



Maundy Thursday Service  
The King's Feast  
April 9, 2020

# HOLY THURSDAY

## THE KING'S FEAST

### PRELUDE

### TOLLING OF THE BELL

### WELCOME

Food is associated with both times of celebration and sorrow. Funeral luncheons and the trays of food sent to the homes of the sick or grieving reflect a loving heart for those who suffer. The lavish receptions for weddings and anniversaries, among other occasions, reflect our desire to share our joy with others. In both cases, we meet around the table. Tonight we meet at the Table of the Lord, and there is a combination of celebration and sorrow inherent in this meal. Like the Passover of old, this feast reflects upon the affliction that brought us here. Our captivity to sin and death and our helplessness to repair our lost condition are part of that sorrow. The other part is the realization that forgiveness and new life came only at the cost of death—Jesus' death for us. Like the Passover of old, however, this feast is also filled with celebration and joy. We come not because this night has a happy ending but because the very fruits of His death come to us in this bread He declares His body and in this cup of His blood. Jesus did not pass over death but willingly embraced it for us, and now we rejoice that He has not passed over us but visited the fullness of His grace and favor upon us—here, in this eating and drinking.

HYMN - "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" (*LSB* 435)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

*Stand*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

### *Kneel/Stand*

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

### *Sit*

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**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.

*Sit*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 12:1–14

**A** A reading from Exodus, the second chapter.

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:



**17 I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\*  
and call on the name | of the LORD.**

**18 I will pay my vows | to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his | people,**

**19 in the courts of the house | of the LORD,\*  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. | Praise the LORD!**

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\*  
and call on the name | of the LORD.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 11:23–32

**A** A reading from First Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

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 concerning 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.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

VERSE

Having loved his own who were | in the world,\*  
he loved them | to the end.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 26:17–30

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

**G** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Now 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?” He 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.’” And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, He reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, He said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.” And they were very sorrowful and began to say to Him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with Me will betray Me. 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.” Judas, who would betray Him, answered Him, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “you have said so.”

Now 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.” 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.”

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

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

*Sit*

HYMN OF THE DAY - “Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior” (*LSB* 627) vs. 1-4

SERMON - “The King’s Feast”

*Stand*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**A** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer, we thank You that on the night You were handed over to Your voluntary suffering and death, You instituted for us the Holy Sacrament of Your true body and blood as a perpetual memorial of Your atoning sacrifice, a solemn pledge of Your mercy and continual presence, and a salutary means of grace.

Lord, in Your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

You are the true and only Passover Lamb in this Holy Supper, and by giving us Your body to eat and Your blood to drink You grant us a wondrous communion with You as very members of Your Body. Here do You impart and seal to us the merits of Your death, the forgiveness of our sins, so that by these, Your gifts of life and salvation, we are righteous and acceptable in the sight of God.

Lord, in Your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, we have in no way deserved Your goodness, nor can we ever sufficiently thank You for Your loving-kindness toward us. We beseech You, however, to strengthen and sustain us by this blessed and Holy Sacrament. Enable us, by Your grace, daily to appropriate and experience the blessings of Your Passion in such a way that we may heartily praise You for our redemption and from day to day be more intimately united to You by faith and love.

Lord, in Your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Kindle in us always such a fervent longing for blessed communion with You in the Holy Supper that we may come often to Your Table. By your Holy Spirit also work in us true repentance and a steadfast faith in Your gracious promises, a sincere desire to be in perfect charity with all people, and the earnest purpose to amend our sinful lives, that we may be worthy recipients of the Holy Sacrament and, with full pardon of all our sins, be enlivened in the way of righteousness, that we may serve You in holiness and pureness of living and give You continual thanks for all Your goodness.

Lord, in Your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

May Your Holy Supper be a source of comfort to the penitent, means of enrichment to the poor in spirit, to the sick a sweet relief from the bitterness of pain, and to the dying a pledge of their inheritance with the saints in light.

Lord, in Your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Abide in Your Church with Your gracious presence, and let her at all times be a faithful keeper and dispenser of the heavenly treasures entrusted to her for those who believe in You. Bless the right use of the

means of grace wherever the remembrance of Your death is kept until You come to judge the living and the dead. Let Your Word and Sacrament strengthen our souls during the days of our pilgrimage on earth, until hereafter we partake of Your Supper with You in Your Father's kingdom; for You live and reign with Him and with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

*Sit*

OFFERING

*Stand*

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

**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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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 LSB 161

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

- C** 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 LSB 163

**C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*Sit*

#### DISTRIBUTION



- <sup>3</sup> Yet you are | holy,\*  
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.
- <sup>4</sup> **In you our fathers | trusted;\***  
**they trusted, and you de- | livered them.**
- <sup>5</sup> To you they cried and were | rescued;\*  
in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup> **But I am a worm and | not a man,\***  
**scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.**
- <sup>7</sup> All who see me | mock me;\*  
they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;
- <sup>8</sup> **“He trusts in the Lord; let him de- | liver him;\***  
**let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”**
- <sup>9</sup> Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;\*  
you made me trust you at my | mother’s breasts.
- <sup>10</sup> **On you was I cast | from my birth,\***  
**and from my mother’s womb you have | been my**  
**God.**
- <sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble | is near,\*  
and there is | none to help.
- <sup>12</sup> **Many bulls en- | compass me;\***  
**strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;**
- <sup>13</sup> they open wide their | mouths at me,\*  
like a ravening and roaring | lion.
- <sup>14</sup> **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are | out**  
**of joint;\***  
**my heart is like wax; it is melted with- | in my breast;**
- <sup>15</sup> my strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;\*  
you lay me in the | dust of death.
- <sup>16</sup> **For dogs en- | compass me;\***  
**a company of evildoers encircles me;**  
**they have pierced my | hands and feet—**

- <sup>17</sup> I can count | all my bones—\*  
they stare and gloat | over me;
- <sup>18</sup> **they divide my garments a- | mong them,\*  
and for my clothing they | cast lots.**
- <sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!\*  
O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!
- <sup>20</sup> **Deliver my soul | from the sword,\*  
my precious life from the power | of the dog!**
- <sup>21</sup> Save me from the mouth of the | lion!\*  
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild |  
oxen!
- <sup>22</sup> **I will tell of your name to my | brothers;\*  
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:**
- <sup>23</sup> You who fear the Lord, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,\*  
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!
- <sup>24</sup> **For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of  
the afflicted, and he has not hidden his | face from  
him,\*  
but has heard, when he | cried to him.**
- <sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;\*  
my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.
- <sup>26</sup> **The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall | praise the Lord!\***  
**May your hearts live for- | ever!**
- <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn | to the Lord,\*  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship be- | fore you.
- <sup>28</sup> **For kingship belongs | to the Lord,\*  
and he rules over the | nations.**
- <sup>29</sup> All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;\*  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.

**30** **Posterity shall | serve him;\***  
**it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- |**  
**ation;**

**31** they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a  
people | yet unborn,\*  
that he has | done it.

*All leave the church in silence.*