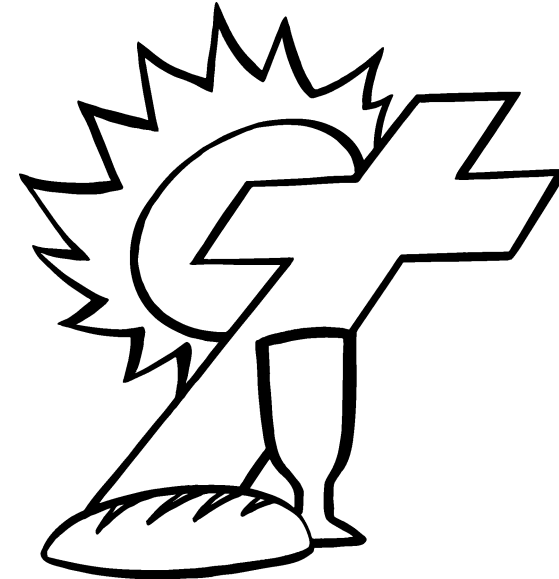


MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 2, 2026
THE HOLY COMMUNION
7pm



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
104 UNION STREET SOUTH
PO BOX 684
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026
704-786-0166
www.sjnc.net
Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Pastor

Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

Maybe you need forgiveness, or maybe you need to forgive ... Maybe you're tired and you need a little space to breathe ... Maybe you're trying church for the first time, or maybe you're trying church for the last time... Maybe you've spent your whole life wondering if God really loves you... Maybe you're lonely... Maybe you're sick... Maybe you came here looking for a miracle... Maybe you came here looking for another church but got disoriented and came here instead, and now it's too late to get up and walk out... Maybe, with God, there are no accidents... Maybe, with God, there is hope and healing and miraculous companionship... Maybe, with God, there is space to breathe and forgiveness on top of forgiveness... Maybe, with God, there is love... Maybe, with God here in our midst, we will hear those words that still split open the heavens, "You are my son! You are my daughter! You are my beloved. You. In you I am well pleased!" Maybe this is why we gather together, week after week after week, here at St. James.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this place - not just by the Saints at St. James, but by the God who revealed himself in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our brother, and our friend.

Welcome to St. James.

If you are comfortable doing so, please introduce yourself to Pastor Bill. If you have visited with us a number of times and think you might want to "make it official," please speak to Pastor Bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to the person next to you or to an usher.

Restrooms are located on the first and second floor of the Education Building. A nursery is available for children up to and including five years of age on the first floor of the education building. An usher will be happy to help you find them.

If you're visiting or if you have been here for 99 years (and are willing to do so), please sign a pew pad.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Robert Davis,
Samantha Hillegass, Dale Merrell
Videographer: Ann Blackwelder
Building Supervisors: Robert Davis

PRAYER LIST

Cecil Berry (friend of Gretchen Walker); Family of Michael Black (nephew of Patsy Black); Patsy Black; Caroline Bost; Patrick Bryn (son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn); Angie Buchanan; Mike & Debbie Cagle (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis); Noah Clifton; Karey Conrad (friend of Dee Pieschel); Jennifer Cook (friend of Fonda Shumate); Catherine Durst (daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges); Nadine Filipak (friend of Al & Dee Pieschel); Phyllis Freeman (Mother of Fonda Shumate); Ed Frost (friend of the Marlow's); Jeff Gilbert; Tom Grady; Ryan Hardister (son of Bill & Reggie Hardister); Maureen Hollmeyer; Hunter Huss; Dale Johnson (Friend of Dale Merrell); Mary Frances Johnson (cousin of Francie Davis); Karen Johnston (friend of Judy Benz); Mary Anne Lanahan (Aunt of Francie Davis); Ruth Lawler (friend of Dee & Al Pieschel); John Ledford (brother of Deb Black); Family of Don Matkins (brother-in-law of Margaret Garrison); Barbara Merrell; Deb & Roger Myers (friends of Deb Black); Dave Olsen (friend of Patsy Black); Stan Parnell (friend of Rob & Debbie Davis); Becky Phillips; Al Pieschel; Lori Pittard; Tom Ridenhour; Lori Ruff (mother of Christine Ruff); Ruby Tyer (niece of Beth Huss' friend).

To assist in your offering
Secure Online Giving



Open Camera – Scan QR Code
Thank you for supporting St. James

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Good Friday: Friday, April 3rd

The Death of our Lord

Noon

The Resurrection of our Lord (Easter Sunday): April 5th

Prelude Music with Instrumentalists – 9:45am

Festival Holy Communion – 10am

*St James Lutheran Church:
Growing in Christ through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service.*

**MAUNDY THURSDAY
THE HOLY COMMUNION**



*The People Gather **in Silence.***

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Please stand.

