

THE WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. Chad E. Hoover
Liturgist: Rev. Scott A. Zeckzer
Lector: Rev. David O. Stecker
Organist: Lynne Eifert
Choir: Handbell Choir, directed by Nicole Busarow
Elder: John Colter
Ushers: Group 5 (Mike Schultz)
Communion Assistant: David Herman

† MAUNDY THURSDAY †

April 6, 2023 ~ 7:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER ~ When Moses told the people at Mount Sinai what God wanted, they all said, “All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do” (Exodus 24:3). But they didn’t. And neither do we follow through on our commitments to God. Yet, because of the sacrifice of His Son, God has kept His covenant promises. He “signed,” celebrating the covenant with a meal shared by the leaders of Israel. We, too, partake of a foretaste of the coming feast as we go to the Lord’s Table today.

God sealed the covenant as Jesus’ tomb was sealed by the Roman authorities on Good Friday. In our Baptism we have been sealed for eternal life, united with our Lord in the Body of Christ, the Church. And on Easter, as our Savior was “delivered” from death and the grave, so we have been delivered from the punishment due us. Our worship today and through Easter is an opportunity to thank God for the covenant He has signed, sealed, and delivered through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PRELUDE *Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord (Ingram)*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

♪ **OPENING HYMN** ↓

LSB 445

When You Woke That Thursday Morning

**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.**

2

**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.**

INVOCATION ↑

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ↑

(Hebrews 9:11–12)

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have come together intending to receive our Lord Jesus Christ’s body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper. The Sacrament provides comfort for troubled hearts and freedom from the wrath we deserve,

When we look at our lives and conduct, though, we find sin and rebellion. Worse, we cannot free ourselves by our own strength. “But when Christ appeared as a high priest . . . He entered once for all into the holy places . . . by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.”

Let us therefore confess our sins to our heavenly Father, imploring Him for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

People: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I confess that I am a poor, miserable sinner. I have sinned in my thinking, speaking, and acting. I deserve Your punishment here in time and hereafter in eternity. In Your boundless mercy, hear my sincere repentance and for the sake of Your Son's giving Himself over to suffering and death on my behalf, be merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

People: **Yes.**

Pastor: Let it be done for you as you believe. 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.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

COLLECT ↑

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING ↓ Exodus 24:3-11 (ESV)

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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

♪ HYMN ↓

LSB 634

The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord (vs. 1-4, 8)

**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.**

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

**That this forever true shall be
He gives a solemn guarantee:
In this His holy Supper here
We taste His love so sweet, so near.**

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

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

EPISTLE READING ↓ Hebrews 9:11-22 (ESV)

¹¹When 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) ¹²he 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. ¹³For 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, ¹⁴how 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.

¹⁵Therefore 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. ¹⁶For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. ¹⁷For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. ¹⁸Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. ¹⁹For 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, ²⁰saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.” ²¹And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. ²²Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING ↑ Matthew 26:17-30 (ESV)

¹⁷Now 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?” ¹⁸He 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.’” ¹⁹And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

²⁰When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. ²¹And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” ²²And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” ²³He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴The 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.” ²⁵Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ HYMN OF THE DAY ↓ *O Lord, We Praise Thee LSB 617*

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead in all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid; peace with God once more is
made: O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

SERMON ↓ *Tangible Grace*

NICENE CREED ↑

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven
and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of
Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one
substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who
for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and

was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was
made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again
according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits
at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with
glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom
will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who
proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father
and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by
the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the
world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH ↑

- Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the
world, and all people in their various needs.
For ourselves, that we treasure the promises of God
made to His people in the past and to us today, let
us pray to the Lord.
- People: Lord, have mercy.**
- Pastor: For the Church around the world, that it be free to
gather around Word and Sacrament and rejoice in
every opportunity to spread the Gospel, let us pray
to the Lord.
- People: Lord, have mercy.**
- Pastor: For our brothers and sisters in Christ, that they seek
the Lord's help in resisting temptation and in their
lives of faith and love, let us pray to the Lord.
- People: Lord, have mercy.**
- Pastor: For people in positions of power locally, nationally,
and among the nations of the world, that God give
them wisdom and compassion, ordering society
within their borders and seeking peace across them,
let us pray to the Lord.
- People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all who call out to God, all in danger from natural disasters and manmade oppression, those in crises of health and chronic disabilities, and many who languish in poverty and isolation, that God would hear their spoken prayers and unspoken sighs, granting them relief, restoration, and enjoyment of life, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who rush toward danger, who raise crops and tend herds, who deliver the world's goods, who provide communication and social services, who protect and defend their neighbors and countries, that God would guide and protect them so that many may be served by their dedication and resolve, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who come to the Lord's Table this day seeking peace in their hearts, that God's mercy and love would enable them to rejoice in the forgiveness, life, and salvation that our gracious Savior offers here, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of the bitter sufferings, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

People: Amen.

♪ PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (Psalm 136)

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, 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 in the fullness of time became one of us to die for us and, when it was His time, gave Himself into death so that we might have eternal life. 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 ↑

(Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING ↑

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD ↑

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Pastor: 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."

11

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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST (1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20)

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER ↑ (Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4)

People: **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.**

♪ PAX DOMINI ↑

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

People: **Amen.**

♪ AGNUS DEI ↑ (John 1:29)

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**

12

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace.**

♪ DISTRIBUTION ↓

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table (Delancy)

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth **LSB 438**

**A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of sinners bearing
And, laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing;
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer,
He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
The mockery, and yet replies, "All this I gladly suffer."**

**This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend,
The Lamb of God, our Savior,
Whom God the Father chose to send
To gain for us His favor.
"Go forth, My Son," the Father said,
"And free My children from their dread
Of guilt and condemnation.
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by Your passion they will share the fruit of Your salvation."**

**"Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
I'll bear what You command Me.
My will conforms to Your decree,
I'll do what You have asked Me."
O wondrous Love, what have You done!
The Father offers up His Son, desiring our salvation.
O Love, how strong You are to save!
You lay the One into the grave who built the earth's foundation.**

13

Lord, when Your glory I shall see
 And taste Your kingdom's pleasure,
 Your blood my royal robe shall be, my joy beyond all measure!
 When I appear before Your throne,
 Your righteousness shall be my crown;
 With these I need not hide me.
 And there, in garments richly wrought,
 As Your own bride shall we be brought to stand in joy beside You.

Glory Be To Jesus

LSB 433

Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains
 Poured for me the lifeblood from His sacred veins!

Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;
 Blest be His compassion, infinitely kind!

Blest through endless ages be the precious stream
 Which from endless torment did the world redeem!

Abel's blood for vengeance pleaded to the skies;
 But the blood of Jesus for our pardon cries.

Oft as earth exulting wafts its praise on high,
 Angel hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.

Life we, then, our voices, swell the mighty flood;
 Louder still and louder praise the precious blood!

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422

On my heart imprint Your image,
 Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
 That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
 Never may Your work erase;
 Let the clear inscription be:
 Jesus, crucified for me, is my life, my hope's foundation,
 And my glory and salvation!

14

BLESSING †

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
 strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life
 everlasting. Depart † in peace.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER †

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given
 us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy
 Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us
 firm in the true faith throughout our days of
 pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may,
 together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage
 feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;
 through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives
 and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
 now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

† STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR †

Ah! Holy Jesus (Sherman)

*After the altar is stripped,
 all may offer a silent prayer and leave the sanctuary in silence.*

*Holy Week devotion continues tomorrow on Good Friday
 at 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.*