

Father, forgive them;
for they know not what they do

Verily I say unto thee,
Today shalt thou be with me in paradise

He saith unto his mother,

behold thy son!

Then saith he to the disciple,

Behold thy mother

Eli

that is to say,

My God, my God,

why hast thou

forsaken me?

I thirst

It is finished!

Father, into thy hands

commend my spirit

Messiah Lutheran Church

Welcomes You to the Lord's House



Good Friday
March 29, 2024 @Noon

THE PRELUDE

i THE GREETING

THE OPENING HYMN "Were You There" LSB 456

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh—Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh—Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble...
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh—Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

THE INVOCATION

P We gather to worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P On this day, we remember Your death on the cross for us.

C **You were wounded for our transgressions. Crushed for our iniquities.**

P Upon You was the punishment that made us whole,

C **And by Your wounds we are healed.**

THE CONFESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

j **P** Let us confess our sins and ask God's forgiveness for the sake of our Savior.

C **Most merciful God, we confess to You that we have betrayed and denied You, forgotten and doubted You. When our faith is tested, we wonder where You are. When we see injustice in the world, we often stand by, we turn our backs, we ignore the cries of others. We confess that again and again we deny You and betray You with our silence when we fail to proclaim Your Good News, when we fail to live out Your teachings and love our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us, O God, and help us to truly repent. Help us to remember Your sacrifice, Your love, and to know Your forgiveness. In the name of the One who lived, who was crucified, Jesus the Messiah, we pray.**

P God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. Through Jesus Christ, who bore the cross for our sake and for the sake of the whole world, there is healing, hope, and life. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C O Lord, as I think on Your passion, the hours of unbearable suffering and death that You endured for the forgiveness of my sins, may my worship reflect my deep gratitude. Strengthen my faith and draw me closer to You. Amen.

THE HYMN *"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" LSB 440*



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.
5 If my sins give me a - harm And my con - science grieve me,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: JESUS IS BETRAYED *Matthew 26:36-50*

Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled.³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."⁴⁰ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter.⁴¹ "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."⁴² He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be

taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”⁴³ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.⁴⁴ So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.⁴⁶ Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!” While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people.⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.”⁴⁹ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him.⁵⁰ Jesus replied, “Do what you came for, friend.”

THE HYMN “Go To Dark Gethsemane” LSB 436



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-raigned; 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.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: JESUS IS ARRESTED *Matthew 26:50b-58*

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him.⁵¹ With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.⁵² “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword.”⁵³ Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

⁵⁴ But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" ⁵⁵ In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. ⁵⁸ But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

THE HYMN *"O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken"* LSB 439

O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,
What dark transgression?

Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit,
This I do merit.

I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: JESUS BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN *Matthew 26:59-68*

⁵⁹ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹ and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶² Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." ⁶⁴ "You have said so," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered. ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him ⁶⁸ and said, "Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?"

THE HYMN "Lamb of God" LSB 550

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
Refrain
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!
O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: PETER DENIES JESUS *Matthew 26:69-27:10*

Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said. ⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said. ⁷¹ Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷² He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!" ⁷³ After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away." ⁷⁴ Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly. Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. ² So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor. ³ When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. ⁴ "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed

innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility."⁵ So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.⁶ The chief priests picked up the coins and said, "It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money."⁷ So they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners.⁸ That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day.⁹ Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel,¹⁰ and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

THE HYMN "My Song is Love Unknown" LSB 430



1 My song is love un-known, My Sav-ior's love to
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
7 Here might I stay and sing, No sto-ry so di-
me, Love to the love-less shown That they might love-ly
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
vine! Nev-er was love, dear King, Nev-er was grief like
be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
sight. Sweet in-ju-ries! Yet they at these
Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Them-selves dis-please And 'gainst Him rise.
I all my days Could glad-ly spend!

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: JESUS BEFORE PILATE *Matthew 27:11-26*

Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" "You have said so," Jesus replied.¹² When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer.¹³ Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?"¹⁴ But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor.¹⁵ Now it was the governor's custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd.

