

# The Covenant Meal Maundy Thursday

Immanuel Lutheran Church - LCMS Lakefield, Minnesota Pastor: Rev. Phil Beukema April 9, 2020

# HOLY THURSDAY

# As WE GATHER

When God made His covenant with Israel through Moses, it was confirmed by the shedding of innocent blood. Moses took half of the sacrificial blood and threw it on the altar, thereby making atonement for the sins of the people. And half the blood he threw on the people, declaring, "Behold, the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words" (Exodus 24:8). This was followed by a covenant meal, in which Moses and Aaron along with Aaron's sons and seventy elders of Israel ate and drank in God's presence on the mountain. In Christ's death, He has established a new and greater covenant. As He is crucified, His blood atones for the sins of all people. And as Moses and the elders of Israel beheld God and ate and drank, so also do we behold God and eat and drink in His presence when we receive the covenant meal of His body and blood. "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 26:27).

#### + PREPARATION +

#### Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## **Opening Sentences**

- P Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, . . .
  - He entered once for all into the holy places, . . .
- **©** by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption
- P Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,
- so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

#### Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

#### Prayer of the Day

- Let us pray.
  O Lord, in this Sacrament You graciously come to us as both host and meal.
- Grant that Your precious body and blood will so strengthen us that in our thinking, speaking, and acting we may show forth the covenant of Your grace in which we live:
- P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

- Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. It is the meal of the new covenant. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves; but when we do, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us and by His sacrifice for us took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve. By His death, He offers us full and free forgiveness. Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.
- O almighty God, merciful Father, 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.
- Let it be done for you as you believe. As the ashes were a personal sign of contrition at the beginning of this Lenten journey, so individual absolution physically conveys that your own sins are forgiven. I invite you to come forward to receive that assurance.
- 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.

## Hymn 436......Go to Dark Gethsemane

# +WORD+

#### Old Testament Reading... Exodus 24:3-11

(The old covenant is sealed with a meal)

- The Old Testament Reading is from the twenty-fourth chapter of Exodus.
  Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decress. And all the people answered with one voice and said.
- **C** 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,
- **C** All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.
- L And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said,
- P 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.
- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle......Hebrews 9:11-22

(Blood is shed to inaugurate both covenants)

Lector 1: The Epistle is from the ninth chapter of Hebrews. 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 person with the blood of goats and bulls and with ashes of a heifer sanctifies for one 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.

Lector 2: 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.

- Lector 1: 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,
- P This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.
- Lector 2: 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.
- Lector 1: This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

#### Holy Gospel......Matthew 26:17–30

(Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper)

- The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.
- 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?
- P 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.' "And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, He reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, He said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." And they were very sorrowful and began to say to Him one after another,

C Is it I, Lord?

- He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with P Me will betray Me. 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." Judas, who would betray Him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so." 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. 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." And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day 421 vv. 1-4...
...Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing

Sermon......The Covenantal Meal

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 ⅓ of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

- Let us pray for the whole people of God and for all people in their various needs. Lord Jesus, offering fruit from the tree of life,
- by Your word of Law accuse every prideful thought in us, and by Your precious Gospel call us to repentance and a firm faith in Your gift of eternal life.
- **P** Lord Jesus, bread from heaven,
- feed us always that we may neither hunger nor thirst, but continually be ready for whatever temptations we might face in this wilderness until our journey's end.
- P Lord Jesus, whose forgiveness is healing medicine,
- bind up our sin-sick souls and heal our wounded consciences so that Your life may flow through us.
- P Lord Jesus, offering a blest communion in the Lord's Supper,

- we give thanks that in spite of our sinful condition You bring us into fellowship with You and one another, acceptable in Your sight by Your atoning grace.
- **P** Lord Jesus, rest for the weary,
- lift the burden of our sins, we pray, and refresh our souls so that we may serve You each day and invite others to join us on our journey toward an eternal Sabbath.
- P Lord Jesus, who invites us to the heavenly nuptial feast,
- bestow on us hearts of love and joy each time we partake of the Lord's Supper, a foretaste of the feast to come.
- P Lord Jesus, whose sacrifice instituted the new covenant,
- enable us to receive in true faith Your assurance that our separating sins have been forgiven in time and eternity.
- Lord Jesus, who received the Father's wrath in our stead on the cross,
- each time we receive Your body and blood in the Lord's Supper, grant that we may recognize the gravity of our sin and the reality of Your grace.
- P Lord Jesus, God's Passover Lamb,
- give us hearts single-mindedly fixed on You, whose blood has saved us from the wrath we deserve and whose victory over death has opened to us eternal life.
- P Lord Jesus, who has made the Lord's Supper Your feast of victory,
- with saints and angels we praise and glorify Your holy name here in time until we join them to sing Your praises face-to-face.
- Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### Peace of the Lord

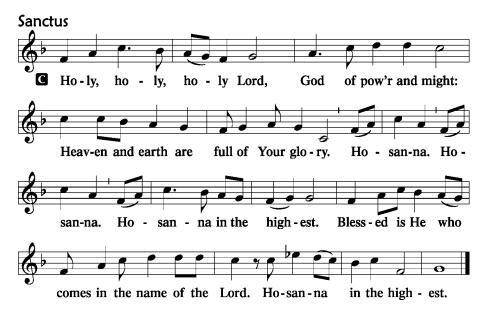
- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

