



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

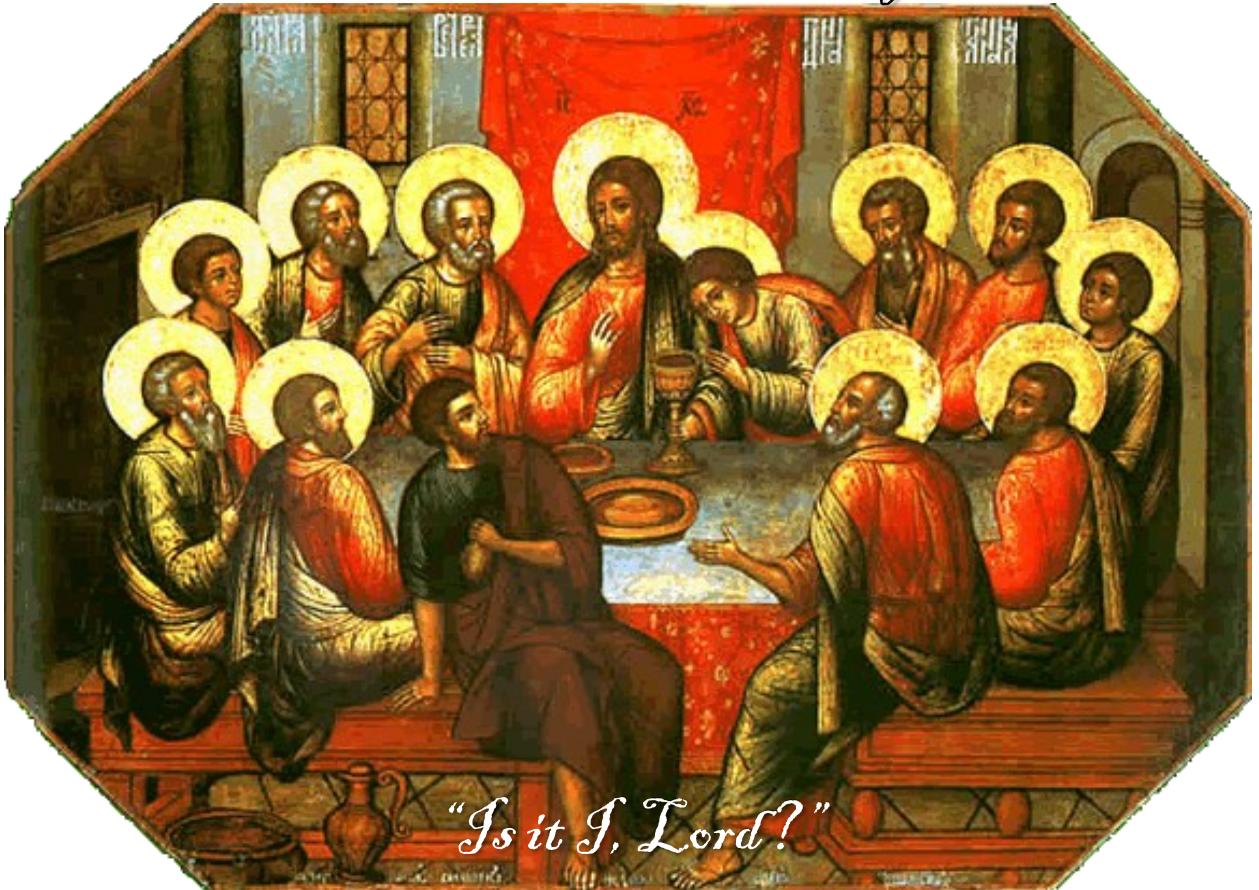
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Conversations *that led to Crucifixion*



✠ MAUNDY THURSDAY ✠

THURSDAY, APRIL 9 2020

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

These are truly strange days in which we live. To refrain from gathering together on this Maundy Thursday—a day that is all about gathering as the people of God by the grace of Jesus Christ—it's unthinkable. It's unimaginable. And yet, here we are. God has seen fit to separate us for a time, to disperse His people into our homes, and in some ways, to extend our Lenten fast...a fast from community, from close connection to one another, for some a fast from the Lord's Supper. But by His Word and Spirit, the Church will continue to rest upon the promise of Jesus that not even the gates of hell will be able to prevail against the Church. Thanks be to God!

