



**Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School
Grafton, WI
March 28, 2024**

Maundy Thursday

The theme of Holy Thursday is best expressed by the Gospel of John as Jesus gives the *novum mandatum* or “new command” to “love one another.” Holy Thursday also marks the end of Lent proper and begins the Triduum. At the conclusion of the worship service, there is no blessing or benediction. Instead, the candles and communion vessels will be removed. The altar will also be stripped, symbolizing the abandonment of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Stewardship Snapshot: Consider 1 Corinthians 10:16-17. These verses remind us the Lord’s Supper, is a “meal” for body, mind and soul. And “participation in” the body and blood of Christ, unites us “in the body of Christ.” Through the Lord’s Supper, we have life and forgiveness through Christ’s body and blood, sacrificed for us on the cross. As stewards of this great mystery, we go to the Lord’s Table as witnesses of our faith, and return empowered to proclaim God’s goodness in Christ.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding:
Organist:

Jonathan Fischer
Bob Klug

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer
Principal: Nathan Schultz
Church Office: Sarah Smith
School Office: Jill Klug

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The 10:30 service is livestreamed for our members at home.



Our Savior
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

2

1332 Arrowhead Rd, Grafton, WI
OurSaviorGrafton.org
Church 262-377-6363
School 262-377-7780

Holy Thursday Confessional Rite

When You Woke That Thursday Morning

CW 416

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, 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 Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. 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 love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. We should not doubt this absolution but firmly believe that our sins are thus 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.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

As we begin the solemn celebration of our Lord's passion, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Amen.

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

Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on a cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Exodus 12:21–30

²¹Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. ²²Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning.

²³When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.

²⁴“Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. ²⁵When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony.

²⁶And when your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ ²⁷then tell them, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.’ ” Then the people bowed down and worshiped. ²⁸The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.

²⁹At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. ³⁰Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel

Mark 14:12–26

¹²On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¹³So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

¹⁶The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

¹⁹They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

²⁰"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

²²While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

²³Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

²⁴"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them.

²⁵"Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

²⁶When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

CW 659 sts. 1–5

Sermon

Mark 14:12-26

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

CW 659 sts. 6-8

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful and generous gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today. You may make your gift in the following ways:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Give In person | The offering is collected during each service. |
| Give with the App | Download the <i>Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement</i> app. Search near me and select "Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran". |
| Give Online | Oursaviorgrafon.org/give |



The Great Litany

Prayer of Approach to God

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy on us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God,
Have mercy on us.

Prayers for Deliverance

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses nor the offenses of our forebears. Spare us, good Lord; spare your people whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.

From all spiritual blindness; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of charity;

From all deadly sin and from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil;

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism, from hardness of heart and contempt for your Word and your will;

From earthquake and tempest; from drought, fire, and flood; from civil strife and violence; from war and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared;

Good Lord, deliver us.

Prayer Recalling Christ's Saving Work

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your baptism, fasting, and temptation; and by your proclamation of the kingdom;

By your bloody sweat and bitter grief, by your cross and suffering, and by your precious death and burial;

By your mighty resurrection, by your glorious ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Spirit;

In our times of trouble, in our times of prosperity, in the hour of death, and on the day of judgment;

Good Lord, deliver us.

Receive our prayers, O Lord our God.

Hear us, good Lord.

For the Church

Govern and direct your holy Church, fill it with love and truth, and grant it that unity which is according to your will.

Enlighten all ministers with true knowledge and understanding of your Word, that by their preaching and living they may declare it clearly and show its truth.

Encourage and prosper your servants who spread the gospel in all the world, and send out laborers into the harvest.

Bless and keep your people, that all may find and follow their true vocation and ministry.

Give us hearts to love and reverence you, that we may diligently live according to your commandments.

To all your people, give grace to hear and receive your Word and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Strengthen those who stand firm in the faith, encourage the fainthearted, raise up those who fall, and finally give us the victory.

