



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Maundy Thursday

+ April 17, 2025 +

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

+ April 17, 2025 +



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,  
and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*LARGE PRINT Worship Folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

## **WELCOME:**

“First of all, the Scripture about the Hebrew Exodus has been read and the words of the mystery have been explained as to how the sheep was sacrificed and the people were saved. Therefore, understand this, O beloved: The mystery of the Passover is new and old, eternal and temporal, corruptible and incorruptible, mortal and immortal in this fashion: It is old insofar as it concerns the law, but new insofar as it concerns the gospel; temporal insofar as it concerns the type, eternal because of grace; corruptible because of the sacrifice of the sheep, incorruptible because of the life of the Lord; mortal because of his burial in the earth, immortal because of his resurrection from the dead. The law is old, but the gospel is new; the type was for a time, but grace is forever. The sheep was corruptible, but the Lord is incorruptible, who was crushed as a lamb, but who was resurrected as God. For although he was led to sacrifice as a sheep, yet he was not a sheep; and although he was as a lamb without voice, yet indeed he was not a lamb. The one was the model; the other was found to be the finished product. For God replaced the lamb, and a man the sheep; but in the man was Christ, who contains all things.”

— Melito of Sardis, *On the Pascha*

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

**Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?**

**Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?**

**Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?**

**Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?**

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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<sup>1</sup>Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>2</sup>Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>3</sup>1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>4</sup>1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Please stand*

**P** 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** To God my exceeding joy.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** Who made heaven and earth.

## CONFSSIONAL ADDRESS

**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 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. 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 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.**

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

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination*

**P** 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.**

**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.

## ABSOLUTION

**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, 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.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### SALUTATION & COLLECT

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Exodus 12:1-14*

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### **EPISTLE READING**

*1 Corinthians 11:23-32*

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 22:7-20

**P** The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

OFFICE HYMN

**My Song Is Love Unknown**

**#430**

*Choir sings stanza 3*

SERMON



*Please stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C** **I believe in one God,** (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)  
**the Father Almighty,** (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)  
**maker of heaven and earth** (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)  
**and of all things visible and invisible.** (Col 1:16)  
**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,** (Rom 10:9)  
**the only-begotten Son of God,** (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)  
**begotten of His Father before all worlds,** (Jn 1:2)  
**God of God, Light of Light,** (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)  
**very God of very God,** (Col 2:9) **begotten, not made,** (Jn 1:2)  
**being of one substance with the Father,** (Jn 10:30)  
**by whom all things were made;** (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)  
**who for us men and for our salvation** (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)  
**came down from heaven** (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)  
**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary** (Lk 1:34-35)  
**and was made man;** (Jn 1:14)  
**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.** (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)  
**He suffered and was buried.** (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)  
**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures** (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)  
**and ascended into heaven** (Acts 1:9)  
**and sits at the right hand of the Father.** (Acts 7:55)  
**And He will come again with glory** (Mt 26:64)  
**to judge both the living and the dead,** (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)  
**whose kingdom will have no end.** (2 Pt 1:11)  
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,** (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)  
**the Lord and giver of life,** (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)  
**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** (Jn 15:26)  
**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,** (Mt 3:16-17)  
**who spoke by the prophets.** (Eze 11:5)  
**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,** (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)  
**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,** (Eph 4:5)  
**and I look for the resurrection of the dead** (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)  
**and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come.** (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)  
**Amen.** (Ps 106:48)

*Us men* means all people.

*Christian:* the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, through the sacrificial death of Your Son You atoned for the sins of the whole world and in Him You reconciled the world to Yourself, not counting our trespasses against us. Receive our humble thanks for this precious gift of salvation by which You comfort and console our troubled hearts. Strengthen our faith that we may receive Your forgiveness and be at peace.

Through Your gift of Holy Communion, strengthen us in faith toward You and in love toward our neighbor. Enable us always to confess that under the earthly forms of bread and wine Your beloved Son gives us His very body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of our faith. Grant us grace always to partake worthily of the Supper of Christ for our salvation.

Keep us in Christ, the bread of life, and feed us with heavenly manna throughout the days of our earthly sojourn, until we stand before You on the last day. And as we are reconciled to You by the death of Christ, enable us to be reconciled to those with whom we are estranged.

Guard and keep us from all temptation, and grant us Your strength and preservation that we, trusting in Your mercy, may overcome and be victorious in Christ. Clothe us with Your armor that we may withstand the assaults of the wicked one, and keep us steadfast in Your Word and faith to the end, that by Your grace we may abound in love and good works, walking in godliness by the power of Your Holy Spirit.

