

FOR US



Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 2nd, 2026

Maundy Thursday

Theme of the Day

We have been reflecting a great deal on the phrase "for us." Tonight, though, we will hear about the phrase "for many" as Jesus gives His own body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus and the disciples are celebrating the Passover, but Jesus does something new. We hear echoes of how Moses and the elders saw God, recognizing that the sacrifices of old will not satisfy. When Jesus says the phrase "for many," He is clearly pointing the disciples to the fact that His death was not only for them alone, but for the sins of the world. Because you are a part of the many, "for us" still holds true.

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

LSB 431

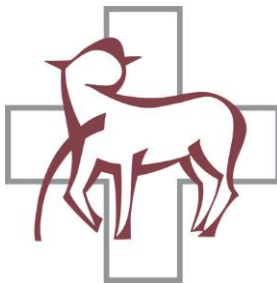


1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.
A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.
While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.
When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

Text and tune: Public domain



Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences

Hebrews 9:11–12, 15

P: Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, He entered once for all into the holy places,

C: **by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.**

P: Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,

C: **so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ, said, "Take, eat, this is My body; take, drink, this is My blood, given for you." 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 are all one bread and one Body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word but in deed and in truth. Let us therefore implore the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, to grant us forgiveness.

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: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of 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.



Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in this Sacrament, You graciously come to us as both host and Meal. Grant that we hear Your words “for many” as meaning “for you,” for each of us gathered at Your Table this day; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament

Exodus 24:3–11

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.

Epistle

Hebrews 9:11–22

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.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:17–30

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."

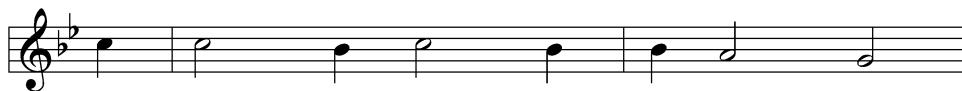
²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured 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.



544 O Love, How Deep

LSB 544 sts. 1, 3-6



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
3 For us bap - tized, for us He bore
4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;
5 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,
6 For us He rose from death a - gain;



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,
His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;
For us His dai - ly works He wrought,
For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,
For us He went on high to reign;



That God, the Son of God, should take
For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;
By words and signs and ac - tions thus
He bore the shame - ful cross and death;
For us He sent His Spir - it here



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.
For us He gave His dy - ing breath.
To guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.

Tune: English, 15th cent. Text: Public domain

Sermon

For Many Means For You



Offering

*Thank you for your continued support of the ministry Mt. Olive Lutheran Church.
If you are a guest (or if your contact info has changed), please fill out a Connect Card
found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.*

Prayer of the Church

P: As brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus, let us go to our heavenly Father in confident prayer.

Almighty God, You have called Your church to witness that, in Christ, You have reconciled us to Yourself.

C: **Grant that, by Your Holy Spirit, we be emboldened to proclaim the Good News of our Savior so that all who hear it may receive the gift of salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

P: O Lord God, in Holy Baptism You have granted us the remission of sins.

C: **Make us ready to receive the holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins and grant us grateful hearts so that we may give thanks to You now and forever.**

P: Lord, keep all nations under Your care. Bless the leaders of our land and around the world so that we may be at peace and a blessing to one another.

C: **Grant that we choose trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve You faithfully in our generation.**

P: O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need, look with favor upon all who are ill, alone, imprisoned, or in personal distress. Hear their prayers.

C: **For Jesus' sake, restore, surround, free, and give comfort to them.**

P: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commit all for whom we pray for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen**



Service of the Sacrament

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.

P: 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 saying:

Sanctus



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.

Lord's Prayer

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.

The 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."

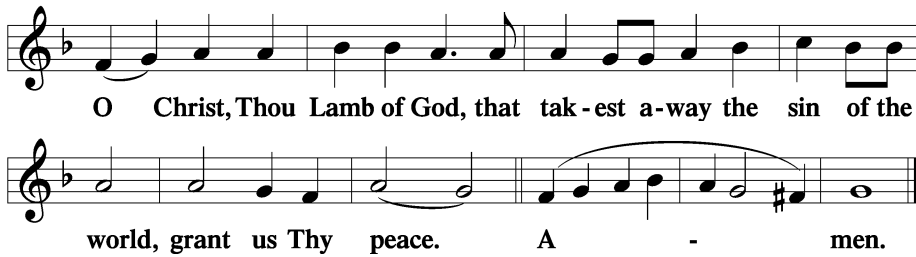
Pax Domini

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

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



Distribution

Our Communion Statement

As a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), Holy Communion is celebrated at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in the glad confidence that our Lord, as His Word says, gives not only bread and wine, but also His true Body and Blood for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. Our Lord invites to His table those who believe He is truly present in this meal, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive as He forgives us.

Because the Bible teaches that this Sacrament may also be abused, and that participation in the Lord's Supper is an act of confession of faith, the LCMS ordinarily communes only those who have been instructed in the teachings of our church and who have confessed their faith in these teachings.

All are invited to the Lord's table. Those who share our confession of faith and who wish to commune are asked to extend their hands outward to receive the Sacrament. Others who have come forward will receive a blessing from the pastor. If you have any questions about this Communion statement, you are encouraged to speak with Pastor Koschmann. Thank you for respecting and honoring our Communion practice.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Distribution Hymns

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 637

628 Your Table I Approach

LSB 628

537 Beautiful Savior

LSB 537



Post-Communion Prayer

P: 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.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

C: Amen.

436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

LSB 436 sts. 1-2



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Text and tune: Public domain



The Stripping of the Altar

Stripping of the altar (removing all ornaments, linens, and paraments) is an ancient custom of the Church done on Maundy Thursday. It is symbolic of the humiliation of Jesus at the hands of the soldiers.

After the Last Supper, less than 24 hours remained in the earthly life of our Lord. Events moved rapidly; prayer in Gethsemane, betrayal by Judas, arrest, mock trial, painful beating, the trudge to Golgotha and execution.

As His life was stripped from Him, so we strip our altar of the signs of life to symbolize His purposeful, redemptive suffering and death for us.

We leave the sanctuary in silence, reflecting on the suffering Christ would soon face on our behalf.



Acknowledgments

For You © 2026 Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.