



# Maunder Thursday Service

**Maundy Thursday**  
**Holy Communion 7:00 pm**

**April 6, 2023**

**(The congregation enters in silence.)**

**Order of Confession and Forgiveness** (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

P: Let us pray and make confession to God.

**C: Almighty God, Merciful Father:**

**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 the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Those in the congregation may come forward and kneel before the altar. 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.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

*Go to Dark Gethisemane*

(ELW) No. 347

**\*Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## **\*Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

**C: O Lord God, You left to us a wonderful sacrament, a memorial of Your passion. Grant, we beseech You, that we may so partake of this sacrament 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. Amen.**

## **The First Lesson**

**Exodus 24:3-11**

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Anthem**

*Bread of Life Here at Your Table Lord*

(Bell Choir)

## **Psalm 116:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

<sup>13</sup> **Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His servants.**

<sup>14</sup> O Lord, I am Your servant; I am Your servant and the child of Your handmaid; You have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>15</sup> **I will offer You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord.**

<sup>16</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

<sup>17</sup> **In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hosanna in the highest!**

<sup>18</sup> I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people,

<sup>19</sup> **In the courts of the house of the Lord in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!**

## **The Second Lesson**

**Hebrews 9:11-22**

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **\*The Gospel Acclamation (sung)**

**C: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

\*

**\*The Holy Gospel**

**St. Matthew 26:17-30**

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.** (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.** (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

**Sermon**

**Rev. Robert B. Grewe**

**Mandatum Reading**

**St. John 13:1-35**

**Washing of the hands and feet of the People of God.**

**Hymn**

*O Lord, We Praise You*

**(ELW) No. 499**

**\*Prayers of the People**

P: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into Your hands.....through Your Son, Jesus Christ our  
Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sharing of God's Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

\*The congregation may greet one another: **'Peace be with you.'**

**\*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.....we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: (sung)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### **\*Words of institution**

P: Blessed are You,.....as He comes to us in His holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: In the night.....Do this for the remembrance of Me.

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### **Distribution of Communion**

**C: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

**Hymn**

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

**(ELW) No. 471**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray.....Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

As the communion vessels are carried out Psalm 22 will be read.

The candles are extinguished and removed.

The altar is stripped and the linens are removed.

(Stripping the altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldiers' hands.)

The paraments are taken down and removed.

There is no benediction. All leave the church in silence. The omission of the benedictions at the end of liturgies of both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicate their continuity with each other and with the Vigil of Easter.

---

## **First Lutheran Church**

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: [secretary@flcwash.church](mailto:secretary@flcwash.church)

website: [www.flcwash.church](http://www.flcwash.church)

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

[revrob@flcwash.church](mailto:revrob@flcwash.church)

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

---

**The Lay Reader** is Mark Black.

**Acolytes** are Collin Berry and Maria Sobocinski.

### **Welcome to our Visitors!**

The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have any questions or are interested in hearing about membership, please see the pastor or contact the Church Office.

### **Holy Communion**

We come to the table today at the invitation of the Lord, receiving the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized and Confirmed Christians who share this faith and wish to join us at the table are welcome. Young children may be brought forward for a blessing.

**Tomorrow—Good Friday Service is at 3 PM.**

## Go to Dark Gethsemane



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.



# O Lord, We Praise You

499



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, in thanks -  
2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, life to  
3 Lord God, be - stow on us your grace and fa - vor, that we



giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your  
win for us in heav - en. No great - er  
fol - low Christ our Sav - ior and live to -



bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that  
love than this to you could bind us; may this feast of  
geth - er here in love and u - nion, nor re - pent this



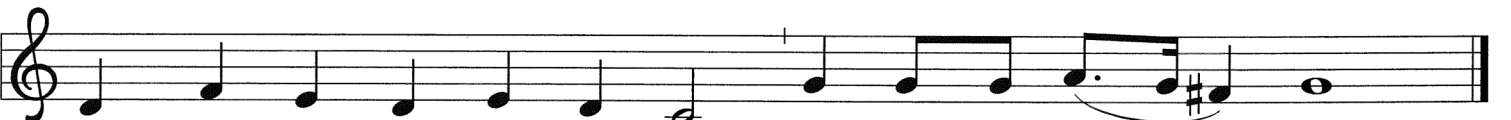
they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!  
that re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!  
blest com - mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy!



May your bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, that our  
Lord, your kind - ness so much did move you that your  
Let not your good Spir - it for - sake us; by this



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, and your blood for us plead  
blood now moves us to love you. All our debt you have paid;  
ho - ly ban - quet re - make us. Give your church, Lord, to see



in all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - 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!



# Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

***Listening for the Promise***  
**Weekly Devotional**  
**Maundy Thursday - April 6, 2023**

“Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.’” -Matthew 26:26-28-

At the Last Supper, Jesus celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples. During this meal, He instituted the sacrament of Holy Communion in anticipation of His coming death. As the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, Jesus was the one to whom the Passover Lamb had always pointed. And so, His death on the cross was the event which the first Passover signified. In instituting the sacrament of Holy Communion, therefore, Jesus both fulfilled and transformed the Passover celebration. Accordingly, the symbolism of the Passover provides a framework for understanding the work of Christ which fulfills it. In this regard, the Passover was the central redemptive event and thus the “gospel” of the old covenant. In the first Passover, the Israelites sacrificed and ate a lamb. They also spread the blood of this lamb on their doorposts to save them from the Angel of Death. When the Angel of Death saw the blood on their door posts, he “passed over” their houses and killed the first born sons of the Egyptians instead. Similarly, Jesus is Himself the Passover Lamb whose sacrificial blood covers our sins to save us from the wrath of God.

Just as the Passover Lamb was sacrificed and eaten prior to the original Exodus, so Jesus presents Himself as the New Passover Lamb to be sacrificed on the cross and then eaten through the bread and wine of Holy Communion. And Jesus does this both to signify and to influence a new exodus from the bondage of sin, which is made possible by His death. And so, Holy Communion is related to the Passover both historically and symbolically. It is historically related since the Passover meal was the occasion for instituting the sacrament of Holy Communion. Moreover, since Holy Communion is the New Covenant fulfillment of the Passover, it incorporates its symbolism while also giving us the saving reality to which the Passover points. Thus, just as the Passover celebration recalled the original Passover in Egypt, so weekly celebrations of Holy Communion recall the work of Christ and make Him present to us. Jesus Christ is the true Passover Lamb whom we consume during Holy Communion. And it is His blood that saves us from the wrath of God.