THE HYMN: Go to Dark Gethsemane

STAY CONNECTED!

Sign up to receive our weekly *Ring Out* e-newsletter for news, events, and ministry updates.



Follow us on social media:

Facebook & Instagram: **@stjamesnc**

YouTube: **@stjameslutheranconcord**



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;
 2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
 3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;



your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Please sit.

THE INSTRUCTION

P In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil – all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

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. Our commitment to this

loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

Please sit or kneel as able.

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Almighty God, merciful Father:

C **I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.**

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

*Those who desire to receive the laying on of hands come forward.
The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, addresses each in turn:*

P In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

R Amen

Please sit.

ANTHEM

Kyrie from Mass for Two Organs
(from *Messe Solennelle*)

Louis Vierne

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Please stand.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**



Please sit.

THE FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. [⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They 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 lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; 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 live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

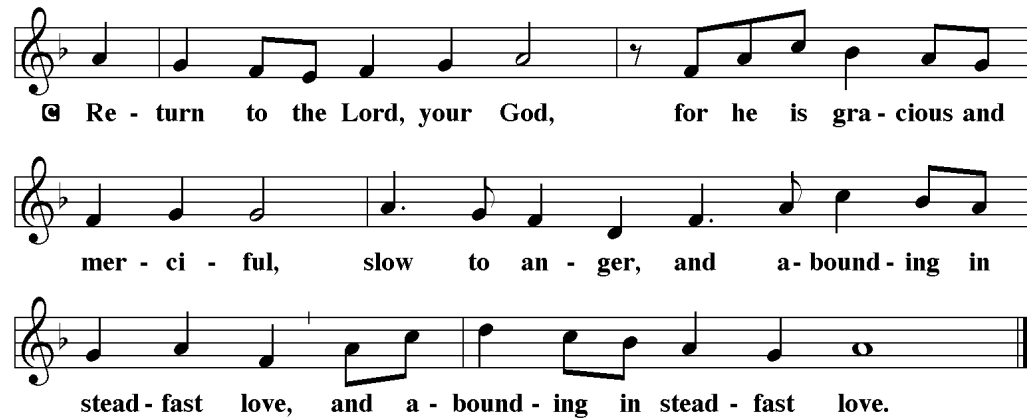
For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, 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.

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will

never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I 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, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

^{31b} "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

THE HOMILY

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten-tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

Please sit or kneel, as able.

THE SUFFRAGES

A Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us.

Turn away, O Lord, the fierceness of your wrath,
 And in pity spare your people:
And have mercy.

Grant a favorable and speedy answer to the prayers of all,
 we implore you:
And have mercy.

Look, O Christ, upon our groanings,
 loose the bands of death, and grant us life:
And have mercy.

Behold our tears, consider our sighs,
 and now at length in pity forgive our sins:
And have mercy.

Though none of us be worthy to be heard,
 yet, O Christ, for your own self help us:
And have mercy.

We cry to you, O Lord; have mercy on us;
And grant forgiveness.

O King of heaven, everlasting Lord,
 receive the prayers which we pour forth:
And grant forgiveness.

Visit the sick, bring forth the captives,
 help the widow and the orphan:
And grant forgiveness.

We have sinned and have departed from you;
 Redeemer of all, save us:
And grant forgiveness.

Have mercy on the penitent, and wash away the stains of sin:
And grant forgiveness.

Let us all with one voice cry:
Lord, have mercy.
 Show us your mercy, O Lord, grant pardon, grant remission:
And graciously have mercy.

O Lord, deal not with us according to our sins,

Neither reward us according to our wickedness.

Enter not into judgment with your servants
For in your sight shall no one living be justified.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**



Please sit.

THE OFFERING

THE ANTHEM

*Lacrimosa dies illa,
qua resurget ex favilla
judicandus homo reus.
Huic ergo parce Deus,
pie Jesu Domine,
dona eis requiem! Amen!*

