

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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## Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

7:30 PM



*Maundy Thursday is the beginning of the Three Days – the ancient observance of the mystery of our salvation, which plunges the faithful into the death of Jesus and brings them with him to resurrection life, **The Three Days, the Triduum**, are really one liturgy extending from Thursday evening through the Vigil of Easter.*

*The Maundy Thursday liturgy focuses on three significant actions: First, the confession of sins and announcement of forgiveness brings to a conclusion the Lenten discipline of repentance that began on Ash Wednesday; Second, the church obeys Jesus' command (in Latin, "mandatum" from which this day receives its name) to follow his example and wash one another's feet; And third, we celebrate our meal of deliverance, taking our place at the supper Jesus shared with his disciples on this night. The service closes with the Stripping of the Altar, recalling the stripping off of the clothes of Jesus during his detention.*

**Welcome to worship!**  
Masking is optional but recommended while indoors.

**Enter in prayerful silence.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

***It Happened on That Fateful Night***

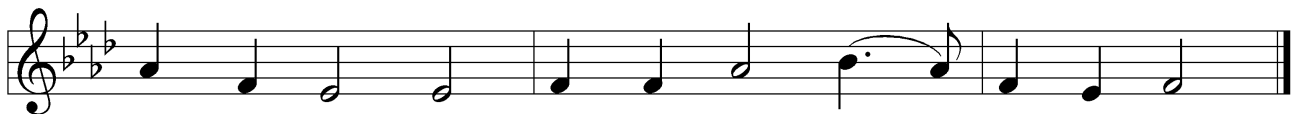
**LBW 127**



1 It hap - pened on that fate - ful night when pow'rs of  
2 Be - fore the bit - ter scene be - gan, he took the  
3 "My bod - y, bro - ken for your sin, re - ceive and  
4 "Do this," he said, "till time shall end, re - mem - ber -  
5 O Lord, your feast we cel - e - brate; we show your



earth and hell a - rose a - gainst the Son, our  
bread, and blest and broke. What love through all his  
eat as liv - ing food." He took the cup and  
ing your dy - ing friend; meet at my ta - ble  
death; we sing your name till you re - turn, when



God's de - light, and friends be - trayed him to his foes.  
ac - tions ran! What won - drous words of love he spoke!  
blest the wine: "Share this new tes - ta - ment, my blood."  
and re - cord the full o - be - dience of your Lord."  
we shall eat the mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; hymnal version *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978  
Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## **GREETING**

P As the Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God, we begin in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **THE INSTRUCTION**

P In this Lenten Season we have heard our Lord'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 love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of 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. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of the feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that 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 share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to 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 called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation.

On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

***Please kneel. Silence for personal reflection.***

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** 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** In the mercy of almighty God, Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit, God cleanses us, and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray: Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



**Please be seated.**

**FIRST READING   Exodus 12:1-14**

*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.*

A      A reading from Exodus, chapter 12.

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

A      Word of God. Word of life.

**C      Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 116:1-2; 12-19

- <sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**
- <sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the LORD  
for all the good things God has done for me?
- <sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**
- <sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people.
- <sup>15</sup>**Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**
- <sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.
- <sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the LORD.**
- <sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people,
- <sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

## SECOND READING      1 Corinthians 11:23–26

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.*

A      A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, chapter 11.

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

- A      Word of God. Word of life.  
C      **Thanks be to God.**

***Stay seated.***

**GOSPEL VERSE:**     ***Spoken by Congregation:***

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,  
You proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Cor.11:26)

**GOSPEL   John 13:1–17, 31b–35**

**P**     The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**C**     **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

**FOOTWASHING**

***Jesus giving himself as a servant to all.***






**You are invited to come forward and be seated at a chair in the front of the church to receive water on one foot in remembrance of the first foot washing.**

## FOOTWASHING HYMNS:


### *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

WOV 765

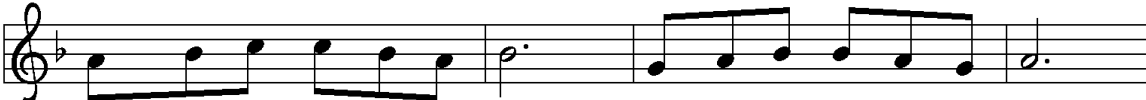
*Refrain*



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show




us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,  
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;  
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

*Refrain*



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
 this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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## A New Commandment

WOV 664

A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as

I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.

