

Maundy Thursday

April 6, 2023

Faith Lutheran Church

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Georgetown, TX 78628

flcms.org

(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)

WELCOME

INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of God the Father,

People: Who “so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

Pastor: In the name of God the Son,

People: Who “loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” (Ephesians 5:2)

Pastor: In the name of God the Holy Spirit,

People: Who points us to the cross that we may learn to “love one another.” (John 13:34)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love;

People: according to Your great compassion, blot out my transgressions.

Pastor: Wash away all my iniquity,

People: and cleanse me from my sin. (Psalm 51:1-2)

People: Almighty God, holy Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins, by which I have disobeyed and angered You and for which I deserve punishment in time and in eternity. I have fallen far short of Your glory by failing to love You and the neighbors You have given me. For Jesus’ sake forgive my offenses and release me from my guilt. Remove all sin from me, I beg You, and grant me by Your Spirit strength to amend my heart and will; through Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Dear friends, Jesus died for you. He took your sin upon Himself, suffered its terrible consequences, and vanquished its power. In Christ you are now free from death and need fear no condemnation. God is not angry with you, but

loves you with an unconquerable devotion. As a called and ordained minister of this gospel and with the authority of the Risen Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: God of love and grace, write Your new command on our hearts, that in likeness to Jesus Your Son we may fully and freely love all people. That many may be drawn to Christ the Savior, enable us by Your Spirit to prove our love through willing sacrifice and pure affection; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who gave Himself into death yet lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: “Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me” (LSB, #683)

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
Unite my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;
Be Thou alone my constant flame.

O grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
My ev’ry act, word, thought be love.

This love unwearied I pursue
And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.
Oh, may Thy love my hope renew,
Burn in my soul like heav’nly fire!
And day and night, be all my care
To guard this sacred treasure there.

In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,
In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;
And when the storms of life shall cease,
O Jesus, in that final hour,
Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,
And draw me safely to Thy side!

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THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Exodus 24:3–11*

Moses 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." And 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. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then 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." And 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."

Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and 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. And He did not lay His hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: *Hebrews 9:11–22*

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lector: Please rise, as you are able.

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 26th chapter:

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 26:17–30*

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." They said to Him, "Where will You have us prepare it?" He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." And they went and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, He reclined at table, and the apostles with Him. And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."

Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, from Luther's Small Catechism:

CONFESSION OF FAITH:

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, Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, 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, that I may be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!

HYMN: "When You Woke That Thursday Morning" (LSB, #445)

When You woke that Thursday morning,
Savior, teacher, faithful friend,
Thoughts of self and safety scorning,
Knowing how the day would end;
Lamb of God, foretold for ages,
Now at last the hour had come
When but One could pay sin's wages:
You assumed their dreadful sum.

Never so alone and lonely,
Longing with tormented heart
To be with Your dear ones only
For a quiet hour apart:
Sinless Lamb and fallen creature,
One last paschal meal to eat,
One last lesson as their teacher,
Washing Your disciples' feet.

What was there that You could give them
That would never be outspent,
What great gift that would outlive them,
What last will and testament?
“Show Me and the world you love Me,
Know Me as the Lamb of God:
Do this in remembrance of Me,
Eat this body, drink this blood.”

One in faith, in love united,
All one body, You the head,
When we meet, by You invited,
You are with us, as You said.
One with You and one another
In a unity sublime,
See in us Your sister, brother,
One in ev’ry place and time.

One day all the Church will capture
That bright vision glorious,
And Your saints will know the rapture
That Your heart desired for us,
When the longed-for peace and union
Of the Greatest and the least
Meet in joyous, blest communion
In Your never-ending feast.

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SERMON: “Thursday’s Thanksgivings” (Matthew 26:17-30)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: You Set a Table

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His 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 covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper will be distributed at the altar rail. Please follow the ushers' directions.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born" (LSB, #624)

The infant Priest was holy born
For us unholy and forlorn;
From fleshly temple forth came He,
Anointed from eternity.

This great High Priest in human flesh
Was icon of God's righteousness.
His hallowed touch brought sanctity;
His hand removed impurity.

The holy Lamb undaunted came
To God's own altar lit with flame;
While weeping angels hid their eyes,
This Priest became a sacrifice.

But death would not the victor be
Of Him who hung upon the tree.
He leads us to the Holy Place
Within the veil, before God's face.

The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
As at the rail on bended knee
Our hungry mouths from Him receive
The bread of immortality.

The body of God's Lamb we eat,
A priestly food and priestly meat;
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
His quenching blood that life restores.

With cherubim and seraphim
Our voices join the endless hymn,
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior" (LSB, #627, verses: 1-4, 10)

Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior,
Turned away God's wrath forever;
By His bitter grief and woe
He saved us from the evil foe.

As His pledge of love undying,
He, this precious food supplying,
Gives His body with the bread,
And with the wine the blood He shed.

Jesus here Himself is sharing;
Heed then how you are preparing,
For if you do not believe,
His judgment then you shall receive.

Praise the Father, who from heaven
To His own this food has given,
Who, to mend what we have done,
Gave into death His only Son.

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.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “No Temple Now, No Gift of Price” (LSB, #530, melody: Meribah)

No temple now, no gift of price,
No priestly round of sacrifice,
Retain their ancient pow'rs.
As shadows fade before the sun
The day of sacrifice is done,
The day of grace is ours.

The dying Lord our ransom paid,
One final full self-off'ring made,
Complete in ev'ry part.
His finished sacrifice for sins
The covenant of grace begins,
The law within the heart.

In faith and confidence draw near,
Within the holiest appear,
With all who praise and pray;
Who share one family, one feast,
One great imperishable Priest,
One new and living way.

For Christ is ours! With purpose true
The pilgrim path of faith pursue,
The road that Jesus trod;
Until by His prevailing grace
We stand at last before His face,
Our Savior and our God.

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COMMON DISMISSAL:

Pastor: Now may this true body and blood our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in faith unto life everlasting.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray:

People: We praise You, Lord Jesus, for love beyond measure! You prepared for us the Feast of Heaven and fed us with Your own Body and Blood that, forgiven, we may live forever with God. Daily intensify our love for You and everyone You died to redeem that with joy we serve one another in Your name and share with all the world the Cup of Pardon and the Bread of Life. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS:

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION: *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "For Love That Gives Beyond All Price" (melody: All Ehr Und Lob)

For love that gives beyond all price,
That offers self as sacrifice,
We praise You, Jesus, Lord most high
And unto You we lift this cry:
Grant us the grace to imitate
The pattern of Your love so great.

Savior, Your very life You gave
To rescue us from sin and grave.
Resisting ev'ry selfish bent
To Calvary You humbly went.
Fill us with love that gladly goes
To serve within this world of woes.

Write on our hearts Your new command
until each soul in ev'ry land
Knows well the depth and breadth and height
Of love that brings from darkness light,
That hurls away death's heavy stone,
And turns a cross into a throne.

DISMISSAL:

+ † +

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

In Christian Service:

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

with

Proclaimer & Liturgist: Rev. Walt Pohland

Lector: Vicar John Cotner

Organist: Adam Perez