Remain with those who suffer tragedies, those who are afflicted with bodily ailments, and those who are saddened by the death of loved ones to shine the Light of Your love in the darkness of their lives and uphold them by Your mighty deliverance.

All these things and whatever else You see that we need, grant us dear Father, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who, though He was rich, for our sakes became poor, that we might be rich in Him, who, with You and the Holy Spirit, are one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And with thy spirit.**  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**  
**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**  
**P** It is truly meet, 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 saying:

## SANCTUS

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

✠ bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The tempo and meter are not explicitly stated but appear to be a common time signature.

**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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

**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.

## AGNUS DEI

*Sung by the Choir*

*Please be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

**Not All the Blood of Beasts**

**#431**

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

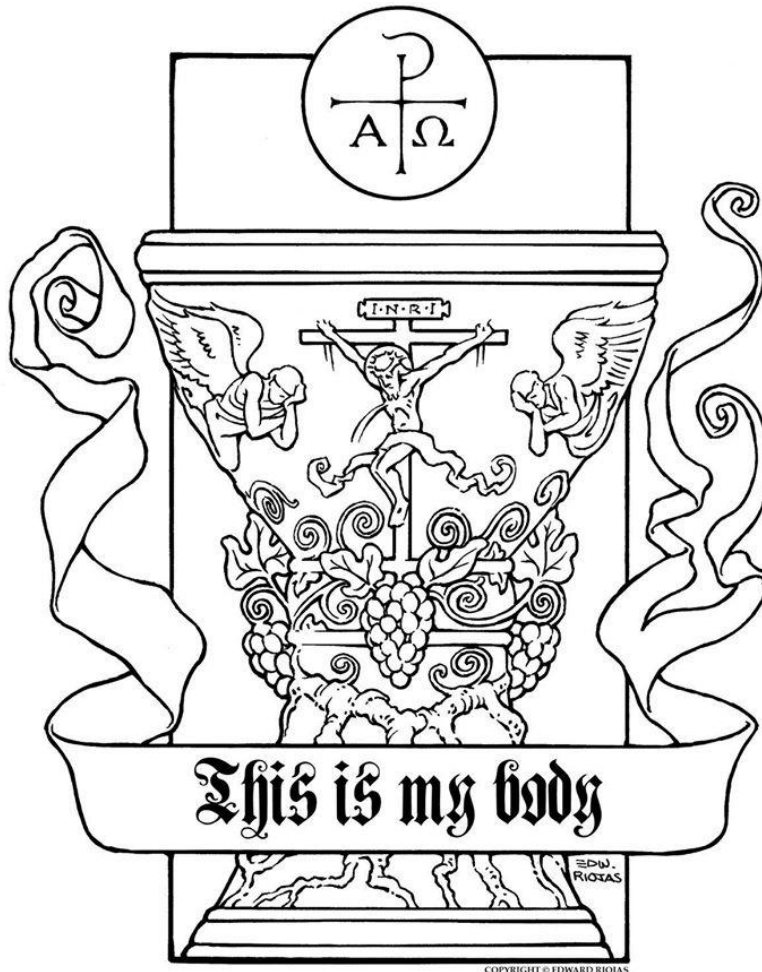
*Psalm 107:1*

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C** Amen.

*We leave the sanctuary in silence.  
The service will be continued tomorrow night as we return to meditate  
upon our Lord's crucifixion and burial on Good Friday.*



+ **HOLY WEEK SERVICES** +

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As we order our lives in relationship with God, we have a special opportunity during Holy Week to take our place with Christ in His Passion and Resurrection.

*We find ourselves in  
Christ on the Cross,  
Who dies in our place on  
Good Friday.*



+ **GOOD FRIDAY** +  
**April 18, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Chief Service**

“Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrow, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted.”  
Isaiah 53:4

*We eagerly anticipate  
Christ’s resurrection with the  
Easter Vigil.*



+ **HOLY SATURDAY** +  
**April 19, 8:00 p.m.**  
**Easter Vigil**

The Easter Vigil gathers the Old Testament promises of salvation that point us to their fulfillment in the Passover, death, and resurrection of Christ. It is the final day of the Triduum, where the accent is on freedom from slavery, life from death and light from the darkness. It begins in darkness and concludes in the light of the Holy Supper and the fullness of Easter joy and thanksgiving.

*Finally, we participate in  
all the fullness of  
the victory feast  
of the Lamb on  
Easter Sunday.*



+ **EASTER SUNDAY** +  
**April 20, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Divine Service**

In our liturgy, we join with all the saints in witnessing, praying, and experiencing the fullness of our relationship with God through our baptism into Christ’s death and resurrection.

**An Easter Brunch** will begin in the Fellowship Hall at **9:00 a.m.**

*There will be no Sunday school classes.*



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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