¹⁶ At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas.
¹⁷ So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" ¹⁸ For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him. ¹⁹ While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him." ²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed. ²¹ "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor. "Barabbas," they answered. ²² "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" ²³ "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" ²⁵ All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" ²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

THE HYMN *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" LSB 425*

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: JESUS IS CRUCIFIED *Matthew 27:27-44*

Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. ³⁰ They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. ³¹ After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. ³³ They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). ³⁴ There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. ³⁵ When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁶ And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. ³⁷ Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁸ Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

³⁹ Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. ⁴² "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴ In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

THE HYMN *"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" LSB 451*

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation, is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded who on Him their hope have built.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD: JESUS DEATH AND BURIAL *Matthew 27:45-60*

From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. ⁴⁶ About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"). ⁴⁷ When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." ⁴⁸ Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. ⁴⁹ The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him." ⁵⁰ And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. ⁵⁴ When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!" ⁵⁵ Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons. ⁵⁷ As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. ⁵⁹ Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.

THE HYMN "O Perfect Life of Love" LSB 452



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,
2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul
5 In per - fect love He dies; For me He dies, for me.



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.
O all - a - ton - ing Sac - ri - fice, I cling by faith to Thee.

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH-*The Nicene Creed*

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets, and I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

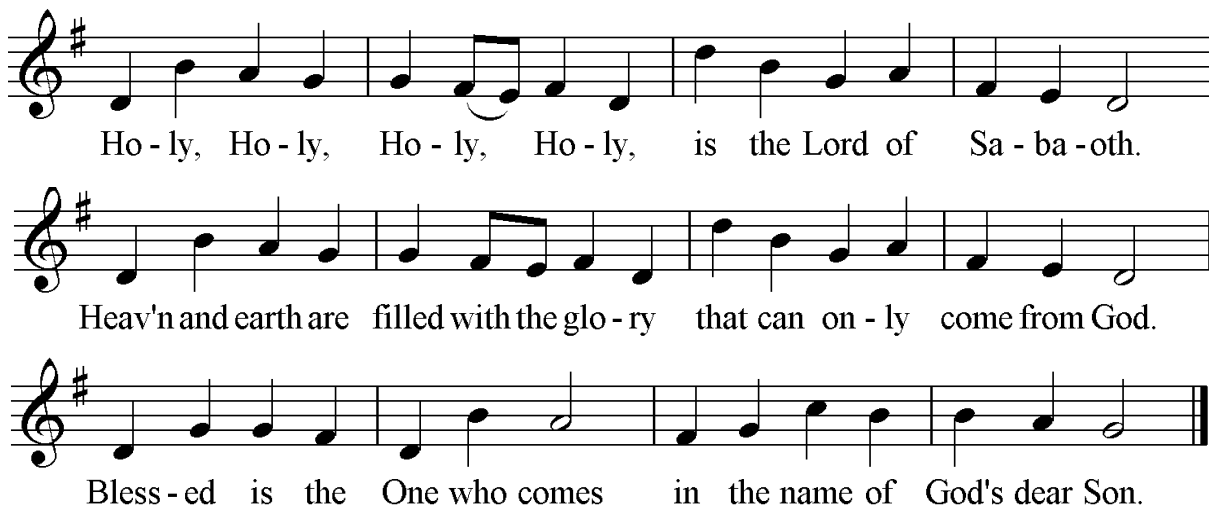
THE OFFERING PRAYER

THE OFFERING

I THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the Church, for all in need, and for the whole of God's creation. Dear God, we remember today, the pain and suffering of the cross, and all that Jesus was willing to endure, so we could be set free. He paid the price, such a great sacrifice, to offer us the gift of eternal life.
- C** **O Father in heaven, Your Son cried out to You on the cross, "Why have You Forsaken me?" You seemed so far from His cry and from His distress. Those who stood at the foot of the cross wondered where You were, as they saw Jesus mocked, shamed and killed.**
- P** O Lord, how hard it is to have faith in something we cannot see. How easy it is to turn to despair in times of sorrow. How impossible it is to have compassion and show mercy on those who deserve it the least; when we experience injustice, rejection, abandonment, and malicious persecution.
- C** **But You did, Lord. Even while on the cross, even to the bitter end, mercy is what You loved. It is how You lived. We know that is what You have called us to live as well. Thank You for showing us that even in the most desperate of times, the Father will work things together for His good and perfect will. May we hold on to that truth as we wait for His glory to appear.**
- P** Help us never to take for granted this huge gift of love on our behalf. Help us to be reminded of the cost of it all. Forgive us for being too busy, or distracted by other things, for not fully recognizing what You have freely given, what You have done for us.
- C** **Thank You that we can say with great hope, "It is finished," for we know what's still to come. Death has lost its sting! The grave has lost its victory! We look forward to the day when we will live with You for all eternity. Amen.**

