



Maundy Thursday
2020

"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another."

- John 13:34-35 -



MAUNDY THURSDAY 2020

THE PRELUDE

WORSHIP NOTES: *We welcome you into the upper room, where we observe as Jesus began the new covenant with a new kind of covenant meal. The word Maundy which identifies this Thursday in Holy Week is derived from the Latin word which means "command." The name relates to the "new commandment" (see the Versicle) Jesus gave to his disciples while they were assembled in the upper room the night before his crucifixion. Holy Week is the story of God's love for the lost. Love links us to God in Christ. Love is also the feature that identifies us with Jesus. The Lord's Supper is Jesus' way of renewing the bond of forgiving love that binds him to us, and us to one another. All of the elements of our service today center our attention on what Jesus did to make his love real for us.*

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE SERVICE

O King of heaven, Servant of God, great is your name and worthy of honor. For your supreme sacrifice, we praise you, O Lord. For your holy Supper that we will receive again this evening, we glorify you. For the gift of eternal life, we give you humble thanks. Send your Spirit, dear Savior, to help us in thankfulness to follow your example of humble service. Move us to have compassion on others and to seek ways to help them. Open our hearts and our lips to witness to your unconditional love. Be with us as you have promised. Amen.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN "I Gave My Life for Thee"

CW, # 454:1-3 (p. 8)

INSTRUCTION FOR THE END OF LENT

P: In this Lenten season, we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Savior's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death and the devil -- all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his great love for us in Jesus our Savior. With the family of the church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the Absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

C: **Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. In what I have done and left undone, I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy.**

A brief silence for meditation may follow.

P: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

C: **Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.**

P: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake he forgives us our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

ALL: **Brothers and Sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words and in our actions.**

THE PASSION HISTORY LESSON Matthew 27:27-44

THE HYMN "I Gave My Life for Thee"

CW, # 454:4-5 (p. 8)

THE SERMON Luke 22:47-48

"The Battle Became Personal"

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

THE OFFERTORY

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-

- new a right spr-it with - in me. Cast me not a-

- way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho-ly Spir-it

from me. Re - store un-to me the joy of your sal - va -

- tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

THE OFFERINGS

Received by mail, delivery, or online deposits. Please see the CoVid-19 letter (email / website) or call the church office at 262-377-6363 for information about how you can continue to support God's work through our ministry at Our Savior.

PRAYERS & SPECIAL PRAYERS

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

EXPLANATIONS & REMEMBRANCE OF THE NEW PASSOVER MEAL

** Due to unusual circumstances we are unable to gather together physically and share in the Lord's Table together. What follows is an explanation and brief exploration of why we as Lutheran Christians so cherish the gifts we get from Jesus in his holy supper.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Lord's Prayer *

(Explanation) In order to better understand the Prayer of Thanksgiving, recall the institution of the Lord's Supper from Matthew 26:26-28. While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. When we receive a gift, it is only natural to give thanks for the gift. It comes as no surprise, then, that from the earliest history of Christianity, believers regularly included a prayer of thanksgiving when they gathered to receive the Lord's Supper.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving traditionally concludes with the Lord's Prayer. As Jesus' model prayer concludes our prayer of thanksgiving for salvation and the Sacrament, we experience a pattern of prayer similar to the pattern of thoughts expressed by Paul in Romans 8:32. "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave himself up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" So also, in these two back-to-back prayers, we give thanks in the Prayer of Thanksgiving for the blessings of salvation given to us in Jesus, and then we pray that God would also provide "all things" we need in the concluding Lord's Prayer.

Words of Institution *

- P:** Among many Christians, the words of Jesus that we refer to as the Words of Institution are nothing more than an historical report: this is what Jesus did and what he said. Period. We have been blessed to know, however, that these words mean much more. They do what they say. According to the command of Christ, we celebrate the Lord's Supper not as a mere meal of remembrance but as a Sacrament by which Jesus himself comes to us. We don't transport ourselves back in time; rather, he comes to us.
- C:** **Until we are in heaven he comes as our defender and deliverer. He gives his own body and blood as the medicine of immortality. Here we find strength for our journey to heaven.**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) *

- P:** This song is a beautiful little confession of sins as we come forward, confident that do we receive his forgiveness in the Supper. The text reminds us that Jesus is the sacrifice that all of the Old Testament sacrifices pointed to. His sacrifice on the cross has won the forgiveness of sins for the entire world.
- C:** **We come forward to the altar to personally receive his gift of forgiveness. The body he gave and the blood he shed as a sacrifice on the cross are received in the Sacrament.**

(Explanation) Luther wrote, "The Agnus Dei, above all songs, serves well for the sacrament, for it clearly sings about and praises Christ for having borne our sins and in beautiful, brief words powerfully and sweetly teaches the remembrance of Christ."

