



**CONNECT CARDS**

Guests and members, please:

- ♦ fill out a Connect card, or
- ♦ scan the QR code to connect with us online

Cards are in the pew racks in front of you. These methods include a space to share prayer requests with our pastors.

We look forward to praying for and connecting personally with YOU!

**Serving Tonight...**

Message:  
Pastor Ben Oesch

Liturgist:  
Pastor Brad Stoltenow

Organist:  
Gail Black



✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

**RINGING OF THE BELL ~ CALL TO WORSHIP** *Please quiet voices as we prepare to worship.*

**PRELUDE**

**INVOCATION**

*Divine Service, Setting 1 ~ LSB p. 151; Matthew 28:19b*

Pastor (P): We call on the name of the triune God, the name into which we have been baptized: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen!

**SALUTATION AND PRAYER FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY**

P: The Lord be with you!

C: **And also with you!**

P: We 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 displayed in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen!

**GUESTS AND MEMBERS CONNECT** Please fill out the Connect Card, either by hand or with the QR code. You may also add prayer requests to your information. Thank you!



**OFFERING** *For giving options: ShepherdHillsChurch.org/Give*

**Stewardship Thought** (from Psalm 116): "What shall I give to the Lord for all His blessings to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on His name!" And what are those blessings God has given us? Chief among them: "The Lord has delivered my soul from death!" That blessing is worthy of our eternal thanks—a life of Thanks-Living for our Lord.

**LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

P: We pray together:

**ALL:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.  
**AMEN**

**HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**Exodus 24:3-11**

Moses 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." And 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. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then 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." And 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."

### **Maundy Thursday:**

The name is from Latin: *mandatum*, meaning *commandment*. It refers to the two new commandments Jesus gave to His disciples on this day: "Love one another," and "Do this in remembrance of Me." In the early church, Maundy Thursday was also the day on which those who had fallen away from the Church were restored to full fellowship with other believers after having observed the 40-day penitential season of Lent.

Tonight, we are reminded of the reconciliation we have with God because of the love of Jesus demonstrated in His gift of Himself in Holy Communion.

Our service this evening is the "first act" or portion of what the early Church observed as "the triduum," a three-day observance of the events of our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. Even though Christians come and go during these three days, the worship services from now through the great festival of Easter are considered to be one continuous service.

Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and 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. And He did not lay His hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

### **Hebrews 9:11-22**

But when 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) He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by the means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how 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.

Therefore 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. For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For 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, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

### **Matthew 26:17-30**

Now as Jesus and His twelve disciples 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." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I 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."

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

### **Matthew 6:9a, 13a**

Jesus taught, "Pray then like this: 'Lead us not into temptation.'"

### **RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

P: These are the Words of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### **CATECHISM LEARNING**

P: When we pray the petition, "Lead us not into temptation," what do we ask God to do for us?

**Women/Girls:** We pray that our faith in Jesus and our love for Him would continue and that God would keep us strong in His Word, since our faith is under constant threat.

**Men/Boys:** And we ask our Father to protect us against all sins that come from Satan, the world, and our own sinful nature.

**ALL:** "Let anyone who thinks that he stands firm take heed, lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to mankind. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape that you may be able to endure it. (1 Corinthians 10:12-13)

P: How does God enable us to resist those threats?

C: **He provides us with the Word of Christ; the Holy Spirit; Absolution; the blessings of forgiveness, renewed life, and salvation in the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; and the gift of prayer as armor and weapons.**

**ALL:** "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil....Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray at all times." (from Ephesians 6)

P: Does God ever tempt us?

C: **God cannot be tempted with evil, and He never tempts us to sin. However, He does at times test our faith, but His purpose is always for our good, to bring us closer to Himself and to strengthen our faith.**

**ALL:** "Count it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance." (James 1:2-3)

**MESSAGE “Lead Us Not Into Temptation ~ Blood, Blood, and More Blood”**

*Through the shedding of blood, God cleanses us from sin and restores us to Himself.*

**HYMN # 431 “Not All the Blood of Beasts”**

**Not all the blood of beasts on Jewish altars slain**

**Could give the guilty conscience peace or wash away the stain.**

**But Christ, the heav’nly Lamb, takes all our sins away;**

**A sacrifice of nobler name and richer blood than they.**

**My faith would lay its hand on that dear head of thine,**

**While as a penitent I stand, and there confess my sin.**

**My soul looks back to see the burden Thou didst bear**

**When hanging on the curs-ed tree; I know my guilt was there.**

**Believing, we rejoice to see the curse remove;**

**We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice and sing His bleeding love.**

**PRAYERS**

*p. 257 LSB, prayer # 421; Matthew 11:28; Psalm 34:15; 1 Peter 3:12*

P: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Our Father in heaven, Jesus promised, “Come to Me with your burdens, and I will give you rest.” And we trust Your Word that says, “The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayer.” As the Holy Spirit cries out to You on our behalf, hear and respond according to Your loving and gracious will.