By this shall peo - ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if

you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know

you are my dis - ci - ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

Text: John 13:34-35

Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous

<sup>12</sup>After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

<sup>31b</sup>“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

P On this night we have heard our Lord’s commandment to love one another as he has loved us. 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. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example and command our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

*Silence for Meditation*

*Please stand.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*O Lord, We Praise You*

LBW 215

1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, in thanks -  
 2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, life to  
 3 May God be - stow on us his grace and fa - vor to please

giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your  
 win for us in heav - en. No great - er  
 him with our be - hav - ior and live to -

bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that  
 love than this to you could bind us; may this feast of  
 geth - er here in love and u - nion, nor re - pent this

they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 that re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 blest com - mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy!

May your bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, that our  
 Lord, your kind - ness so much did move you that your  
 Let not your good Spir - it for - sake us, but that

sins and sor - rows did car - ry, and your blood for us plead  
 blood now moves us to love you. All our debt you have paid;  
 heav'n-ly - mind - ed he make us; give your church, Lord, to see

in all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 days of peace and u - ni - ty. O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: German folk hymn, 15th cent., st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, sts. 2–3; tr. composite  
 Music: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Lynn Buckingham*

Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

### ***A brief silence.***

Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days, including our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the New Jersey Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian community, our friends from the Light & Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere as they live out their callings to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need, including those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*).

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead, including those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P     Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C     **Amen.**

**PEACE**      *Please stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.*

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

**C**      And also with you.

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING**      *Please place your offering in the plate located on the table  
at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.*

*Please stay seated.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN**      *Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior*      **LBW 199**



1 Thee we a - dore, O hid - den Sav - ior, thee,  
2 O blest me - mo - rial of our dy - ing Lord,  
3 Foun - tain of good - ness, Je - sus, Lord and God:  
4 O Christ, whom now be - neath a veil we see:



who in thy sac - ra - ment art pleased to be;  
who liv - ing bread to us shall here af - ford:  
cleanse us, un - clean, with thy most cleans - ing blood;  
may what we thirst for soon our por - tion be,



both flesh and spir - it in thy pres - ence fail,  
oh, may our souls for - ev - er feed on thee,  
in - crease our faith and love, that we may know  
to gaze on thee un - veiled, and see thy face,



yet here thy pres - ence we de - vout - ly hail.  
and thou, O Christ, for - ev - er pre - cious be.  
the hope and peace which from thy pres - ence flow.  
the vi - sion of thy glo - ry, and thy grace. A - men

Text: Thomas Aquinas, 1227–1274; tr. James R. Woodford, 1820–1885  
Music: ADORO TE DEVOTE, mode V; *Processionale*, Paris, 1697

**Please stand.**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray.  
Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the  
world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our  
commitment to sharing those treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

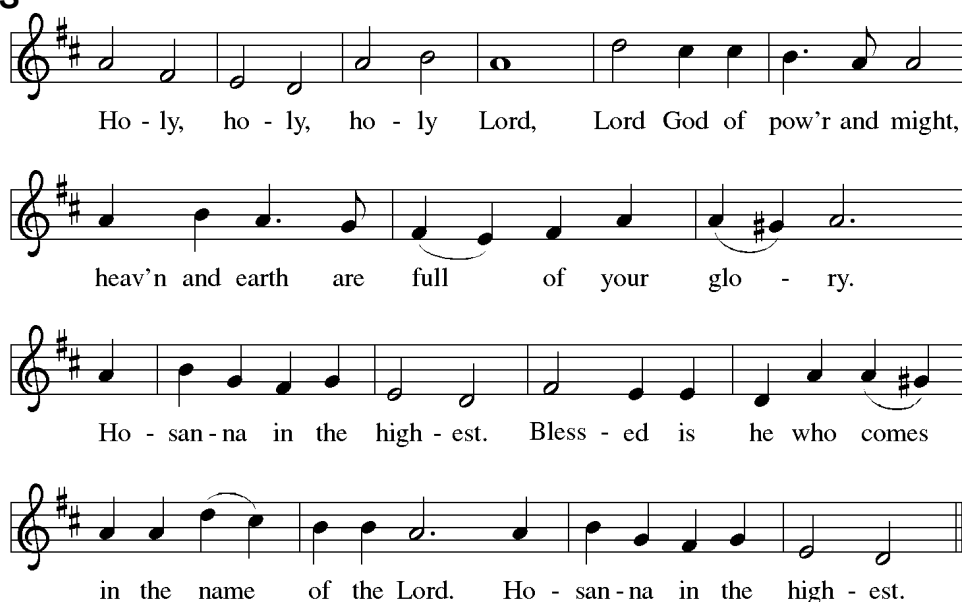
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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.  
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THE PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare for the Pascal Feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

*Please kneel or sit.*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
Who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
Who preached good news to the poor,  
And who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread,  
Blessed and broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
And gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This is the new covenant in my blood,  
Shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
We await his coming in glory.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
that by this Holy Communion  
we may know the unity we share with all people  
in the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
All glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer Jesus has taught us:

**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.  
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, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All who are hungry, come!  
The feast of grace is spread.  
Come to the table where all are welcome.

