

IN THE WORLD, HE LOVED THEM UNTO THE END.

(JOHN 13:1)

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Maundy THURSDAY

Ringing of the Bell Prelude

Maundy Thursday

P During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggles against sin, death, and the power of the devil. He has called us to holy living by removing all that prevents us from trusting in Him and from loving one another.

Since it is our intention to receive God's word faithfully, and to receive the Lord's Supper this evening as on the night when he instituted it, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by examining ourselves as St. Paul urges us to do.

As we examine our lives, we do so knowing that God offers special comfort to those who are troubled by sin and who turn to Him for mercy. He richly forgives those who confess their sins, who fear His wrath, and who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

When we reflect upon our hearts and consciences, we find within us sin and death. There is nothing in us that hasn't been defiled or corrupted by our sinful nature. And therefore, we are unable to save ourselves. But our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the entire will and law of God. In order to deliver us, Jesus took upon Himself our sin and the punishment that we deserve.

In order that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in faith and holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ grants us grace through various means. He has washed us in the waters of baptism, he comes to us now in His word, and he comes in his body and blood in the Lord's Supper, to declare over you His grace and forgiveness.

Tonight, we reflect on the loving kindness and serving nature of Christ. For he is a servant of all. He washes the feet of sinners. He was delivered up for our offenses. And he was raised for our justification. Tonight we offer Him our most heartfelt thanks. We take up our cross and follow Him. And according to His commandment, we love one another as He loves us.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

Hymn of Invocation #LSB 644 sts. 1–4 The Church's One Foundation



Stand

The sign of the cross 4-may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** I will go to the altar of God,
- **C** For He is my exceeding joy.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

Confession and Absolution

- Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.
 O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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.

- P Christ has had mercy upon you. And 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.
- C Amen.

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.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, on the night of your betrayal, you showed your disciples your servant heart. As you washed their feet, you so commanded them to love one another. Grant that we may so follow in your example and trust in your mercy. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 36:22-28

²²"Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. ²⁸You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Ephesians 2:12-22

¹²remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the

world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus vou who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
- Glory be to You, O Lord.

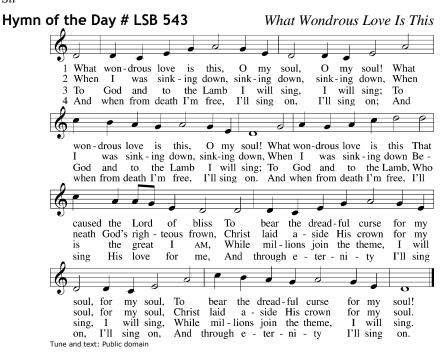
¹Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." 8Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." 9Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. . . .

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³²If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit



Sermon

Title: Jesus' Blood Brings Together

Text: John 13

Stand

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

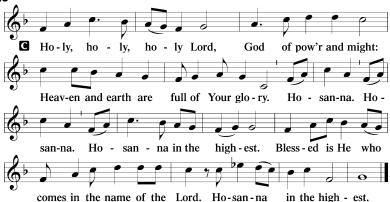
Preface

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

Proper Preface

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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saving:

Sanctus



P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

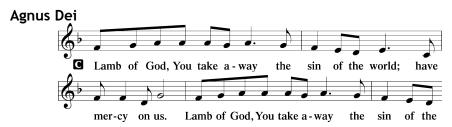
Words of Our Lord

P 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."

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."

Pax Domini

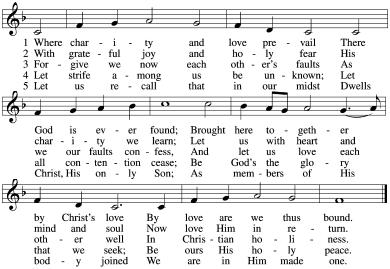
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





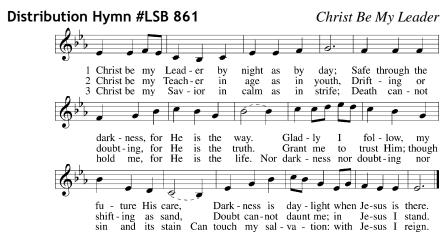
Distribution

Distribution Hymn #LSB 845 sts. 1–5 Where Charity and Love Prevail

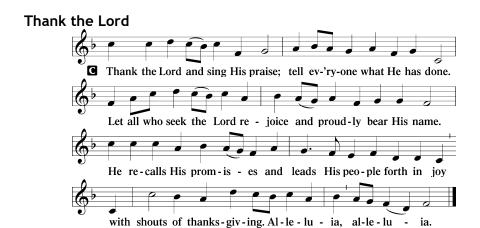


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Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Stripping of the Altar

As Psalm 22 is read, the alter paraments are reverently removed, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and I cry by night, but I find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,

enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our fathers trusted;

they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock me;

they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; 8"He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

⁹Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

Many bulls encompass me;
 strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
 they open wide their mouths at me,
 like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—
¹⁷I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

23You who fear the LORD, praise him!
 All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
 and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted.

and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
²⁸For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

³⁰Posterity shall serve him;

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,

that he has done it.

(Written ~1000 Years prior to Jesus who fulfills this prophecy.)

We depart in silence.

Service continues tomorrow, Good Friday, at 6:30pm.

Acknowledgments

Holy Thursday from Lutheran Service Book

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