C: **Amen.**

**FAITH MILESTONE: FIRST COMMUNION**

*Something important is happening tonight. These families are passing on a legacy of faith. First Communion is a significant Faith Milestone event in the life of young believers. Through Communion we receive God’s forgiveness, are strengthened for service by God’s abiding love, and share in the abundance of living in a family of faith. The youth receiving their First Communion tonight have been instructed and are prepared for this precious gift from God.*

**CONGREGATION SPEAKS A BLESSING**

P: Shepherd of the Hills, it is our turn to bless these young people. You may reach out your hands in blessing as you read the blessing in the worship folder:

C: **Dear Children of God, we praise and thank God for you. We see your faith displayed in your words and actions. We have seen your relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, grow as you have prepared for this special day of First Communion. May our Lord pour His Spirit upon you to keep you firm in your faith. We, as a congregation and fellow Children of God, will continue to pray for you. May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of His love, and the joy of His life within you.**

P: We pray: Dear Heavenly Father, whose Son Jesus Christ loved the young and called them to Himself, enable these young people to grow in love for You every day. Strengthen them through the Sacrament of Christ’s body and blood, that they may grow spiritually and bring forth the fruit of faith in a life of love toward You and toward others. In Jesus’ name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

Please stand.

**CONFESSION OF SINS AND CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*p. 329 LSB; John 20:19-23*

P: As we remember the events of this solemn evening and the Holy Supper instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ, it is proper that we examine ourselves. The Ten Commandments reveal to us the gravity of our sin: You shall have no other gods. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. You shall not covet. I now ask you: Do you believe that you are a sinner?

C: **Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner. I know this from the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.**



...see, the gentle Lamb appears, promised from eternal years...

~Edward Caswall, LSB # 373

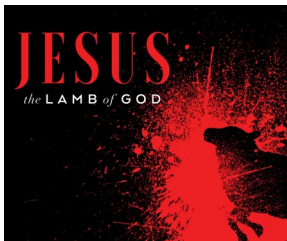
There is no help or comfort except to run here, take hold of the Lord’s Prayer, and speak to God from the heart like this: “Dear Father, You have asked me to pray. Don’t let me fall because of temptations.”

~Martin Luther, Large Catechism



Jesus is God-for-us, God-with-us, God-within-us. Jesus is God giving Himself completely, pouring Himself out for us without reserve. Jesus does not hold back or cling to His own possessions. He gives all there is to give. “Eat, drink, this is My body, this is My blood. This is Me for you.”

~H. Nouwen



For Further Meditation:  
See [Lutheran Service Book](#) pp. 326 & 327, *The Sacrament of the Altar*, and pp. 329 & 330, *Christian Questions with their Answers*.



#### Words of our Lord:

"Do this in remembrance of Me" can also be phrased: "Do this, remembering everything I have done for you." This is not just a meal remembering a special event ["...in remembrance"]; this is a proclamation and distribution of Christ's saving life, death, resurrection and all its blessings: forgiveness, renewed life, salvation: "Do this in remembrance of Me!"  
~C.A. Gierke

- P: Are you sorry for your sins?  
C: **Yes, I am sorry I have sinned against God. I deserve His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.**  
P: Do you hope to be saved?  
C: **Yes, that is my hope.**  
P: In whom then do you trust?  
C: **In my dear Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, true God and man.**  
P: How many Gods are there?  
C: **Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**  
P: What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?  
C: **He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.**  
P: Did the Father also die for you?  
C: **He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me. I know this from the Holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.**  
P: Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?  
C: **Yes, I believe it. I am convinced by the word of Christ: "Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood."**  
P: What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?  
C: **We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.**  
P: Why should we remember and proclaim His death?  
C: **First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.**  
P: What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?  
C: **His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners.**

#### ABSOLUTION ~ FORGIVENESS OF SINS

*John 20:19-23*

- P: God has kept His promise! He sent Jesus, who has paid for the sins of His people. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen. Praise to You, O Christ our Salvation!**



#### PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

*One should examine himself before he eats the bread and drinks the cup; one who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1Corinthians 11:28-29*

Since those who take Christ's body and blood without understanding His true presence do so to their harm, and since the sacrament of Holy Communion is a faith statement confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or hold a confession differing from that of this church and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and desire to receive the sacrament are asked first to speak with a pastor.

#### HOLY COMMUNION ~ PREFACE

*from Psalm 116; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

- P: What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.  
C: **O LORD, I am Your servant; You have loosed my bonds. I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.**  
ALL: **Praise the LORD!**  
P: 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 in the body of Christ?  
ALL: **Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.**

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19,20; 1 Cor 11:23-25*

#### PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.  
C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**  
P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

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!