Hear us, good Lord.

For Our Country

Rule the hearts of your servants, the president of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth.

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection and shield them in all dangers and adversities.

Grant wisdom and insight to those who govern us and to judges and magistrates the grace to execute justice with mercy.

Hear us, good Lord.

For All People

To all nations grant unity, peace, and concord, and to all people give clothing, food, and shelter.

Grant us abundant harvests, strength and skill to conserve the resources of the earth, and wisdom to use them well.

Enlighten with your Spirit all who teach and all who learn.

Come to the help of all who are in danger, necessity, and trouble; protect all who travel by land, air, or water; and show your pity on all prisoners and captives.

Strengthen and preserve all women who are in childbirth and all young children, and comfort the aged, the bereaved, and the lonely.

Defend and provide for the widowed and the orphaned, the refugees and the homeless, the unemployed, and all who are desolate and oppressed.

Heal those who are sick in body or mind and give skill and compassion to all who care for them.

Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins, and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your Holy Word.

Hear us, good Lord.

Concluding Prayers

Son of God,
we ask you to hear 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,
Have mercy on us.

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

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Amen.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

The musical notation is written on three staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb), and the time signature is common time (C). The first staff contains five measures of music: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a half note Bb4, a quarter note C5, and a quarter note Bb4. The second staff contains six measures: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a half note Bb4, and a quarter note A4. Below the second staff is the lyrics "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,". The third staff contains six measures: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note A4. Below the third staff is the lyrics "God of might. Heav-en and earth are full of your".

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -

san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, 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, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186



Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Tune: Marty Haugen
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Be seated

Distribution

Out of sincere love for the truth of God's Word and precious souls, we practice closed Communion in our congregation. This has been the practice of Christians for centuries and is thoroughly scriptural. It neither questions the faith nor judges the heart of any individual, yet expects that there be full doctrinal agreement among those who commune. For this reason, we ask that only members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) join us for the Lord's Supper today. If you have any questions please speak with Pastor Fischer after the service.

It Was a Dark and Dismal Night

CW 417

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

CW 672

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Stripping of the Altar

The lights in the church may be dimmed. Psalm 88 is read by the lector. As the psalm is read, the altar is solemnly stripped of its appointments. The stripping of the Altar is a reminder of Jesus' abandonment in the garden of Eden.

Prayer

Psalm 88

¹LORD, you are the God who saves me;
day and night I cry out to you.
²May my prayer come before you;
turn your ear to my cry.
³I am overwhelmed with troubles
and my life draws near to death.
⁴I am counted among those who go down to the pit;
I am like one without strength.
⁵I am set apart with the dead,
like the slain who lie in the grave,
whom you remember no more,
who are cut off from your care.
⁶You have put me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.
⁷Your wrath lies heavily on me;
you have overwhelmed me with all your waves.
⁸You have taken from me my closest friends
and have made me repulsive to them.
I am confined and cannot escape;
⁹my eyes are dim with grief.
I call to you, LORD, every day;
I spread out my hands to you.
¹⁰Do you show your wonders to the dead?
Do their spirits rise up and praise you?
¹¹Is your love declared in the grave,
your faithfulness in Destruction?

¹²Are your wonders known in the place of darkness,
or your righteous deeds in the land of oblivion?

¹³But I cry to you for help, LORD;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.

¹⁴Why, LORD, do you reject me
and hide your face from me?

¹⁵From my youth I have suffered and been close to death;
I have borne your terrors and am in despair.

¹⁶Your wrath has swept over me;
your terrors have destroyed me.

¹⁷All day long they surround me like a flood;
they have completely engulfed me.

¹⁸You have taken from me friend and neighbor—
darkness is my closest friend.

After the Psalm concludes:

The Pastor will exit the chancel in silence.

The congregation may remain for prayer and meditation as long as they desire.

The congregation may depart in silence.

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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