



Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace and as a family of believers for over 110 years... as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry.

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Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

THE HYMN

CW21 #783 "Abide with Me"

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away. Change and decay in all around I see; O thou who changest not, abide with me!

Come not in terrors, as the King of kings, But kind and good, with healing in thy wings, Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea; Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile, And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile, Thou hast not left me oft as I left thee. On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.

I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour. What but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r? Who like thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me!

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

INVOCATION

- **M:** In the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- M: Maundy Thursday is the first service of "The Triduum" or "service of three holy days." Maundy Thursday is derived from the Latin words, "Dies Mandati," which means "Day of the Commandment."

In this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify o ur struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism yet within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life through the Means of Grace. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In our worship tonight, we will be reminded of how the Old Testament Passover finds fulfillment in the New Testament Sacrament of Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper. The one is prophetic; the other is fulfillment. No longer do we paint blood on the frames of the doorways to our homes; now the blood of the Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ, is, by faith, painted upon the doorway of our heart.

Tonight we will follow the Passover Lamb from the first Passover to the upper room where Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper and finally, to our altar where Holy Communion is celebrated.

Like the disciples, following the Passover meal, we will make our way to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus was arrested and abandoned by his disciples. The service ends as the altar is solemnly stripped of its vestments in token of the Lord's abandonment and in preparation for Good Friday.

DEVOTION

Psalm 23:1,4-5

The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want... Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

HYMN

CWS #717 (vs.1-3): "When You Woke That Thursday Morning"



A LESSON FROM THE PASSOVER

- For a thousand years, in keeping with the Lord's command, the Hebrew **M:** people celebrated the Passover. This ceremony called for bitter herbs and unleavened bread. The herbs recalled their bitter suffering under Egyptian bondage and the unleavened bread symbolized their forefathers' hasty flight from Egypt. But above all, the Passover centered on an unblemished lamb. This Passover lamb reminded them of how a lamb's blood saved their fathers from the angel of death on the night of their deliverance from Egyptian slavery. In a mysterious way, God linked the past to the future. In a most special way God drew His covenant people to Himself with the Passover. He used the event as a picture of the salvation to come. The ten plagues of Egypt were designed to bring freedom to the slaves. When the doom of the last plague was announced, special instructions were also announced among the slaves. The celebration of the Passover each year looked back on the emotion-packed night and morning of their deliverance. Each year lambs were used in the Passover meal. It was a memorable feast celebrating God's love and deliverance in past and his promise in the future. In the framework of God's plan, the lamb and the blood were signs which would be fulfilled in the promised Messiah. Jesus Christ would one day give up His life for the salvation of the world. As the true Passover Lamb, He would satisfy the ransom price with His blood which the Just Father demanded. Let us recount God's instructions to the Israelites as they are recorded in Exodus, chapter 12, the first fourteen verses.
- M: The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt,
- C: "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year.
- M: Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household.
- C: If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat.
- M: The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats.
- C: Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight.

- Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of M: the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs.
- C: That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast.
- Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire—head, M: legs and inner parts.
- **C:** Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it.
- M: This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover.
- **C:** "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.
- The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see M: the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.
- C: "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD -a lasting ordinance.

THE OFFERING

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A LESSON FROM THE UPPER ROOM

John 13:1-17; 34-35 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had M: come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.² And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. ⁵ After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. ⁶ Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him,

C: "Lord, are You washing my feet?"

M: ⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." ⁸ Peter said to Him,

C: "You shall never wash my feet!"

M: Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to Him,

C: "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!"

M: ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." ¹¹ For He knew who would betray Him; therefore, He said, "You are not all clean." ¹² So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Musical Presentation:

Ubi Caritas Audrey Assad Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822 Song displayed on PowerPoint

Ubi Caritas is taken from the ancient antiphons sung during the ceremony of the Washing of the Feet at the Maundy Thursday celebration of the Last Supper. The Latin words mean "where charity (is)". This hymn is intimately connected with the celebration of the Lord's Supper as we are reminded of Jesus command and promise in the upper room to love one another.

HOSANNA TO THE LAMB

M: Every year the Passover was observed. Many traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate it there. The temple authorities and merchants imported lambs for the festive meals of the residents of Jerusalem and the many visitors. Each family selected its lamb on the 14th day of Nisan and kept it for the prescribed eight days of the festival. Everywhere in the city, one could hear the lambs

bleating. We can imagine that in every lull in the "Hosannas" at the Palm Sunday procession, Jesus heard it. Every bleat of every lamb became a reminder to Jesus that He soon would be sacrificed as the Lamb of God for the sins of the world. The blood of the sacrificed animals flowed freely. But it was all routine, all superficial. The true Lamb stood in the midst of the bleating and slaughter and no one noticed Him. When the Father's appointed time came, Jesus set out for Jerusalem. Upon His arrival, He called for a donkey and rode into the city according to the Old Testament prophecy. The people lined the streets crying,

C: "Hosanna, Hosanna to the Son of David. Hosanna in the highest! Save us! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!"