The Distribution *

- P:** Tonight, sadly, we must forego the distribution. But it is appropriate for us to crave what God gives us in this sacrament: to quote the Catechism, "where there is forgiveness of sin there is also life and salvation." Forgiveness is not only God dealing with my guilt and its consequences. It is also spiritual nutrition by which he regularly nourishes my relationship with him and medicine by which he heals my spiritual illness.
- C:** **What a precious gift! What a loving Lord to so feed and strengthen us! So we look forward to the day when the current crisis has abated and we can again gather in the Lord's house.**

Nunc Dimittis *

(Explanation) After receiving the Lord's Supper, we often join in singing the Song of Simeon. Simeon was a man who got to see and hold the newborn baby Jesus. God had promised Simeon earlier in his life that he would not die until he saw the long-promised Messiah. God kept that

promise. When Mary and Joseph brought the newborn Jesus into the temple for the first time to present him to the Lord, Simeon took the baby up in his arms and sang the words of this song. What fitting words for us to sing after receiving the Lord's Supper! We too have seen and have touched the Lord's body and blood, which have come to us in a physical way in the bread and wine of the Supper. So we like Simeon can depart from the Lord's house in peace, assured that our sins are forgiven and that we are right with God.

Thanksgiving *

(Explanation) After the Song of Simeon, the pastor addresses the people: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good." The congregation responds: "and his mercy endures forever." These are words from Psalm 118—part of the ancient Jewish liturgy for high festivals. This Psalm was sung after the Passover meal. It was during the Passover meal that Jesus, the Lamb of God, instituted the Lord's Supper. It is only appropriate then that we say the same words that the people of God have sung for centuries after this meal.

P: Because of the forgiveness of sins that has just been given to us, our hearts are filled with thanksgiving for what God has done for us through the Passover Lamb—his Son, Jesus. The word we translate as "mercy" is the Hebrew word for God's faithful love.

C: Even though we have been unfaithful to God, God's faithful love endures forever. It will never go away. God's faithfulness, goodness, and mercy comfort us as we enter another week of life in this sinful world.

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 on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

THE CLOSING SONG

"Man of Sorrows"

vs:1-4 (p. 9)

At church, after the benediction in the evening service the altar is stripped, marking the transition from the celebration of Holy Communion to Jesus' crucifixion and death. Symbolically, the Lord Jesus, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors. The events of Good Friday are near.

SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Preacher: Pastor Mark C. Wagner

Keyboard: Sarah Baumann

Vocalist: Matthew Berger

I Gave My Life for Thee

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1 I gave my life for thee; My pre-cious blood I shed
 2 My Fa-ther's home of light, My rain-bow-cir-cled throne,
 3 I spent long years for thee In wea-ri-ness and woe
 4 I suf-fered much for thee, More than my tongue may tell,

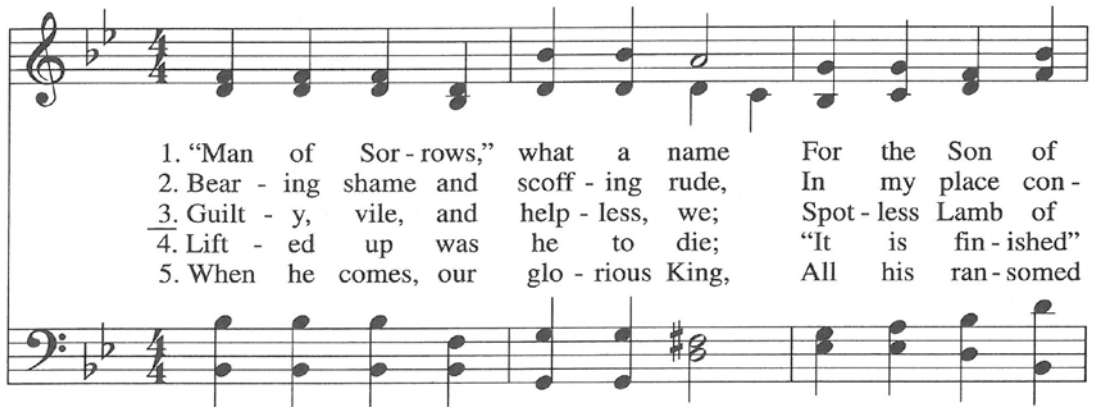
That thou might'st ran-somed be And quick-ened from the dead.
 I left for earth-ly night, For wan-d'rings sad and lone.
 That an e-ter-ni-ty Of joy thou might-est know.
 Of bit-t'rest ag-o-ny, To res-cue thee from hell.

