

***Risen Christ Lutheran Church  
Arvada, Colorado***

***Holy Thursday Family Devotion in Absence***

***Holy (Maundy) Thursday - April 9, 2020  
Lutheran Service Book (LSB)***

**OPENING HYMN** *LSB 636 “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”*

**INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

**INTROIT** *Psalm 67:1-3, 6b-7; Galatians 6:14b; Liturgical Text*

But far be it from me to boast

except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In him is salvation, life, and resurrection from the dead;

by him we are redeemed and set at liberty.

May God be gracious to us and bless us

and make his face to shine upon us,

that your way may be known on earth,

your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you!

God, our God, shall bless us.

God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

But far be it from me to boast

except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In him is salvation, life, and resurrection from the dead;

by him we are redeemed and set at liberty.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

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.

**OLD TESTAMENT** *Exodus 12:1-14*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell 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. <sup>4</sup>And 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. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old.

You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, <sup>6</sup> and 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. <sup>7</sup> “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. <sup>8</sup> They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. <sup>9</sup> Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. <sup>10</sup> And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup> In 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. <sup>12</sup> For 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. <sup>13</sup> The 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. <sup>14</sup> “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. (ESV)

**GRADUAL** *Psalm 111:4-5*

He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.  
He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

**EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 11:23-32*

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>25</sup> In 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.” <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. <sup>27</sup> Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup> For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup> That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. <sup>31</sup> But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup> But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world. (ESV)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 26:17-30*

<sup>17</sup> Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” <sup>18</sup> He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” <sup>19</sup> And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. <sup>20</sup> When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. <sup>21</sup> And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” <sup>22</sup> And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” <sup>23</sup> He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup> The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if

he had not been born.”<sup>25</sup> Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”<sup>26</sup> 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.”<sup>27</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you,<sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.<sup>29</sup> I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”<sup>30</sup> And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (ESV)

## **SERMON HYMN** *LSB 622 “Lord Jesus Christ You Have Prepared”*

### **SERMON**

There were ritual meals in the Old Testament divine service of ancient Israel. These were not merely love feasts where the Israelites enjoyed a common meal together; rather, they were sacred meals that had a Spiritual effect on those who ate them. First of all, the priests at the sanctuary were the only ones who could eat the food that was designated by the Word of the Lord as “most holy.” The most holy food included the bread made from the daily cereal offerings, the meat from the sin and guilt offerings, and the twelve loaves of the bread of the presence that remained inside the sanctuary until they were eaten once per week on the Sabbath. The most holy food, as with the most holy things at the sanctuary, had the power to convey the Lord’s holiness to the priests when they ate it. It was the way that the Lord kept his priests holy as they served him at his tabernacle, and later the temple in Jerusalem. Secondly, there were ritual meals for the lay people that were holy meals. The people could eat the holy food from the peace offerings as well as from the Passover as the means for a communal meal with the Lord. The holy food, like with the holy things at the sanctuary, had the power to convey ritual purity, which qualified them for the Lord’s sanctification through other means.

It was during the holy Passover meal that Christ instituted the Lord’s Supper. In this new communal meal, the two aspects of the ritual food in the Old Testament are combined. The Lord’s Supper is both a purifying and a sanctifying meal. The true Body of Christ given in the bread and the true Blood of Christ given in the wine cleanses us from our sins, forgives us on account of Christ’s death on the cross. The benefits of Christ’s atonement for the whole world are given and received individually by faith through his Body and Blood in the Sacrament. That’s the purifying part. But Holy Communion also sanctifies us because the Body and Blood of Christ are most holy. The New Testament makes it clear that the meal that Jesus instituted was not only for the clergy but also for lay people. In fact, there is a new priesthood in the New Testament, which includes both clergy and laity alike. Since Christians are holy priests, we are kept holy through the sacred meal of the Lord’s Supper as we receive the most holy Body and Blood of Christ.

There is something else, though. According to the words of institution, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: ‘Take, eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.’ In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.’” Every time we celebrate Holy Communion, we are celebrating all over again and participating in that Holy (Maundy) Thursday where we are gathered as Christ’s disciples, not to celebrate the Old Testament Passover, but to receive the Body and Blood of

Christ for our forgiveness, eternal life, and communion with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We rejoice in this great gift, and we hunger and thirst for Christ's most holy food and to receive it together again soon. Amen!

### **NICENE CREED**

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.

### **PRAYER HYMN *LSB 627 "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"***

### **COLLECT FOR THE WORD**

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **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.

### **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. Amen.

### **CLOSING HYMN *LSB 630 "Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling"***

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