A NOTE ON TODAY'S SERVICE

Maundy Thursday's name is derived from the Latin "mandatum," which is translated, "mandate," or "commandment." The service commemorates the Thursday evening in which Jesus was betrayed. His time in the upper room with His disciples is described in each of the Gospels, though most thoroughly in John 13-17. John 13:34, in which Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another," is the reference of the word "mandatum."

The service begins with the service of Corporate Confession and Absolution. This short service is reminiscent of the Absolution received individually on Ash Wednesday. After the Words of Forgiveness, the family is invited to greet each other, using the words "Peace be with you." This is a sign that even as we have received forgiveness from our many sins, we are willing to grant that forgiveness and speak peace to our neighbors as well.

LORD'S SUPPER DURING THIS TIME

The elders and pastor have decided that small gatherings of families will be able, by appointment, to receive the Lord's Supper. Pastor will use every precaution available to limit contact between individuals. Please call the church office or Pastor's cell phone to make arrangements.

✠ SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

Jesus, Greatest at the Table

LSB 446



1 Je - sus, great - est at the ta - ble, The al -
2 Mar - vel how their Lord and teach - er Gent - ly
3 Je - sus took the role of ser - vant When up -
4 Can we fath - om such deep mer - cy? Do we
5 Je - sus gave to His dis - ci - ples A com -



might - y Son of Man, Laid a - side His out - er cloth - ing,
taught them not to vie As He hum - bly knelt be - fore them,
on that grue - some span, For all hu - man sin He suf - fered,
see what God has done? Who can grasp this great re - ver - sal:
mand - ment that was new: "Show My love to one an - oth - er,



Poured some wa - ter in a pan; As the Twelve lay,
Dust - y feet to wash and dry, By His ten - der
As a vile and loath - some man; On the cross poured
Love that gives His on - ly Son? Christ, the sin - less
Do as I have done for you; All the world will



hushed in si - lence, He the ser - vant's task be - gan.
touch ex - press - ing True com - pas - sion from on high.
out like wa - ter To ful - fill the Fa - ther's plan.
for the sin - ners, For the man - y dies the One.
know you love Me As you love each oth - er too."

Stand. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

L In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C Amen.

L I will go to the altar of God,

C to God my exceeding joy.

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Sit.

CONFESSONAL ADDRESS

L 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.

L Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C Amen.

Stand. Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L 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.**

L Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you."

COLLECT OF THE DAY

L O Lord, in the wondrous Sacrament of Your Son's Body and Blood You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may soon 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 Ghost, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Sit.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:21-27

²¹ Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and kill the Passover lamb. ²² Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. ²³ For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you. ²⁴ You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. ²⁵ And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. ²⁶ And when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' ²⁷ you shall say, 'It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.'" And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

Stand.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:17-25

¹⁷ Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸ He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹ And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

²⁰ When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. ²¹ And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²² And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" ²³ He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." ²⁵ Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

162, vs. 1-4

1 The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress,
Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.

2 He blotted out with His own blood
The judgment that against us stood;
He full atonement for us made,
And all our debt He fully paid.

3 That this is now and ever true
He gives an earnest ever new:
In this His holy Supper here
We taste His love so sweet, so near.

4 His Word proclaims, and we believe.
That in this Supper we receive
His very body, as He said,
His very blood for sinners shed.

SERMON

"Is it I, Lord?"

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

162, vs. 5-9

5 A precious food is this indeed,--
It never fails us in our need,--
A heavenly manna for our soul,
Until we safely reach our goal.

6 Oh, blest is each believing guest
Who in this promise finds his rest,
For Jesus will in love abide
With those who do in Him confide.

7 The guest that comes with true intent
To turn to God and to repent,
To live for Christ, to die to sin,
Will thus a holier life begin.

8 They who His Word do not believe,
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find,--
May we this warning keep in mind!

9 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Thy Supper and in Thee find rest.
Amen! he who believes is blest.
Amen.

Stand.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Go to Dark Gethsemane

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1 Go to dark Gethsemane, Ye that feel the Tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away, Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

2 Follow to the judgment-hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; Learn of Him to bear the cross.

3 Calvary's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

4 Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom,—Who hath taken Him away?
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.
Amen.

Because Maundy Thursday is a part of the Holy Triduum (Holy Three Days), there is no Benediction. The church has historically viewed services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday as one, continuous service, concluding with the Easter proclamation on Saturday night.

God's peace and blessings be with you now and always.

