

Holy Thursday



Divine Service

April 9th, 2020 + + + 6:00 p.m.

This service for Holy Thursday is the first service in the celebration of the holy three days of Christ's Passover, commonly known as the Triduum. It culminates the Lenten period of preparation for Christ's Passion and Resurrection and leads into His sacrifice on our behalf. As such, the service, like that for Good Friday, exhibits a mood of restrained joy. It consists of four parts: the Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution, the Service of the Word, the Service of the Sacrament, and the Stripping of the Altar.

The Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution signals the end of the Lenten preparations with the absolution and peace of Christ that stand at the center of the Three Days. The Service of the Word focuses upon Christ's humble service demonstrated in His washing of His disciples' feet, a servanthood enacted on the Cross and whose benefits are bestowed in the Lord's Supper. The service culminates with the Lord's ministry to His people through the Sacrament of the Altar.

The depth of Christ's servanthood is demonstrated as the altar is reverently stripped in preparation for the Church's observance of Jesus' death. In this service, the Church and her catechumens begin the journey through the three days of Christ's Passover from death to life and from captivity to freedom.

+ Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution +

Stand

Processional Hymn - #444 'No Tramp Of Soldiers' Marching Feet''

- 1) No tramp of soldiers' marching feet With banners and with drums,
No sound of music's martial beat: "The King of glory comes!"
To greet what pomp of kingly pride No bells in triumph ring,
No city gates swing open wide: "Behold, behold your King!"
- 2) And yet He comes. The children cheer; With palms His path is strown.
With ev'ry step the cross draws near: The King of glory's throne.
Astride a colt He passes by As loud hosannas ring,
Or else the very stones would cry "Behold, behold your King!"
- 3) What fading flow'rs His road adorn; The palms, how soon laid down!
No bloom or leaf but only thorn The King of glory's crown.
The soldiers mock, the rabble cries, The streets with tumult ring,
As Pilate to the mob replies, "Behold, behold your King!"
- 4) Now He who bore for mortals' sake The cross and all its pains
And chose a servant's form to take, The King of glory reigns.
Hosanna to the Savior's name Till heaven's rafters ring,
And all the ransomed host proclaim "Behold, behold your King!"

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Facing the altar, the pastor stands at the foot of the chancel and says:

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

Congregation: Amen.

P I will go to the altar of God.

C **To God, my exceeding joy.** Psalm 43:4

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **Who made heaven and earth.** Psalm 124:8

Sit

Then the following confessional address is read.

P: 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 sins, humbly confess them, 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 sinful nature 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 upon 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 wine of many grapes and one the bread is 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.

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

Kneel/Stand

C 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 God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

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

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P: 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.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and 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.

C Amen.

(1 Thessalonians 5:23–24)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P 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; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

+ Service of the Word +

OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 12:1-14 “*God Institutes The Passover*”

Gradual:(Psalm 111:4-5)

He has made His wonderful works to be re- | membered;*

the LORD is gracious and full of com- | passion.

He has given food to those who | fear Him;*

He will ever be mindful of His | covenant

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 “*Worthily Receive The Supper*”

Sentence for the Season:

P: Alleluia! Christ hath humbled Himself and became obedient unto death;

C: Even the death of the Cross, Alleluia!

Common Alleluia Response: **pg. 156**

HOLY GOSPEL: John 13:1-15 “*Jesus Washes The Disciples’ Feet*”

NICENE CREED - p. 191

C 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.

SERMON HYMN #447:16-18 "Jesus, In Your Dying Woes" Sixth Word: John 19:30

16) Jesus, all our ransom paid, All Your Father's will obeyed;
By Your sufferings perfect made: Hear us, holy Jesus.

17) Save us in our soul's distress; Be our help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness: Hear us, holy Jesus.

18) Brighten all our heav'nward way With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Text: Public domain

Sermon: "It Is Finished!"
John 19:30
[Interlude]



Prayer of The Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

Heavenly Father, on this holy night, we remember the Passover of Your ancient people, fulfilled in Your Son's gift of the New Testament in His blood. Be gracious to us and bless us. Remember not our sins and transgressions, for they have all been blotted out by the blood of Christ Jesus, our Passover Lamb. Forgive us, and create in us new and contrite hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious Father, give wisdom, understanding and boldness to all preachers of the Word during these holy days, that their preaching would edify Your children and move them to faithfully meditate upon the Passion of Your Son, through which they have eternal salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Merciful Father, strengthen all of our sister churches throughout the world who celebrate the mystery of Your Son's Passover. Where there is strife, bring forgiveness; where there is suffering, bring help; and where there is persecution, bring freedom and joy. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Almighty Father, guard and defend the president of the United States, along with all whom You have placed in authority over us. Renew in our land a reverence for life, respect for family and good regard for our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Compassionate Father, remember all who suffer in body or soul. Most especially do we implore Your blessing on _____ and those whom we name in our hearts. [Pause] Comfort them in their trials, and enliven their faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Holy Father, at Your Son's invitation, we come to His table this night. Help us to discern in the bread His true body and in the cup His true blood. Give us, by Your holy law, a right judgment of ourselves, that lamenting our sins we would receive pardon and absolution in this most Holy Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, as Your Son took on the form of a slave and washed the feet of His disciples, so make us ready to serve our neighbors ahead of ourselves. Teach us to love each other and bear one another's burdens, and conform us to the image of Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious Father, Your Son's forehead was marked by bloody sweat as He contemplated what fulfilling Your will to save us involved. Nevertheless, He drank the cup of Your wrath and punishment down to its dregs, thus fulfilling Your will to save us with His holy and precious blood. In Him is salvation, life and resurrection from the dead. Grant this unto us all, O Father; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **C: Amen.**

Offering

Offertory - Pg. 159

C: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

*I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.*

HYMN #446 'Jesus, Greatest at the Table'

1) Jesus, greatest at the table, The almighty Son of Man,
Laid aside His outer clothing, Poured some water in a pan;
As the Twelve lay, hushed in silence, He the servant's task began.

