



Maunder Thursday Service

Maundy Thursday
Holy Communion 7:00 pm
April 17, 2025
(The congregation enters in silence.)

Order of Confession and Forgiveness (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

P: Let us pray and make confession to God.

C: Almighty God, Merciful Father:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You and for which I justly deserve Your punishment.

But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for Your boundless mercy.

For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me Your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

P: Almighty God.....in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Those in the congregation may come forward and kneel before the altar. The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, addresses each in turn:

P: In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

C: Amen.

***Hymn**

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

(ELW) No. 335

***Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

C: O Lord God, You left to us a wonderful sacrament, a memorial of Your passion. Grant, we beseech You, that we may so partake of this sacrament 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. Amen.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Musical Offering

"Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands"

Bell Choir

Psalm 116:12-19

¹² I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

¹³ **Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His servants.**

¹⁴ O Lord, I am Your servant; I am Your servant and the child of Your handmaid; You have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁵ **I will offer You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord.**

¹⁶ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

¹⁷ **In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hosanna in the highest!**

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people,

¹⁹ **In the courts of the house of the Lord in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!**

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 10:15-25

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Acclamation (sung)**

C: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

***The Holy Gospel**

Luke 22:7-20

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

Mandatum Reading

St. John 13:1-35

Washing of the hands and feet of the People of God.

Hymn

O Living Bread from Heaven

(ELW) No. 542

***Prayers of the People**

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into Your hands.....through Your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of God's Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The congregation may greet one another: '**Peace be with you.**'

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

P: It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: (sung)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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.**

***Words of institution**

P: Blessed are You,.....as He comes to us in His holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: In the night.....Do this for the remembrance of Me.

***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.**

Distribution of Communion

**C: 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.**

Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

(ELW) No. 502

Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray.....Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

As the communion vessels are carried out Psalm 22 will be read.

The candles are extinguished and removed.

The altar is stripped and the linens are removed.

(Stripping the altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldiers' hands.)

The paraments are taken down and removed.

There is no benediction. All leave the church in silence. The omission of the benedictions at the end of liturgies of both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicate their continuity with each other and with the Vigil of Easter.

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The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

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Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Lay Reader is Mark Black.

Acolytes are Wesley Black and Julia Jeffcoat.

Welcome to our Visitors!

The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have any questions or are interested in hearing about membership, please see the pastor or contact the Church Office.

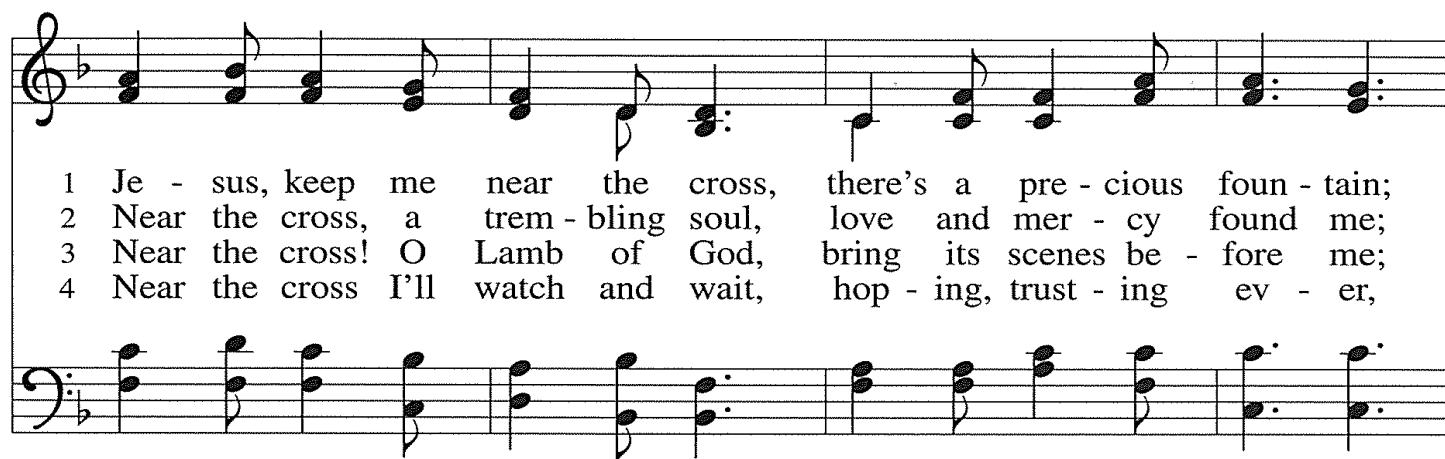
Holy Communion

We come to the table today at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized and Confirmed Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

Tomorrow—Good Friday Service is at 3 PM.

