

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 pm Thursday, April 17, 2025

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = *appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross*
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is *appropriate to sit if needed*



"Triduum: The Three-Day Vigil"

Today we begin what is known in the historic Christian Church as the "three day paschal" service. The services of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are conceived as three days of intense contemplation, focusing on the "New Testament" in the blood of Christ which God has established for us on Calvary's cross. Therefore, the Benediction which normally ends our services is postponed until the end of the Easter Vigil on Saturday night.



[Rise] **Invocation**

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

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father; beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Kneel]

*Our help is in the name of the Lord **Who made heaven and earth.**
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.***

*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.***

*Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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. **Amen!***

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Introit of the Day



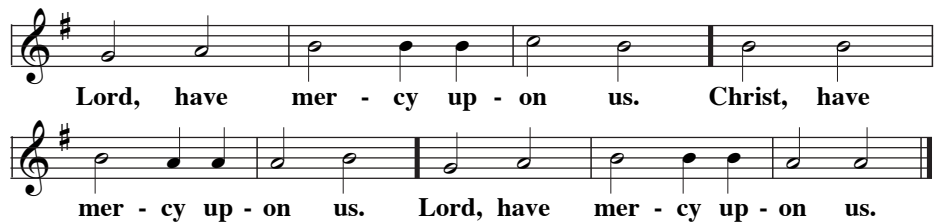
Antiphon: *Gracious is the | LORD, and •righteous•; || our | God is mer- ci- | ful. || The LORD pre- | serves the •simple•; || when I was brought | low, he saved__ | me.*

Verse 1: **I | love the LORD, || because he has heard my voice and my | pleas for mer-__ | cy. || Because he inclined his | ear to me, || therefore I will call on him | as long as I | live.**

Verse 2: *The snares of death en- | com- passed me; || the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered dis- | tress and an-__ | guish. || Then I called on the name | of the LORD: || “O LORD, I | pray, de- •liver• my | soul!”*

Antiphon: **Gracious is the | LORD, and •righteous•; || our | God is mer- ci- | ful. || The LORD pre- | serves the •simple•; || when I was brought | low, he saved__ | me.**

Kyrie



Gloria in Excelsis



1. *Glory be to God on high: And on earth . . . peace good will •toward• men*
2. *We praise Thee, we we glorify Thee,
bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, we give thanks to | Thee, for Thy great •glory•*



3. *O Lord God, heav'n- ly King, God, the Fa- ther Al-__ •mighty,•*
4. *O Lord, the only- O Lord God,
begotten Son, Je- sus Christ; Lamb of God, . . . Son__ of the •Father,•*



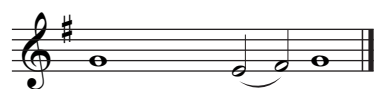
5. *That takest away the . . sin •of the• world, have mercy up - - - - - on__ us.*
6. *Thou that takest away the sin •of the• world, re - - - - - ceive our •prayer•*
7. *Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the •Father,• have mercy up - - - - - on__ us.*



8. *For Thou •only• art •holy• Thou on - - - ly art the Lord.*
9. *Thou, only, O art most
Christ, with the . . . Ho - - - ly Ghost; high in the | •glory• of God the •Father,• A-men.*

Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for Holy Thursday: *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.*



[Be Seated]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading..... Jeremiah 31:31-34

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle of the Day Hebrews 10:15-25

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

[Rise] **Tract**



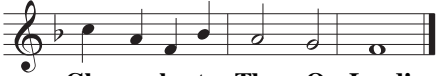
[Deacon] *Having loved his own who were | in the world, || he | •loved• them to the | end.*

All: **He entered once for all into the holy places by means of | his own blood, || thus securing an e- | •ternal• re- demp-__ | tion. || Therefore he is the mediator of a new | cov- e- nant, || so that those who are called may receive the promised e- | •ternal• in- her- i- | tance.**

Holy Gospel St. Luke 22:7-20

[The Gospel is announced.]

[The Gospel is proclaimed.]



Glo- ry be to Thee, O Lord!



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Confession of Faith (The 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

[Bow] **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 worshipped 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!

[Be Seated]

Hymn of the Day O Lord We Praise Thee Burgundy Hymn 617

Sermon

[Rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: [After each petition]:..., **Lord, in Your mercy: Hear our prayer.**

[After the final prayer]:..., **one God, now and forever Amen.**

[Be Seated] Offerings

Choral Voluntary If Ye Love Me T. Tallis

[Rise] Offertory Hymn Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres- ence, and
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of
Thy sal-va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

And with thy spir - it.

We lift them up un-to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for Passiontide, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho - san-na Ho - san-na, Ho -
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that
com-eth in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho-san-na in the highest.