2) Marvel how their Lord and teacher Gently taught them not to vie
As He humbly knelt before them, Dusty feet to wash and dry,
By His tender touch expressing True compassion from on high.

3) Jesus took the role of servant When upon that gruesome span,
For all human sin He suffered As a vile and loathsome man;
On the cross poured out like water To fulfill the Father's plan.

4) Can we fathom such deep mercy? Do we see what God has done?
Who can grasp this great reversal: Love that gives His only Son?
Christ, the sinless for the sinners, For the many dies the One.

5) Jesus gave to His disciples A commandment that was new:
"Show My love to one another, Do as I have done for you;
All the world will know you love Me As you love each other too."

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Lord's Prayer

**ALL: 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.**

Due to the unified nature of the services of the Triduum, the benediction is omitted on this day.

+ Stripping of the Altar +

Immediately the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday as the 22nd Psalm is prayed responsively.

Psalm 22

P: "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?
Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?"

**C: O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear;
And in the night season, and am not silent.**

P: But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

C: Our fathers trusted in You; They trusted, and You delivered them.

P: They cried to You, and were delivered;
They trusted in You, and were not ashamed.

Hymn #436:1 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

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

**C: But I am a worm, and no man;
A reproach of men, and despised by the people.**

P: All those who see Me ridicule Me;
They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

**C: "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him;
Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"**

P: But You are He who took Me out of the womb;
You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts.

**C: I was cast upon You from birth. From My mother's womb
You have been My God.**

P: Be not far from Me, For trouble is near; For there is none to help.

**C: Many bulls have surrounded Me;
Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.**

P: They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.

Hymn #436:2 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

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 suffering, shame, or loss; Learn of Him to bear the cross.

**C: I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.**

P: My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My
jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

**C: For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has
enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;**

P: I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me.

**C: They divide My garments among them,
And for My clothing they cast lots.**

P: But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me!

**C: Deliver Me from the sword,
My precious life from the power of the dog.**

P: Save Me from the lion's mouth
And from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me.

Hymn #436:3 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

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



**C: I will declare Your name to My brethren;
In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.**

P: You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob,
glorify Him, And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!

**C: For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted;
Nor has He hidden His face from Him;
But when He cried to Him, He heard.**

P: My praise shall be of You in the great assembly;
I will pay My vows before those who fear Him.

**C: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise
the LORD. Let your heart live forever!**

P: All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD,
And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You.

C: For the kingdom is the Lord's, And He rules over the nations.

P: All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship;
All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him,
Even he who cannot keep himself alive.

C: A posterity shall serve Him.

It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation,

P: They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be
born, That He has done this.

Hymn #436:4 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

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.

At the conclusion of the Stripping of the Altar, all leave the church in silence.

+++GIVEN+AND+SHED+FOR+YOU+++
+++FOR+THE+FORGIVENESS+OF+SINS+++



Good Friday, April 10th - 6:00 p.m.

+Service of Darkness (Tenebrae)+

"Father Into Your Hands!" (Luke 23:46)



Easter Festival Service, April 12th 10:00 a.m.

"Why Are You Afraid?"

(Mark 16:1-8)

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

(Mark 10:45)

"Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

John 11:16

Around the Lord's Table is gathered the church. At the Table of the Lord the church knows what it most profoundly is: the body of Christ. No doubt of this since the days of the apostles. Where the Table of the Lord is deserted, where the Lord's Supper is no longer known or celebrated, there the church dies beyond rescue.

Inaccessible to rational explanation is the fact of this connection between the church and the Lord's Supper, between the body of Christ which we are given at the altar and the body of Christ which is the church. All along their journey through nineteen centuries Christians have been enlivened by this fact. Here we may find a clue why in our days the Sacrament of the Altar has become a matter of such burning urgency. So it was also in the second third of last century, and perhaps not so again since the time of the Reformation.

Where this connection between the church and the Lord's Supper still holds, then the question of what the church is cannot be faced without the question what is the Lord's Supper? Whether the church has a future is bound up with whether the Lord's Supper lives on enliveningly. These are questions which Christians of all churches cannot but face as we move toward the end of the second thousand years. The question of the Lord's Supper is not something we may just sit and think about; in all churches theology has again earnestly engaged the question of the Lord's Supper. *Preface to Vom Sakrament des Altars by Hermann Sasse*

+A.D. 1592+

Visitation Articles. Article I. Of the Holy Supper.

The pure and true doctrine of our churches concerning the
Holy Supper:

- I. That the words of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink, this is My blood, are to be understood simply and according to the letter, as they read.

- II. That in the Sacrament there are two things which are given [tendered] and received with one another: one earthly, which is bread and wine; and one heavenly, which is the body and blood of Christ.

- III. That this [union, tendering and taking] occurs here on earth, and not above in heaven.

- IV. That it [what is tendered and received] is the true natural body of Christ which hung, on the cross, and the true natural blood which flowed from the side of Christ.

- V. That the body and blood of Christ are received not only by faith spiritually, which can also occur outside of the Supper, but here with the bread and wine orally, yet in an inscrutable and supernatural manner [and that] for a pledge and assurance of the resurrection of our bodies from the dead.

- VI. That the oral partaking of the body and blood of Christ is done not only by the worthy, but also by the unworthy, who approach without repentance and true faith; nevertheless, with a different result: by the worthy for salvation, by the unworthy for judgment.