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, is the Lord of Sa - ba - oth.

Heav'n and earth are filled with the glo - ry that can on - ly come from God.

Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of God's dear Son.

CHRISTIAN QUESTIONS WITH THEIR ANSWERS *Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.* [The "Christian Questions with Their Answers," designating Luther as the author, first appeared in an edition of the Small Catechism in 1551, five years after Luther's death.]

P Do you believe that you are a sinner?

C **Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.**

P How do you know this?

C **From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.**

P Are you sorry for your sins?

C **Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.**

P What have you deserved from God because of your sins?

C **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.**

P Who is Christ?

C **The Son of God, true God and man.**

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.**

P How do you know this?

C **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 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."

Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

C **Yes, I believe it.**

P What convinces you to believe this?

C **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."**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 AGNUS DEI

O dearest Jesus, Lamb of God have mercy
On us poor sinners, Lamb of God have mercy
You take away the guilt of this world's sinning
Grant us Your peace, Lord.

THE COMMUNION

If you are a guest with us please read page 16 before communing.

THE COMMUNION HYMNS "The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

Chorus:

So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown.

In the old rugged Cross, stain'd with blood so divine
A wondrous beauty I see
For the dear Lamb of God, left His Glory above
To pardon and sanctify me. **Chorus**

Amen.

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" LSB 449



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
4 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws night.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now let Your humbled servant leave this place in peace and joy
For mine eyes have seen the glory You've prepared for all the world
Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One
As it was in the beginning evermore Your praise be sung.

THE BENEDICTION

- P** We adore You, gracious God, for Your love seen most powerfully in the self-sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.
- G** **Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus unto You.**
- P** Guide us by Your Holy Spirit to let our lives be shaped by the cross of Jesus,

C So that we willingly give of ourselves in service to others; by the power of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P As you go on your way, may Christ go with you. May He go before you to show you the way. May He go behind you to encourage you. May He go beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYER OF REFLECTION ON ALL JESUS HAS DONE FOR US

THE CLOSING HYMN "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" LSB 702



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

THE POSTLUDE



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

As You come to the Lord's Supper, you are affirming with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord, that with Lutheran Christians, you believe His Body and Blood are present and you desire to serve Him as a dynamic disciple in the fellowship of all believers. Our Holy Communion practice is called "CLOSE" communion, not "CLOSED" communion. "Close" communion invites all those who answer the following questions in the affirmative. We DO seek to help each visitor and member, to prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament. If you have not communed with us before, or if you cannot answer yes to the questions below, please speak to our Pastor or an Elder before communing.

1. Have I been baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do I believe that I am a sinful human being without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ?
3. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?
4. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion with His true Body and Blood?
5. Do I intend, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live a Godly life?

At Messiah, Communion is distributed in a manner whereby the individual cup, followed by the common cup, are offered at the same table. Communicants seated in the middle sections of the Sanctuary proceed to the altar first, standing behind the usher. Then the communicants in the side sections will proceed to the altar, also standing behind the usher. This will provide a prayerful setting surrounding the significance of receiving Christ's body and blood.

A light, alcohol-free wine is offered in clear glasses in the individual trays. Gluten-free wafers are available at the usher table in the back.

Those Who Served in Worship

PREACHER	Rev. Dr. Victor Kollmann
LITURGIST	Rev. James Otte
ELDER	Armin Bernhardt, Larry Bryant
ORGANIST	Dorothy Sherrod
A/V TEAM	Danny Ladishew, Chuck Tolsma

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