

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

124 Maple Street North, Box 38 Lester Prairie, MN 55354

Worship: 7:00 PM

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Church Staff:

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Reach Out and Share the Love of Christ through Word & Service

March 28, 2024 Maundy Thursday

WELCOME/CHURCH BELLS

HYMN #446: "Jesus, Greatest at the Table" *Test: Copyright 2001 Stephen P. Starke; admin. Concordia Publishing House; Tune: Copyright 1975 Stainer & Bell Ltd and the Trustees for Methodist Church purposes; admin. Hope Publishing Co.; used by permission CCLI #643019*

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."

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Humble yourselves before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

All: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your eternal punishment now and forever. 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 suffering and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C: Amen

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.

PSALM 116:12-19 (read responsively)

P: How can I repay the Lord

C: for all His goodness to me?

P: I will lift up the cup of salvation

C: and call on the name of the Lord.

P: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

C: in the presence of all His people.

P: Precious in the sight of the Lord

C: is the death of His saints.

P: O Lord, truly I am Your servant;

C: I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant; You have freed me from my chains.

P: I will sacrifice a thank offering to You

C: and call on the name of the Lord.

P: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

C: in the presence of all His people,

P: in the courts of the house of the Lord-

C: in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

ALL: O Lord Jesus, since you have left us a memorial of your Passion in a wonderful sacrament, grant, we pray, that we may so use this sacrament of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redeeming work may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE OLD TESTEMENT LESSON.....Exodus 24:3-11

GRADUAL

P: [Christ] entered the Most Holy Place once for all

C: by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

P: He is the mediator of a new covenant,

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

P: He provided redemption for his people;

C: He ordained His covenant forever.

THE NICENE CREED (Inside back cover of Lutheran Service Book)

HYMN #637: "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" Text and Music: Public Domain

1. Draw near and take the body of the Lord,

And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;

Offered was He for greatest and for least,

Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

2. He who His saints in this world rules and shields,

To all believers life eternal yields;

With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,

Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

3. Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,

And take the pledges of salvation here.

O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow

As in this feast of love You bless us now.

SERMON

OFFERINGS

PRAYERS

P: Lord in Your Mercy

C: Hear our Prayer

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADMONITION TO COMMUNICANTS

P: I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which Christ presents his body and blood to us for forgiveness; that you take note of and give thanks for the boundless love that he showed us when he saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by his blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, his body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in his name, according to his command, and with his own words administer and receive the Testament.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

HYMN #625: "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread" Text and music: Public domain

1. Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving Bread,

May I in grace possess You.

Let me with holy food be fed, In hunger I address You. Prepare me well for You, O Lord, And, humbly by my prayer implored,

Give me Your grace and mercy.

Communion Note:

The outer ring of each communion tray holds four colored cups with non-alcoholic wine.

Please fill out the communion cards and place in the offering plate or give to an Usher. These cards are used for membership purposes.

2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me; Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me. Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek, To share Your cup of healing.

3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, For full and free remission I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition. Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily, Assured of Your full pardon.

4 I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me; In all my guilty heart's discord, O Lord, do not forsake me. In my distress this comforts me That You receive me graciously, O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

HYMN #617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee" *Text Copyright 1941 Concordia Publishing House; Music: Public domain; used by permission CCLI #643019*

1. 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!

2. Thy holy body in to death was given, Life to win for us in heaven. No greater love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there of 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!

3. 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!

BENEDICTION

HYMN #436: "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

- 1. Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour; Turn not from his griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
- 2. Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained! Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
- 3.Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet, Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.
- 4. Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay; All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away? Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

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Today we administer the Sacrament of the Altar. We believe, teach, and confess that this sacrament is "the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and drink." (Luther's Small Catechism)

Christ has given us this sacrament for our forgiveness and as an expression of our unity with one another. However, Scripture also says that those who receive this sacrament unworthily are guilty of sinning against the body and the blood of our Lord (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Therefore, we ask that those who have not communed with us before to speak with our pastor or an elder.

Good Friday Worship will be at Noon and 7:00 PM Easter Worship will be at 6:30 AM and 9:00 AM with Easter Breakfast being served from 7:30-8:45 AM

Exodus 24:3-11

³Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the rules. 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.

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation of the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Mark 14:12-26

¹²And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, ¹⁴ and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." ¹⁶And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

17 And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" ²⁰ He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. ²¹ For the 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."

²²And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.