THE SANCTUS

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

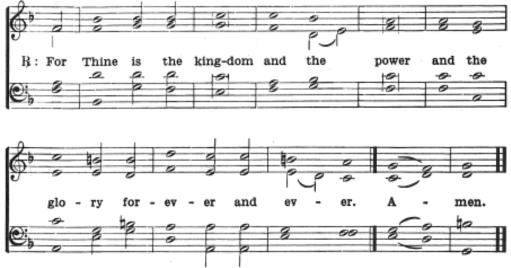
JESUS PRAYS AS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

M: On Thursday, Jesus reserved an upper room to celebrate the Passover with His disciples. He spoke with them of many things. "I am the Vine, you are the branches," He said. He washed the disciples' feet. Then, mindful of His own unique burdens, the needs of His disciples and of all future disciples, He knelt in prayer to pray the great High Priestly Prayer.

John 17

THE PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

- M: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. "I am praying not only for them, but also for those who believe in me through their message. May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. May they also be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one: I in them, and you in me. May they become completely one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.
- C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they 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.



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

M: At last the cooking of the lamb was finished. Jesus and His guests gathered around the table. The Passover meal that He had desired to eat with them began. The cup of wine was passed around the table; the herbs and unleavened bread were eaten...

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take and eat. This is my body which is given f or you." Do this in remembrance of me.

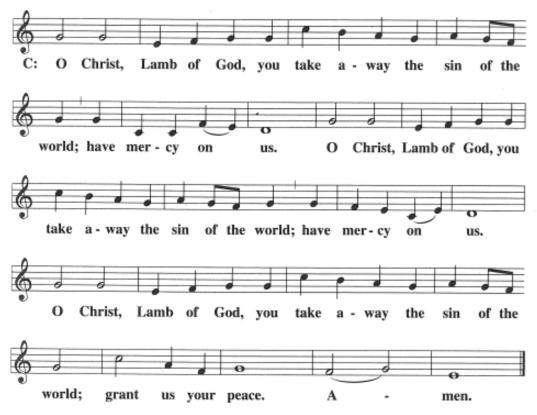
In the same way, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them and said: "Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

THE LAMB OF GOD

M: On Maundy Thursday the celebration of the Passover was finished. That which it had foreshadowed since the days of Moses had come. The yearly lamb had served its purpose; now the Eternal Lamb, Jesus Christ, would affect God's will - the deliverance of all mankind from the bondage of sin, death and hell.

THE AGNUS DEI



THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the Lord's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in this congregation or in a sister congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy. If you would like to discuss "close" communion or any other spiritual matter with the pastor, please indicate this on the Friendship Register.

A LESSON FROM GETHSEMANE

M: After The Supper Jesus and his disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus asked his disciples to "stay here and keep watch with me". Yet it was in Gethsemane that as Jesus was arrested by soldiers his disciples "abandoned him and fled".

SONG:

"Gethsemane" Music used with permission CCLI License 11209822 Song displayed on PowerPoint

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

M: We now focus our attention on the altar which represents the presence of Christ with us. It has been a custom within the Christian Church to celebrate Good Friday worship with a bare altar. To ponder the significance of this custom, we will conclude our service tonight with a "Stripping of the Altar". The objects and adornments listed below, and on the next page, are set on the altar during the course of normal worship and will be removed. As his life was stripped from him, as those closest to him abandoned him, so we strip our altar of the signs of his life to point to his purposeful, redemptive suffering and death for us - which he alone could accomplish.

SONG

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Objects and adornments:

The Missal Stand holds our worship books that guide our worship life together as we sing praises to God. As Jesus suffers, joyous songs are not heard. As these sounds of joy are removed from our lips, we remove the missal stand. Continued on next page **The Candles** The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the Light of the world. As even creation was dark when he suffered, so we extinguish our candles and remove them.

Our Offerings represent one way of serving God and others. They reflect God's greatest offering to the world and to us in sending his Son, Jesus, in human form. As the offered body of Jesus was removed from sight in burial, so we remove our offerings.

<u>The Missal Stand</u> holds our worship books that guide our worship life together as we sing praises to God. As Jesus suffers, joyous songs are not heard. As these sounds of joy are removed from our lips, we remove the missal stand.

Holy Communion Jesus' offered body and shed blood have been given to us in, with, and under the form of bread and wine in this Holy Mystery. As he was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of this Sacrament.

Paraments & Coverings Our altar is in the form of a table. It is here where our Lord Jesus serves as both host and meal at his banquet feast. The coverings and paraments are made of fine linen, materials appropriate for feasting with our King. As our King's body was stripped in crucifixion, so our altar is stripped of its coverings.

RECESSION OF THE CROSS

Please stand and face the cross in the front of the church. The lights in the church are darkened. Please turn toward the back of the church as the cross is carried past your pew.

Following the recession of the cross please stay and meditate for as long as you'd like. With the somber reality of the Good Friday the congregation is asked to maintain silence as they leave to reassemble for worship on the morrow.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP 7:00 PM EASTER SUNRISE 7:00 AM EASTER MORNING 9:30 AM

