. Here it is not achieved but it is given you. As the Small Catechism confesses, the two chief things are the bodily eating and drinking of the body and blood of Christ and the words for you. *Into mouth and into faith; unfaith can repudiate the gift, but it cannot make the Lord's words untrue. It can profane his body and blood to mortal consequence.* – Dr. Norman Nagel

### OPENING HYMN

#433 - *Glory Be to Jesus*



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains  
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;  
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream  
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!  
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!  
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!  
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

- 5 Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing  
Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

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### + SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

*(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**P** I will go to the altar of God,  
**C** to God my exceeding joy.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

**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 sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C Amen.**

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

**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** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**C Amen.**

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C Yes.**

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** 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.**

**P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

**C Amen.**

## INTROIT

*Psalms 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;\*  
our God is | merciful.

I love the LORD, because | he has heard\*  
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.

Because he inclined his | ear to me,\*  
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;\*  
I suffered distress and | anguish.

Then I called on the name | of the LORD:\*

"O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!"

Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;\*  
our God is | merciful.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** 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; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## PASSION READING

### HYMN OF THE DAY

#622 - Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared



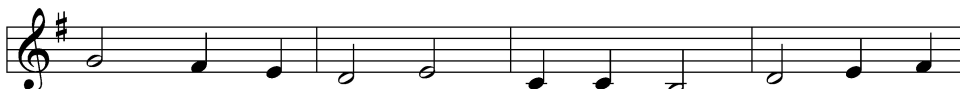
1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for  
2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel  
3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y  
4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y  
hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence  
hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent  
Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion  
they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,  
e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.  
and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to  
And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry  
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by  
This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.  
and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,  
an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.  
pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

5 Though reason cannot understand,

Yet faith this truth embraces:

Your body, Lord, is even now

At once in many places.

I leave to You how this can be;

Your Word alone suffices me;

I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said;  
Help me when doubts assail me.  
Remember that I am but dust,  
And let my faith not fail me.  
Your supper in this vale of tears  
Refreshes me and stills my fears  
And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive  
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,  
And, truly grieving for our sins,  
May prove by our behavior  
That we are thankful for Your grace  
And day by day may run our race,  
In holiness increasing.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,  
Be praised throughout all ages!  
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place  
The world against it rages.  
Grant that this sacrament may be  
A blessed comfort unto me  
When living and when dying.

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## SERMON

*The Afikomen and the Third Cup (Exodus 12:1-13; 1 Peter 1:14-21)*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### 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.

## + STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR +

*(Immediately after The Lord's Prayer and after the candles have been extinguished, the communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday. While this is done, the congregation will read responsively Psalm 8.)*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!\*

You have set your glory above the | heavens.

<sup>2</sup>Out of the mouth of babes and infants,  
you have established strength because | of your foes,\*  
to still the enemy and the a- | venger.

<sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your | fingers,\*  
the moon and the stars, which you have | set in place,

<sup>4</sup>what is man that you are mind- | ful of him,\*  
and the son of man that you | care for him?

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings\*  
and crowned him with glory and | honor.

<sup>6</sup>You have given him dominion over the works | of your hands;\*  
you have put all things under | his feet,

<sup>7</sup>all sheep and | oxen,\*  
and also the beasts | of the field,

<sup>8</sup>the birds of the heavens, and the fish | of the sea,\*  
whatever passes along the paths | of the seas.

<sup>9</sup>O | LORD, our Lord,\*  
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

*(All leave the church in silence.)*

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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