## AGNUS DEI

## *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God*

**LBW 103**

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

Text: German, 1528, based on the Agnus Dei; tr. unknown  
Music: CHRISTE, DU LAMM GOTTES, *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528





## CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

*Please come forward for Communion,  
beginning with those in the back pews, from alternating sides,  
leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you.*

*Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive  
the wafer & cup until you step away from the communion tray.*

*A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.  
The center contains purple grape juice.  
White wine is in the remainder of the tray.*

*After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.*

*Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know you wish to receive a blessing.*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

**P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

*Of the Glorious Body Telling*

LBW 120



1 Of the glo - rious bod - y tell - ing, O my  
 2 Giv'n for us, for us de - scend - ing, of a  
 3 At the last great sup - per ly - ing cir - cled  
 4 Word made flesh, by word or - dain - ing ver - y



tongue, its mys - t'ries sing, and the blood, all price ex -  
 vir - gin to pro - ceed, with us all in con - verse  
 by his cho - sen band, meek - ly with the law com -  
 bread his flesh to be; we, in wine Christ's blood ob -



cel - ling, which the world's e - ter - nal king,  
 blend - ing, scat - tered he the gos - pel seed,  
 ply - ing, first he fin - ished its com - mand;  
 tain - ing, and, if sens - es fail to see,



in a no - ble womb once dwell - ing, shed for this  
 till his so - journ drew to end - ing which he closed  
 then, im - mor - tal food sup - ply - ing, gave him - self  
 faith a - lone will wake those strain - ing to be - hold



world's ran - som - ing.  
 in won - drous deed.  
 with his own hand.  
 the mys - ter - y. A - men

5 Therefore we, before him bending,  
 this great sacrament revere;  
 types and shadows have their ending,  
 for the newer rite is here;  
 faith, our outward sense befriending,  
 makes the inward vision clear.

6 Glory let us give, and blessing  
 to the Father and the Son;  
 honor, might, and praise addressing,  
 while eternal ages run;  
 ever, too, the Spirit blessing,  
 who, from both, with both is one.

Amen

*Tonight's Mass concludes with the Stripping of the Altar as a Psalm of lament, Psalm 22 is read or sung. The assembly may sit or kneel as the altar is stripped of vessels and candles, representative as our Lord was stripped of his royal dignity and his clothing at the hands of the temple police and the Roman soldiers after his arrest and before his execution on the cross.*

**PSALM 22**    *Read by Pastor*

*A Psalm of David*

- <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
and are you so far from my cry, and from the words of my distress?
- <sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well,  
but I find no rest.
- <sup>3</sup> Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- <sup>4</sup> Our forefathers put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- <sup>5</sup> They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you,  
and were not put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup> But as for me, I am a worm and no man, scorned by all, and despised by the people.
- <sup>7</sup> All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- <sup>8</sup> "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him,  
let him rescue him if he delights in him."
- <sup>9</sup> Yet it was you who took me out of the womb,  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- <sup>10</sup> I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;  
You were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- <sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.
- <sup>12</sup> Many young bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- <sup>13</sup> they open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
- <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is melting wax. My mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- <sup>16</sup> Packs of dogs close me in; and gangs of evildoers circle around me;  
They pierce my hands and my feet. <sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me; <sup>18</sup>they divide my garments among them,  
they cast lots for my clothing.

- <sup>19</sup> Be not far away, O LORD; You are my strength, hasten to help me.  
<sup>20</sup> Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.  
<sup>21</sup> Save me from the lion's mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- <sup>22</sup> I will declare your name to my brethren;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
<sup>23</sup> Praise the LORD, you that fear him;  
O offspring of Israel, all you of Jacob's line give glory.
- <sup>24</sup> For he did not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them, but when they cry to him he hears them.
- <sup>25</sup> My praise is of him in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.  
<sup>26</sup> The poor shall eat and be satisfied; and those who seek the LORD shall praise him.  
May your heart live forever!
- <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.  
<sup>28</sup> For kingship belongs to the LORD, he rules over the nations.
- <sup>29</sup> To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust fall before him. My soul shall live for him;  
<sup>30</sup> My descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's forever.  
<sup>31</sup> They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn,  
the saving deeds that he has done.

***The congregation departs in silence.***

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end. We gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight, we remembered Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus was his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

***The Service continues:***



**Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**at Noon “Stations of the Cross” (in-person only; no live stream.)**



**Renewal of Baptism and Egg Hunt Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 11 AM**  
**outdoors weather permitting or indoors if needed.**



**The Resurrection of Our Lord: Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 10 AM Mass**  
**(in-person and live streamed)**

***Easter Brunch following Mass.***

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