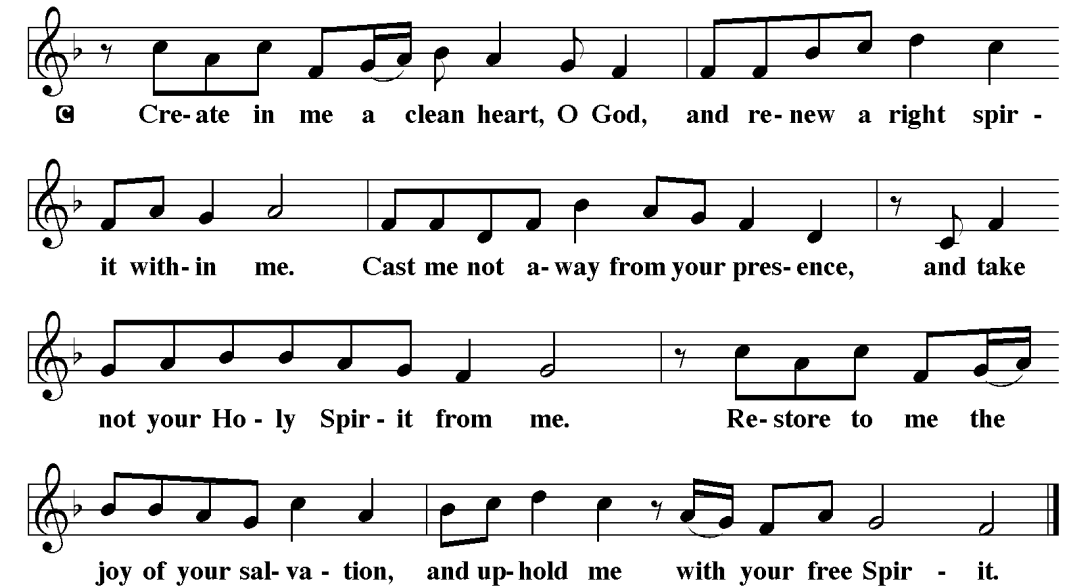
Lacrimosa
(from *Requiem*)

W. A. Mozart

*Full of tears will be that day
When from the ashes shall arise
The guilty man to be judged;
Therefore spare him, O God,
Merciful Lord Jesus,
Grant them eternal rest! Amen!*

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
A Merciful Father,
C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san- na. Ho - san- na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

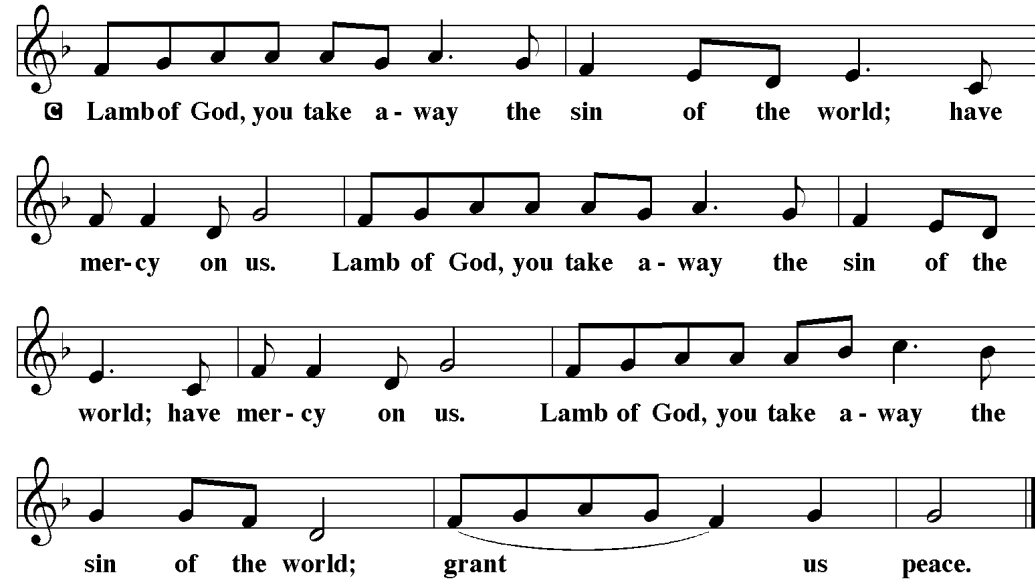
And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ. Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

C Amen

P Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave 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.



♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please sit.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

- Q: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?
A: Instituted by Christ himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink.
Q: What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?
A: We are told in the words “for you” and “for the forgiveness of sins.” By these words the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sins, there are also life and salvation.

-Luther’s Small Catechism Part V

Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you wish for the pastor to bring communion to you. Please advise an usher.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Herzliebster Jesu, was hast du verbrochen* Helmut Walcha
-Luke Estes, organ

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C **Amen**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray.
A Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his through the same Jesus Christ our Lord
C **Amen**

Silence for reflection.



Please sit.

THE STRIPPING of the ALTAR:

Symbolizing Jesus' humiliation at the soldiers' hands, the sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, books, and candles are removed from the worship space.

As the Altar is stripped, the people speak Psalm 22 in unison.

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;

¹⁷I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;

¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

**²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

**²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

**²⁴For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.**

**²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.**

**²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!**

**²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.**

**²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.**

**²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.**

**³⁰Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the LORD,**

**³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.**

***There is no benediction.
The people leave in silence.***

The omission of benedictions at the end of the liturgies of both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicate their continuity with each other and with the Vigil of Easter.



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