

Missouri Synod



April 17, 2025 Divine Service, Setting Three – LSB 184 Noon and 7 pm* *livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube

THE HAND OF THE LORD WHO SERVES AND FEEDS US

When Christians gather as the church, it is for what we normally call a "service." In daily life a "service" is, of course, a person or group who provides something of value to others; for instance, a food service, a cleaning service, or a place for "servicing" your car. But when we gather as church for a service, who is doing the serving and who is being served? After all, with our eyes we only see one another singing and praying, making the sign of the cross, standing, sitting, kneeling, baptizing with water, and communing with bread and wine. It is easy for some to get the impression that this activity we call "worship" is a gathering where we are doing something for God. What is really going on of most importance is God's doing, God's serving us through the ministry of Word and Sacrament. This divine service was most dramatically shown in this night on which our Lord Jesus serves and feeds us.

Tonight, our mighty Lord, who has proved His power over demons, sickness, and even death, takes the humbler part. His loving service is shown, first, by taking the role of a servant washing His disciples' feet. His greatest and chief service, however, He announced as He took charge of the ancient Passover meal, changing it from a mere memorial of what God has done in the Old Testament exodus of the past to its fulfillment in what He was about to accomplish in His innocent, bitter suffering and death on a cross. From now on, the fulfillment of the annual Passover feast is to be celebrated "often" as the chief means by which God literally connects us with our Lord's crucified body and His precious blood that take away the sin of the world "as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup" (*LSB*, p. 162).

+ + + **PREPARATION** + + +

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (J. S. Bach)

HYMN – LSB 625 – Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread	
 Lord Je - sus Christ, life - giv - ing bread, May I in grac 2 To pas-tures green, Lord, safe - ly guide, To rest - ful wa 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's de - light, For full and free 4 I do not mer - it fa - vor, Lord, My weight of sin 	-
	0
pos - sess You. Let me with ho - ly food be fitters lead me; Your ta - ble well for me pro - view re - mis - sion I come with prayer be - fore Your site would break me; In all my guilt - y heart's dis - come	ght
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for You, O Lord, And, hum-bly by my prayer im - plo ful, sick, and weak, Ref - uge in You a - lone I se Lord, cov - er me That I re-ceive You wor - thi - I this com-forts me That You re-ceive me gra-cious - 1	ek, y,
Give me Your grace and mer - cy. To share Your cup of heal - ing. As - sured of Your full par - don. O Christ, my Lord of mer - cy! Text and tune: Public domain	
Text and target a bolic domain	

CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- \blacksquare In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- **P** I will go to the altar of God,
- **C** to God my exceeding joy.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- During this Lenten season...May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.
 C Amen.
- P Having heard the word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- **C** I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your 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 sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.
- **P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
- **C** Amen.
- **P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
- **C** Yes.
- **P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

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.

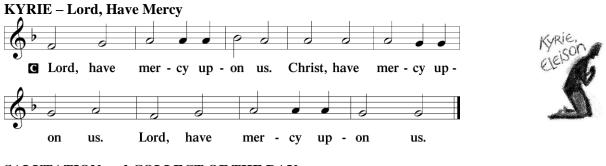
- **C** Amen.
- P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in + peace.
- **C** Amen.

+ + + WORD + + +

INTROIT – Psalm 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

The congregation sings all.

Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;* our God is | merciful. I love the LORD, because | He has heard* my voice and my pleas for | mercy. Because He inclined His | ear to me,* therefore I will call on Him as long | as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;* I suffered distress and | anguish. Then I called on the name | of the LORD:* "O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!" Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now and will be forever. | Amen. Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;* our God is | merciful.



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you. **C** And with thy spirit.

▶ 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Exodus 12:1-14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²"This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴And 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. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and 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.

⁷"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. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL – Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a

A [Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

C Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.

EPISTLE – 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵In 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." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and

some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But 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.