A

## + SACRAMENT +

#### **Preface**

- **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.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord our God, for though we deserved nothing but condemnation and punishment, You have been gracious to us throughout human history. You assured Eve that a Son would crush the serpent, told Abraham that through him all nations would be blessed, and promised David that a Son would reign eternally. When You led Your people Israel from bondage in Egypt and promised to be their God, the covenant was entered by their eating the sacrificial lamb in the Passover meal. And when Your Son broke our bondage to sin and death by the sacrifice of His life on the cross, He established this covenantal meal. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink this covenantal meal and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

#### The Words of Our Lord

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 forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### Pax Domini

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

#### Stripping of the Altar

It is the night in which our Savior was betrayed. We remove the appointments of the chancel to symbolize the abuse He received. The candles shine no more as the Light of the World is taken to His death, the books are closed as the Word is silenced for a time, the paraments on the altar are removed as our Lord's body is laid bare, and the altar is left alone for the sacrifice to be remembered tomorrow.

P David was inspired to write Psalm 22, which Jesus may have prayed on the cross. We use it to end this evening's service.

<sup>1</sup>My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup>O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

<sup>3</sup>Yet You are holy,

enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>In You our fathers trusted;

they trusted, and You delivered them.

<sup>5</sup>To You they cried and were rescued;

in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man,

scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

<sup>7</sup>All who see Me mock Me;

they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;

8"He trusts in the Lord; let Him deliver Him;

let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!"

<sup>9</sup>Yet You are He who took Me from the womb;

You made Me trust You at My mother's breasts.

<sup>10</sup>On You was I cast from My birth, and from My mother's womb You have been My God. <sup>11</sup>Be not far from Me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. <sup>12</sup>Many bulls encompass Me; strong bulls of Bashan surround Me; <sup>13</sup>thev open wide their mouths at Me. like a ravening and roaring lion. <sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water, and all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax: it is melted within My breast; <sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and My tongue sticks to My jaws; You lav Me in the dust of death. <sup>16</sup>For dogs encompass Me: a company of evildoers encircles Me; they have pierced My hands and feet— <sup>17</sup>I can count all My bones they stare and gloat over Me; <sup>18</sup>they divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots. <sup>19</sup>But You, O LORD, do not be far off! O You My help, come quickly to My aid! <sup>20</sup>Deliver My soul from the sword, My precious life from the power of the dog! <sup>21</sup>Save Me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild oxen! <sup>22</sup>I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You: <sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel! <sup>24</sup>For He has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and He has not hidden His face from Him,

but has heard, when He cried to Him.

<sup>25</sup>From You comes My praise in the great congregation; My vows I will perform before those who fear Him.

<sup>26</sup>The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek Him shall praise the LORD!

May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,

and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve Him;

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; <sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,

that He has done it.

Please observe silence while departing.

#### Acknowledgments

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Wondering how to find the worship service so you can watch it?

- 1. Facebook: type in "Immanuel Lutheran Church" in the box along the top of Facebook that has the magnifying glass. You'll probably get more than 1 Immanuel Lutheran Church. You'll see the exterior of our church with the blue cloudy sky as a profile picture. If you cannot find our church's Facebook page this way, go to our church's website: immanuellakefield.com. Once you are there, you will see a black box with the letter 'f' inside of it on the right hand side of the screen in the burgundy strip. If you click on this black box with the letter 'f', it will take you directly to our church's Facebook page.
- 2. YouTube: go to YouTube and type in "Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Lakefield MN" in the box along the top that has the magnifying glass where it says "Search". You'll once again have more than 1 option come up. You'll see the exterior picture of our church with the blue cloudy sky. Click on the picture or on our name and you'll go to our YouTube channel.
- 3. If you have Southwest Broadband Stream TV, our Sunday worship service shows on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. and our Midweek Lent service shows on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. The Lakefield channel is 70.

#### We Remember in our Prayers

- Judy Milbrath dealing with health issues
- Carly Ackermann, daughter-in-law of Jim and Jeanine Ackermann, dealing with health issues
- Our residents at Doman Rose, Colonial Manor, Valley View, Lakeview Assisted Living in Heron Lake, Meadows in Worthington, Accura Health Care in Spirit Lake, Koppen Gardens in North Mankato, Pathstone in Mankato, Pines in Jackson
- Dwayne Milbrath, Berniece Kolander, Joyce Rossow, Dorothy Fricke, Darlene Froderman, Ines Henning, Bev Hall, Lorraine Carlson, Dave Schlottach, Betty Hage, Toni Grein, Carol Frantsen, Darlene Stender, Denny Luebben, dealing with health issues
- Michelle Bottin, friend of Jan Bakalyar; Bob Doyle, friend of Jan Bakalyar; Cindy Krenz, mother of our preschool teacher Stacie Soleta; Steve Hall; Brandon Krumwiede, son of Doug and Jolene Krumwiede; Cheryl Qualey, niece of Betty Hage; Diane McDonald, wife of Pastor Dave McDonald; Alizabeth Ludwig, granddaughter of Joyce Miller; Jim Salentiny, uncle of Mark Freking; dealing with cancer

Gloria Baumann, sister of Dave Bass, dealing with health issues Mark Thaemlitz deployed to the Middle East Everyone whose health is at risk First Responders Essential Workers
Our Missionaries in the Field Our Country and Our Military