[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for-

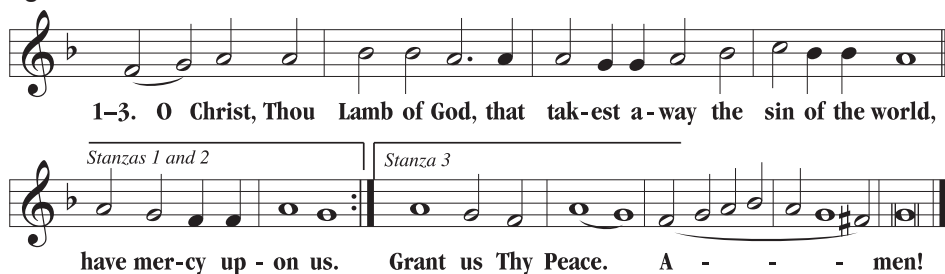


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymn The Death of Jesus Burgundy Hymn 634

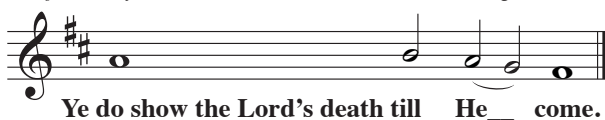
[All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Women alone sing stanzas 3 & 5;
 Men alone sing stanzas 4 & 6; All sing stanzas 7 & 8.]

[Rise] Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post Communion Rite

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:



Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



The Stripping of the Altar:

A Meditation on the Humiliation, Suffering and Death of Our Lord

[We remain standing; the altar is stripped for Good Friday; the candles are extinguished]

[The Eucharistic candles are extinguished.]

A. The Suffering - Psalm 22:1-10

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distresses? O my God, I cry in the daytime but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest. Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel. Our forefathers put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.

[The first candles are extinguished.]

They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame. But as for me, I am a worm and no man, scorned by all and despised by the people. All who see

me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads saying: "He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, if he delights in him."

[The second candles are extinguished.]

Yet you are he who took me out of the womb and kept me safe upon my mother's breast. I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

B. The Crucifixion - Psalm 22:11-20

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

[The third candles are extinguished.]

They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion. I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax. My mouth is dried out like a pot-herd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of the grave. Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me. They pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.

[The fourth candles are extinguished.]

They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing. Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength, hasten to help me. Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog. Save me from the lion's mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

[The fifth candles are extinguished.]

C. The Crucifixion - Psalm 22:21-30

I will declare your Name to my brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Praise the Lord, all you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line give glory. For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the Afflicted One; and he has not hid his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

[The sixth candles are extinguished.]

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him; "May your heart live forever!" All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations. To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him. My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's forever. They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

[The seventh candles are extinguished.]

[The congregation departs in devotional silence to reflect upon the Passion of our Lord.]

The Triduum recesses until tomorrow evening, Good Friday, at 7:00 pm

You may also choose to come to Redeemer Lutheran Church for one or more hours of the Tre Ore service tomorrow, 12 noon to 3 pm.

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Psalm Tone for Introit and Tract: from The Anglican Chant Psalter, copyright © 1987 by The Church Hymnal Corporation; used by permission.

Readings for Holy Thursday

The Old Testament Reading is Jeremiah 31:31-34

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

The Epistle is Hebrews 10:15-25

The Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

“This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws on their hearts,
and write them on their minds,”

then he adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

The Gospel is Luke 22:7-20

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."

Hymns for Holy Thursday

LSB617 O Lord We Praise Thee German, 14th cent., st. 1; Martin Luther, sts. 2-3

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1. O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary
That our sins and sorrow did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear and need: O Lord, have mercy!
2. Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!
3. May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blessed Communion! O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heavenly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

LSB634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

Haquin Spiegel

1. The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress, Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.
2. He blotted out with His own blood The judgment that against us stood;
For us He full atonement made, And all our debt He fully paid.
- W 3. That this forever true shall be He gives a solemn guarantee:
In this His holy Supper here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
- M 4. His Word proclaims and we believe That in this Supper we receive
His very body, as He said, His very blood for sinners shed.

- W 5. We dare not ask how this can be, But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins; “Given and shed for all your sins.”
- M 6. They who this word do not believe This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—May we this warning keep in mind!
7. But blest is each believing guest Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain With all who here His grace obtain.
8. Help us sincerely to believe That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest. Amen! They who believe are blest.



What Doctor Luther Says:

About the New Covenant of the Gospel of Christ

[T]he best thing in this prophecy—that which the Jews will neither see nor heed—is that God promises to create something new in the land, to make a new covenant unlike the old covenant of Moses that they dream about. This is plain from Jeremiah 31[:31-32] and from many more passages. No longer are there to be two kingdoms but one kingdom, under their King David who is to come; and his shall be an everlasting kingdom, even in that same physical land.

This, too, has been fulfilled. For when Christ came and found the people of both Israel and Judah gathered again out of all lands so that the country was full, he started something new: he established the promised new covenant. He did this not at a spiritual place, or at some other physical place, but exactly in that same physical land of Canaan, and at that same physical Jerusalem—as had been promised—to which they had been brought back out of all lands.

And although the Jews did not want this covenant—or at least not many of them would accept it—it has, nevertheless, remained an everlasting covenant, and not only at Jerusalem and in that land. It has broken forth from there into all the four corners of the world, and remains to the present day, both at Jerusalem and everywhere. For the place, Jerusalem, is still there, and Christ is Lord and King there as he is in all the world. He helps and hears all who are there or who come there, as he does those in all the world. ... Christ is and remains Lord over all.

Luther's Works, 35:287.