VERSE for HOLY THURSDAY – John 13:1b

C Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

HOLY GOSPEL - John 13:1-17, 31b-35

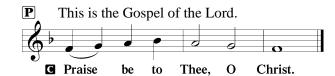
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.



¹Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around His waist. ⁵Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around Him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with Me." ⁹Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When He had washed their feet and put on His outer garments and resumed His place, He said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

^{31b}When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him. ³²If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him at once. ³³Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek Me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."



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 worshiped 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

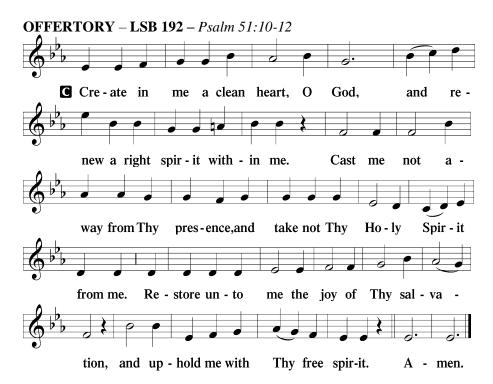
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY - LSB 617 - O Lord We Praise Thee 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee, 2 Thy ho - ly bod to death was in giv - en, y 3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor Thee. with Thy In thanks - giv - ing bow fore Thou be win for No Life to us in heav en. great - er fol - low Christ our That we Sav ior And live to bod - y Thy blood didst nour - ish and Our weak souls that love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there geth - er in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this here 6 ο cy! they may flour ish: 0 Lord, have mer of re mind us! 0 Lord, have mer cy! blest Com - mu nion! Lord, have mer 0 -_ cy! That May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar у, our Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy Spir - it Let not Thy good for - sake Grant that us; And Thy blood sins and sor - rows did car - ry, for us plead blood should bless and sus-tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid; heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Θ tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer In all cy! Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer cy! Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer cy! Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557

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SERMON

OFFERING



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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Almighty God, as we conclude these holy forty days of Lent and enter the three days of our Lord's Passion, death, and rest in the tomb, we give You thanks that You have shown Him to be for us Your very hand of our creation and life; our victorious Lord over the adversary Satan and his hordes; our Great Physician, who heals our diseases; our Lord of Life, who raises us from death; and our all-powerful Lord in whom all things hold together whether on earth or in heaven. Tonight, as He demonstrated His love at His Last Supper, make us to be servants of love toward one another. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

P

Defend Your whole church throughout the world, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen all pastors to rightly preach and administer Your Sacraments. Sanctify Your faithful people, making them perfect in faith, love, and in all good works. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Bless the missions of Your church, the newly established congregations, and those that reach out across the world with the light of Your truth and witness to Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor, that we may lead a peaceable life in all honesty and integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear offices of the authority of government in our land and help them to serve all people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P By Your Word and Spirit, comfort all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- 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.

+++ SACRAMENT+++ LSB 194

For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is *truly* present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.

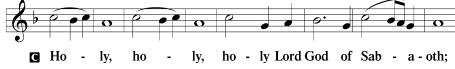
Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe**, have been baptized, and have been taught according to our Lord's command and are in doctrinal agreement with this confession.

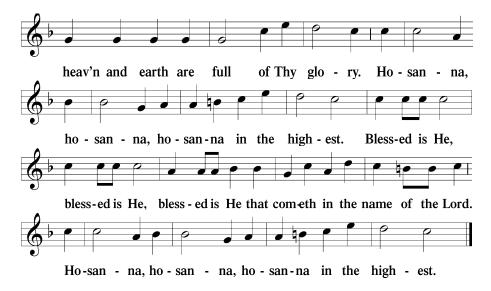
- If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith, we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper, please speak with one of our pastors.

PREFACE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- **C** It is meet and right so to do.
- **P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS – LSB 195 – Holy, Holy, Holy – Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9





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.