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

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1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

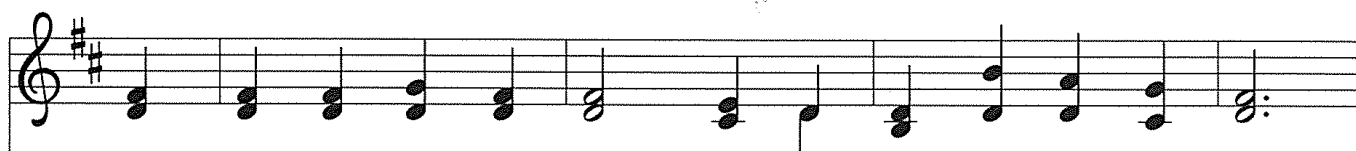
Refrain



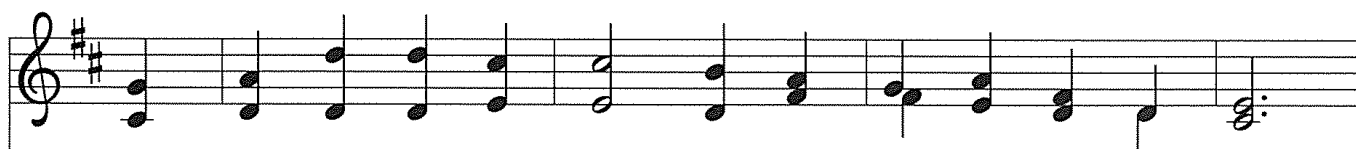
In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



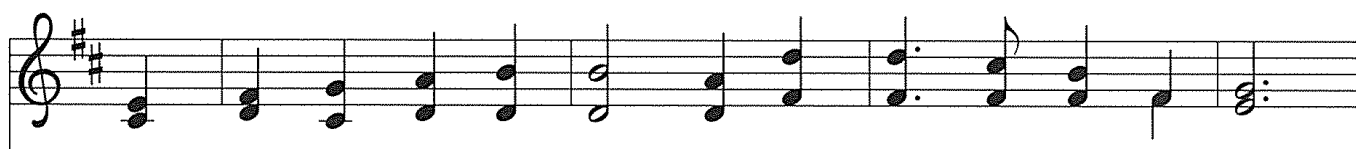
till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.



The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Listening for the Promise
Weekly Devotional
Maundy Thursday - April 17, 2025

"And [Jesus] took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying,

"This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Luke 22:19-20 -

During this Passover feast, Jesus and His disciples ate supper together. Supper included eating the meat of a lamb. And as they did so, they called to mind the lambs whose blood had been used to pain the doorpost and lintels in Egypt, so that the angel of death would pass over the house of Israel's firstborn sons. Passover is one of the most important holidays, if not the most important holiday, on the Jewish calendar as Jews commemorate the exodus from Egypt, when God freed and saved his people from Pharaoh. In addition to the lamb's meat, unleavened bread would have been a part of the meal. Jesus takes the unleavened bread from the Passover table, and he gives us a gift: the real presence of himself in the bread and the wine. He miraculously joins his own body to the bread and his own blood to the wine. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God's very own Passover Lamb. And so, as we eat the bread and drink the wine, we receive that same body that was nailed to the cross and that same blood that poured out of His wounds.

Through his suffering and death, Jesus has taken away the sins of the world. We are sealed by his body and blood. We are safe and secure, and the devil has no ownership of us. On the Day of Judgment, the angel of death will pass over us just as it did centuries ago for the Israelite people.

This is both a new covenant and testament. It is a new covenant, meaning that it is a new binding agreement where God our Heavenly Father promises to accept Jesus' sacrifice in our place. He promises to give us full forgiveness of sins and peace. It's also a new testament. It is Jesus' new will and testament. He has given us his new testament through his death, and in doing so, Jesus has given us the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. As Martin Luther states in his Small Catechism, these are the benefits of the Sacrament of Holy Communion: "It is pointed out in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Through these words the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the Sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sin, there is also life and salvation."

