REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH Holy Thursday



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Holy Week is the most important week of the Church Year. It is during this time that we meditate upon Christ's Triumphal Entry on Palm Sunday, His final meal with His disciples and His command to love one another on Maundy Thursday, His betrayal and crucifixion before Pontius Pilate on Good Friday, and His burial in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Jesus did all these things for your salvation.

On this day of the week of Christ's Passion, He gave the disciples a "new commandment." This commandment (Latin: *mandatum*) gives the day one of its appellations: Maundy Thursday. But more importantly, Holy Thursday is the "night on which He was betrayed," and the night when He instituted His Supper. Because we cannot gather for the celebration of the Sacrament, we will focus on Jesus' command to love one another, and we will pray earnestly that God restore us to the Lord's Table in peace.

The minister enters in silence.

VERSICLES

PSALM

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. Make haste, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

PSALMODY

Psalm 116:12-19 (antiphon: v. 17)

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord. What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds. I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord! I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.



READINGS

FIRST READING

¹The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²"This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴And 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. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and 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.

⁷"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. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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.

¹⁴"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.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In 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." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not <u>be</u> condemned along with the world.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

1 Corinthians 11:23-32

Exodus 12:1-14

THIRD READING

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

13 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." 8 Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of vou are clean."

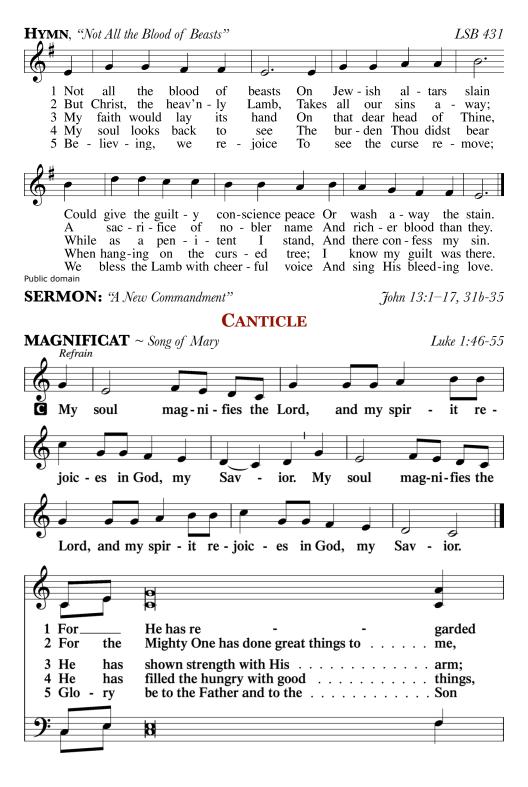
¹² When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. [...]

³¹ [...] "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- **P** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- G Thanks be to God.

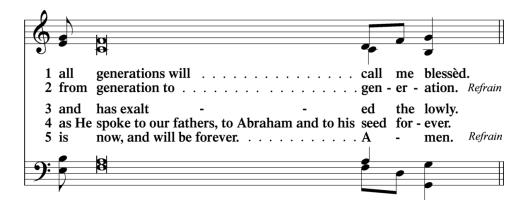
RESPONSORY (LENT)

- Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
 Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
 C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- **@** Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.



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OFFERING (You may now visit our Faithlife page for a secure giving option. (faithlife.com/rlcarkcity/give) You are, of course, free to continue contributing just as you had by mailing a check. Call the church office if you have questions.)

PRAYER

THE LITANY **L** O Lord, **L** O Christ, **L** O Lord, **L** O Christ, **L** God the Father in heaven, **L** God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **L** God the Holy Spirit, **L** Be gracious to us. C

L Be gracious to us.

L From all sin, from all error, from all evil;

From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;

From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;

From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:

Good Lord, deliver us.

L By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

Help us, good Lord.

L In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C Help us, good Lord.

L We poor sinners implore You

C to hear us, O Lord.

 \mathbf{L} To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

• We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

- L To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:
- **C** We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- 🚺 hear us.
- **()** have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- Spare us, good Lord.
- Help us, good Lord. C

L To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel; To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

(We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

L To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

• We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

- \mathbf{L} Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- **(** we implore You to hear us.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

- **G** grant us Your peace.
- **L** O Christ,
- **L** O Lord,
- **L** O Christ,
- **L** O Lord,

LORD'S PRAYER

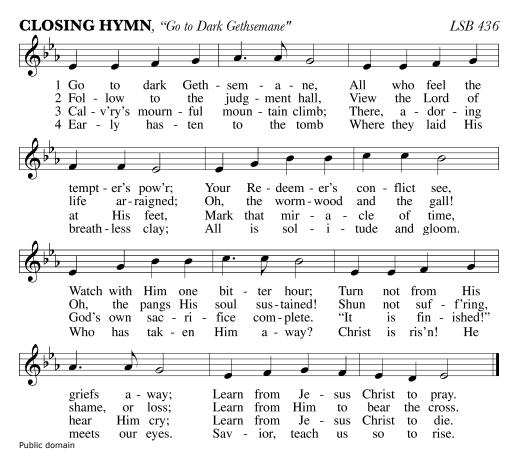
C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

- P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

- C have mercy. C have mercy.
- 🚺 hear us.

- 🕑 have mercy. Amen.



THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 22, written a millennium before Christ begins by describing the Lord's treatment at the hands of His persecutors. It is a prophecy of Jesus' crucifixion, and it demonstrates that this event was not merely a miscarriage of justice, but it is God's plan for the salvation of the world. Even though the psalm paints a vivid picture of Christ's suffering and death, it nevertheless ends with hope that the Lord will vindicate His Messiah. The stripping of the altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldiers' hands.

There is no benediction. This service should be considered merely "in recess" but not yet adjourned. The service resumes tomorrow evening at 7:30 with the Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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