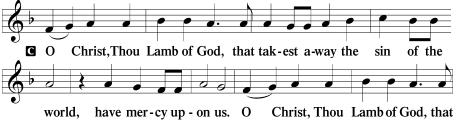
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

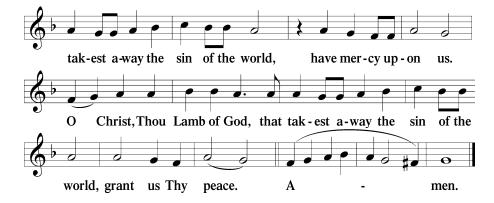
PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** Amen.

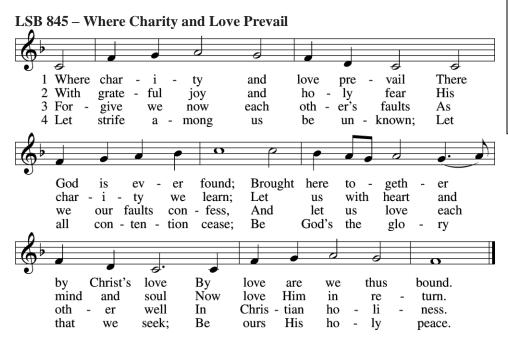
AGNUS DEI – LSB 198 – Lamb of God – John 1:29







DISTRIBUTION



5 Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ, His only Son;As members of His body joined We are in Him made one.

- 6 For love excludes no race or clan That names the Savior's name;
- His family embraces all

Whose Father is the same. Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557 Tune: Public domain

Distribution Notes:

gluten-free wafers, please let one of the

Non-alcoholic grape

juice, containing a

wine, is available in

the center of the tray.

trace amount of

If you need

pastors know.

LSB 640 – Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior
1 Theewea- dore,Ohid- denSav- ior,Thee,2 Inthismemo-rialofThy death,OLord,3 Thou,likethepel-i-cantofeedherbrood,4 Foun-tainofgood-ness,Je-sus,LordandGod:5 OChrist, whomnowbe-neathaveilwesee,
Who in Thy Sac - ra - ment art pleased to be; Thou dost Thy bod - y and Thy blood af - ford: Didst pierce Thy - self to give us liv - ing food; Cleanse us, un - clean, with Thy most cleans - ing blood; May what we thirst for soon our por - tion be:
Both flesh and spir - it in Thy pres - ence fail, Oh, may our souls for - ev - er feed on Thee, Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win In - crease our faith and love, that we may know To gaze on Thee un - veiled and see Thy face,
Yet here Thy pres - ence we de - vout - ly hail. And Thou, O Christ, for - ev - er pre-cious be. For - give - ness for our world and all its sin. The hope and peace which from Thy pres - ence flow. The vi - sion of Thy glo - ry, and Thy grace. A - men. Text (sts. 2-3): © 1998 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557

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SERIES HYMN – The Word That Spoke in Darkness



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POST-COMMUNION SONG – LSB 767 – Jesus, Remember Me

Sung as the distribution comes to a close and repeated as needed.



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- **P** Let us pray... one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

n

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Stripping the Altar (removing all ornaments, linens and paraments) is a custom of the Church on Maundy Thursday. It points to the humiliation of Jesus at the hands of the soldiers and officials and points our eyes to the events that will be remembered tomorrow on Good Friday. As the altar is stripped, portions of Psalm 22 are sung.

When it is completed, please depart the church in silence.

Three Sacred Days – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday – (the *Triduum*) commemorate the central events of the Christian faith.

Since they are seen as one service in three parts no Benediction will be spoken until the Easter Vigil.

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Good Friday – April 18 Noon Stations of the Cross 8 pm Tenebrae (Service of Darkness)

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The Resurrection of our Lord

Easter Vigil – April 19 8 pm at Faith

Easter Sunday – April 20 8 & 10:30 am Festival Worship (Holy Comm. & special music) 9:15 am Easter Breakfast 5 pm Worship with Holy Communion