

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

As We Gather

Tonight we gather in a quiet moment in Holy Week. Jesus will soon go on ahead toward the cross. Before the darkness closes in, He gives a gift that will not fade. In bread and wine, Christ places forgiveness, life, and salvation into empty hands. This message invites us to receive hope given in the night and to trust Jesus' promise even as the silence deepens.

✠ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✠

Hymn

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared (LSB 622) *sts. 1, 4*

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P 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.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. 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.

P 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.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 24:3–11*

Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *Hebrews 9:11–22*

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. For where a will is involved,

the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 22:7–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine

until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

Hymn — O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken (LSB 439) *st. 13*

Sermon Series: Songs of Hope in the Dark Night

Sermon Title: Hope Given in the Night — *Luke 22:7–20*

Offering

We Give Thee But Thine Own (LSB 781) *sts. 1–2, 6*

1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!

6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97
Text: Public domain

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Prayer of the Church

P ... let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord have mercy.**



✠ THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

We follow the liturgy on Pages 208-212 in the hymnal.

Preface *LSB 208*

Proper Preface

Sanctus *LSB 208*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

Sit

Distribution

Christ, the Life of All the Living (LSB 420)
Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior (LSB 619)
From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee (LSB 607)

Sit

Lord's Supper Dismissal

P Now may this eating and drinking, of our Savior's precious body and blood, Strengthen you, preserve you, and keep you in the one true Christian faith that leads you to eternal life. Know in peace, and joy, that your sins are ✢ forgiven you.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

Post-Communion Collect

Sit

Closing Hymn I Lay My Sins on Jesus (LSB 606)

Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22 *Psalm 22*

All leave the church in silence.

Acknowledgments

Holy Thursday from Lutheran Service Book

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