

Crossroads: Traveling with our Savior Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Jesus replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says; My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'"

Welcome

Opening Hymn 136 'Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night

The congregation rises.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

The Prayer

All: Lord Jesus, our heavenly Father provided us with a Passover Lamb to save us from eternal death when He sent You into our world and sacrificed You on the cross for our sins. Work true repentance in our hearts, causing us to make sincere confession of our sins and to believe with joyful trust that He has forgiven us for Your sake. May Your body and blood, given and shed for our sins and imparted to us here this evening in bread and wine in that supper which commemorates Your death, ever nourish our faith, cheer our hearts, and strengthen our will to live godly and upright lives. Amen.

First Lesson: Exodus 12:1-14 (p. 65)

Moses instructed the Israelites about the Passover lamb. The Passover Lamb is a type of Christ. Just as the blood of the Lamb brought deliverance from slavery in Egypt, the blood of Jesus Christ brought deliverance from our slavery to sin.

M: Tonight, we see Jesus in the Passover Lamb.

C: Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Psalm 34 (insert)

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 11:23-28 (p. 1136)

The Apostle Paul passes down to the Corinthians and to us the Lord's Supper. In the Lord's Supper we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine.

Gospel Lesson: John 13:1-15, 34 (p. 1066)

On this night before showing His great love through His death, Jesus teaches us about love. Jesus sets an example for His disciples, including us. Jesus came not to be served, but to serve. He washes the feet of His disciples and encourages them to love one another.

Hymn 135 s. 1-5 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

Sermon

Luke 23:26-31

From Pilate to Golgotha

A Simon

A Sermon

Hymn 135 s. 6, 7 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

The Offering (What Bread Is This? Jill Kanzenbach)

The Words of Institution

The Personal Preparation for Holy Communion

P: Where will I find the truth about my natural human condition?

C: In the Bible, the Word of God.

P: What does God tell me about myself?

C: He says that I sin every day and deserve His punishment both now and in eternity.

P: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

C: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I been disobedient, unfaithful, lazy, or quarrelsome? Have I been proud, envious, selfish, unwilling to forgive? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I in any way—by thought, word, or action—done wrong or failed to do what is right and good?

P: How can I as a troubled and guilty sinner be saved from God's terrible judgment on the wrongs I have done?

C: I will confess before God all the sins which I remember and know have grieved Him, together with the sins of which I am unaware; and I will pray that God be merciful to me and forgive me.

P: Why can I be sure of His gracious forgiveness?

C: His word tells me that Jesus kept the law for me, died for me, and paid the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus I have been clothed in the robe of my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.

P: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am His?

C: In Holy Communion He gives me His body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with Him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about His love for me. He also gives me His own strength to live a God-pleasing life and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.

P: Why am I sure that this is so whenever I come to the Lord's Supper?

C: I have His own word spoken at His last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is My body, Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

P: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

C: I will daily thank and praise Him for His love to me. With His help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I can, and serve Him and those around me with love and good works.

The Distribution of the Lord's Supper

The Distribution Hymns: 311

Following the Lord's Supper, please rise at the worship Leader's invitation.

Maundy Thursday Responsive Prayer

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, Author of the everlasting covenant and Giver of the cup of salvation.

C: We gather in Your courts to offer You our sacrifice of thanksgiving.

P: For fulfilling Your promise to establish a new covenant through the blood of Your Son Jesus Christ,

C: We give You humble and hearty thanks.

P: As our Lord Jesus Christ gave thanks to You when He broke bread, as He gave thanks to You when he took the cup,

C: We, too, give You thanks.

P: Precious Savior, our hearts are filled with awe in the sacrifice You made for us.

C: We praise You, bless You, and adore You, Lord Jesus Christ.

P: In our poverty of righteousness we have nothing to offer. Without Your tremendous sacrifice we would still be in our sins,

C: But through Your sacrament of the New Testament we are assured that our iniquities are forgiven and our sins are no longer remembered.

P: O Holy Spirit, work in us love and faith through this most holy supper.

C: Move us to encourage one another to love and good works.

P: As our Lord served His disciples by washing their feet, so may we also humbly serve one another.

C: Help us to live our lives as sacrifices of thanksgiving to him who first loved us. Amen.

The Blessing

C: (sings) Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Closing Hymn 316

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

Good Friday Worship 7:00 pm We See Jesus Taking Our Place
Easter Worship 6:30 am and 9:30 am We See Jesus Giving Us Rest