

Maundy Thursday
April 2,
Year of Our ✠ Lord 2026



**Let Us Love One Another,
as Christ Jesus Has Loved Us**

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Cor. 11:26). By eating His body and drinking His blood, we proclaim to all the world that Jesus is, indeed, our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1–14), who was sacrificed for us on Calvary. In Christ, the Lord remembers us in mercy and remembers our sin no more; He forgives us all our iniquity. With such love, he "loved His own who were in the world," and even loves us "to the end" (John 13:1). As He washes us and feeds us in love, let us love one another, just as He has loved us (John 13:34).



**ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

**A Church of
The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod**

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WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS:

As a way to celebrate and remember the vibrant history of the Christian Church—among many other reasons—we utilize the historic liturgy. This may be new and strange to you, or this may be comfortable and familiar. We invite you to sit next to one of our members who will be happy to assist you as you receive God’s gifts of the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation alongside us.

HOLY COMMUNION AT ZION:

Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at the Lutheran altar. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. The Bible teaches we cannot be partakers from two differing tables (1 Cor. 10:15-18), and that communion can be taken to our judgment rather than our forgiveness (1 Cor. 11:27-32). It is our earnest desire at Zion that communion be taken according to our Lord’s intent (Matthew 26:26-28). Members of Zion, out of love for their neighbor, can be of great assistance in this endeavor to bring others into the truth of this supper by encouraging visitors to speak with the pastor if they desire Holy Communion.

✠ 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.**

Sit

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.

Stand

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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



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 A - men.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:3-11

³Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do." ⁴And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. ⁶And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. ⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." ⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words."

⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 111:4–5

P He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

G He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 11:23–32

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 111:4–5; John 6:55–56

P He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.

G He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

Hymn of the Day: 634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

5 We dare not ask how this can be,
But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins:
"Given and shed for all your sins."

6 They who this word do not believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—
May we this warning keep in mind!

7 But blest is each believing guest
Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain
With all who here His grace obtain.

8 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1–4, 6–8): Haquin Spegel, 1645–1714; (sts. 1–4, 6–8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841–1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite
Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our evil way and live. We come before You, although we have sinned and deserve only Your wrath; yet we flee to Your mercy in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who gave His body and His blood for our redemption. Lord, grant that we may ever thus believe and never waver. Grant that in such faith we may worthily come to Your altar to eat the very body and drink the true blood, which Your Son has given for our redemption. In thanksgiving, we remember and proclaim the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we place our trust. Until His return, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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 saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



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

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P 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."

Pax Domini

LSB 197



☐ The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



☐ A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



☐ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Those participating in communion are asked to exit the pew on the outer aisle.

When coming forward to receive communion we ask that 7 people from each side approach the altar. The Chalice and Individual Cups are offered at the Supper; you can specify which cup you would like to receive from. Please exit down the center aisle, placing your cup in the bowl near the font.

Distribution Hymn: 627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's
2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious
3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you
4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this



wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe
food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,
are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,
food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,



He saved us from the e - vil foe.
And with the wine the blood He shed.
His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.
Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.

6 Agony and bitter labor
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.

7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.

8 "For what purpose was My dying
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?"

9 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt. Text (sts. 3, 6, 8, 10): © 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004305 Text (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9) and tune: Public domain

Post Communion Collect:

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

✠ Stripping of the Altar ✠

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.

- **Psalm is spoken by congregation after Pastor begins.**

Psalm 22:1–31

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.
⁷All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;
⁸"He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"
⁹Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.
¹⁰On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother's womb you have been my God.
¹¹Be not far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.
¹²Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
¹⁶For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—
¹⁷I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴For 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.
²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
²⁸For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
²⁹All 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.
³⁰Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

All leave the church in silence.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Announcements

- Redeemer Lutheran in Lisbon will be observing the Vigil of Easter Saturday, April 4th beginning at **7:00 pm** This is a great opportunity to fully participate in the sacred triduum (3 services preceding the Resurrection of our Lord).