I gave my life for thee; Come, give thy-self to me!
 I left it all for thee; Come now and fol-low me!
 I spent long years for thee; Come, spend thy years for me.
 I suf-fered much for thee; Come, bear thy cross with me.

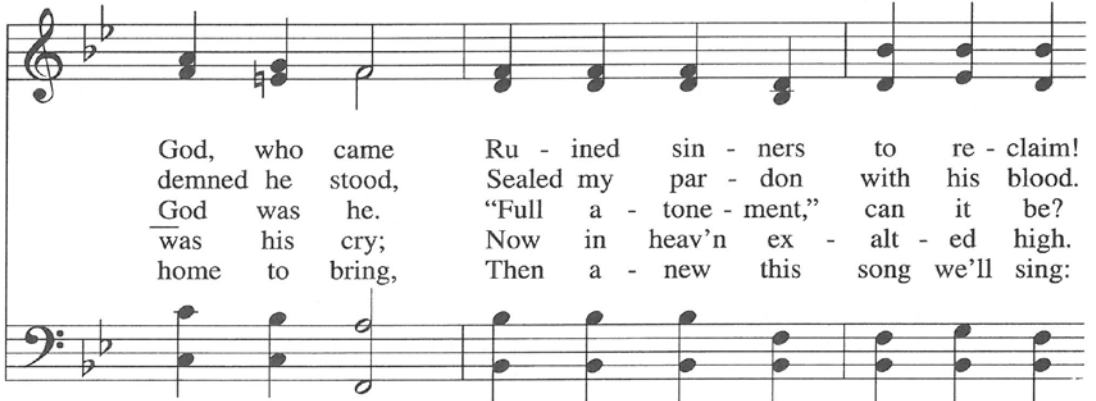
5 And I have brought to thee
 Down from my home above
 Salvation full and free,
 My pardon and my love.
 Great gifts I brought for thee;
 Come, bring thy gifts to me.

6 Oh, let thy life be spent,
 Thy years for me be giv'n,
 As I for thee was sent
 To bear thee home to heav'n.
 I gave my life for thee;
 Come, give thy life to me.

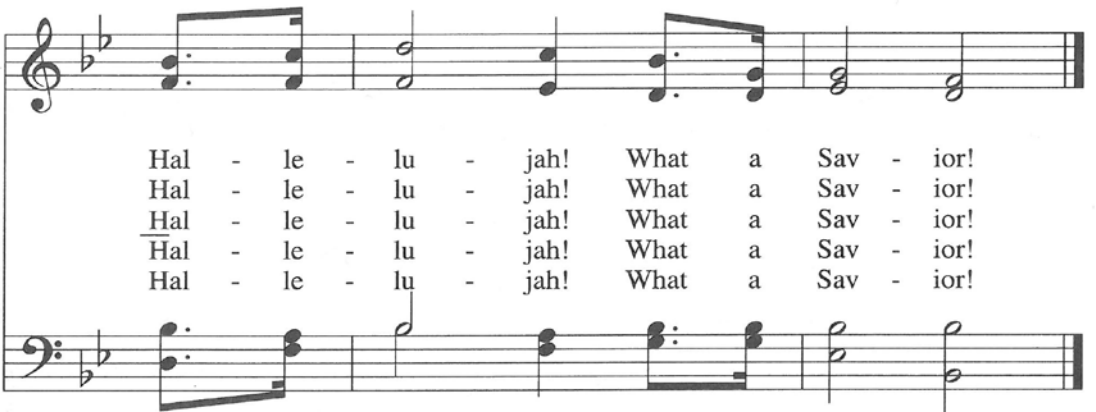
Man of Sorrows, What a Name



1. "Man of Sor - rows," what a name For the Son of
 2. Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude, In my place con -
 3. Guilt - y, vile, and help - less, we; Spot - less Lamb of
 4. Lift - ed up was he to die; "It is fin - ished"
 5. When he comes, our glo - rious King, All his ran - somed



God, who came Ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim!
 demned he stood, Sealed my par - don with his blood.
 God was he. "Full a - tone - ment," can it be?
 was his cry; Now in heav'n ex - alt - ed high.
 home to bring, Then a - new this song we'll sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL SERVICES!

GOOD FRIDAY -

1:00 p.m. LIVE STREAM (see our recent email or website)

7:00 p.m. LIVE STREAM (see our recent email or website)

EASTER SUNDAY -

7:00 a.m. Sunrise (Pre-recorded and posted on YouTube Channel)

9:30 a.m. Festival Service LIVE STREAM (see our recent email or website)