### PAX DOMINI ~ THE PEACE OF THE LORD

John 20:19

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!  
C: And also with you!

### AGNUS DEI ~ LAMB OF GOD

p. 198 LSB; John 1:29

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.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated.

### DISTRIBUTION

- ◆ You will be ushered forward for Communion.
- ◆ When receiving the bread, please extend your hand palm up.
- ◆ If you are not communing but wish to come up and receive a blessing, you may keep your hands folded.
- ◆ Wine without alcohol is in the center of each tray; you may also request a gluten-free wafer.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

# 629 "What Is This Bread"

# 445 "When You Woke That Thursday Morning" *alt. tune: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

*Meditation as you return from communing at the Lord's Table:*

Remember the Lord Jesus that you may follow Him.

In sickness recollect Him in His patience.

When you are persecuted, recollect Him in His gentleness.

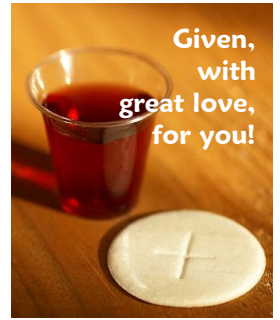
In holy service remember Him with His burning zeal.

In your times of solitude remember Him and His midnight prayers.

And when you are in public and have to bear witness,  
remember Him and His lion-like declarations of the Gospel.

Remember Him so that He becomes your pattern, and you are the reproduction of Himself,  
and so the best memorial of Him.

~Charles Spurgeon



**Agnus Dei** means "Lamb of God." Ancient believers ate the sacrificial lamb at the Passover. We partake of Christ, who was sacrificed for us to make full atonement for all our sins. Christ is our Good Shepherd, the Lamb of God, and the Priest who offers the sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins. Truly, Jesus is Our All!



Come, Lord Jesus,  
be our Guest,  
and let these gifts of  
forgiveness, salvation,  
and renewed life  
to us be blessed.  
AMEN

Communion is God  
addressing us [in Christ]  
through all five of our  
senses. We hear; we  
smell; we touch; we  
taste; we see....  
Communion is God  
reaching out to us in  
every way that God  
possibly can. Christ is  
here with us!

~A. A. Gondola, Jr.



**No Benediction?**  
Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil are considered one continuous service—the Triduum—the annual observance of our Lord's Pass-over from death to life. Because this service continues tomorrow and finishes at Easter Sunrise, the Benediction is omitted until then.

In this Divine Service, by faith the Holy Spirit has opened our hearts and minds to receive His graces. We now leave this house of worship to share the love of Jesus and HISTORY!

Lord,  
lay some soul  
upon my heart  
and love that soul  
through me;  
and may I gladly  
do my part  
to win that soul  
for Thee.  
Amen!

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## THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,  
C: **For His steadfast love endures forever!**

## PRAYER FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

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; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **AMEN**

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*The church is stripped in preparation for the solemnity of Good Friday.*

*All of the symbols having to do with the presence of Christ—greenery, representing life and growth; candles and their light, reminding us of the Light of the world; worship books and their stand, used for worship celebrations; the Communion-ware and cloths, beautiful items which would be used for a kingly feast—all is stripped away, just as Christ was stripped of His power and glory, of His clothing, of His dignity, of His very lifeblood.*

*Everything having to do with ceremony and beauty and ritual is gone.*

*What is left? A bare altar—a table readied for the Ultimate Sacrifice of the Perfect Lamb, whose blood will be poured out to make restitution for the sins of you and me and all people.*

## HYMN # 767 "Jesus, Remember Me"

**Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.**

*We repeat the hymn until the stripping of the altar is completed.*

## EXHORTATION

*from At the Feet Washing, Maundy Thursday, Western Rite*

P: The Love of Christ has gathered us as one. Let us rejoice and be glad in Him. Let us fear and love the living God, and in purity of heart let us love one another. Where charity and love are,

**ALL: there is God.**

P: When therefore we are gathered together, let us not be divided in spirit. Let bitter strife and discord cease between us; let Christ our God be present in our midst. Where charity and love are,

**ALL: there is God.**




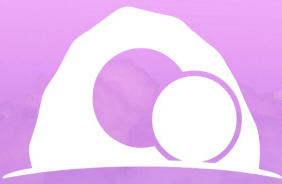
P: With all the blessed may we see for ever Your face in glory, Jesus Christ our God. Joy that is infinite and undefiled for all the ages of eternity.

**ALL: AMEN**

+ We watch and pray and wait with our Lord +

✠ **TO GOD ALONE ALL GLORY!** ✠

**Holy Week**

			
<b>Palm Sunday</b> March 29 8 & 10:45a	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> April 2 7p - Lord's Supper	<b>Good Friday</b> April 3 Tre-Ore   Noon-3p Tenebrae   7p	<b>Easter Worship</b> April 5 6:30a - Easter Sunrise 8a   10:45a