



# Holy Thursday

March 28, 2024 + 7:00 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church & School  
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## The Triduum

The service for Holy Thursday is the first service in the celebration of the holy three days of Christ's Passover, commonly known as the TRIDUUM (*Latin for "three days"*). It *culminates* the Lenten period of preparation for Christ's Passion and Resurrection and *leads into* His sacrifice on our behalf. As such, this service, like that for Good Friday, exhibits a mood of restrained joy. Usually it consists of four parts, but due to our present situation we will not be able to participate in the Service of the Sacrament or the Stripping of the Altar. Therefore, the service has been adapted to include the following:

- + CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO signals the end of the Lenten preparations with the absolution and peace of Christ that stand at the center of the Three Days.
- + THE SERVICE OF THE WORD focuses on Christ's humble service to His disciples and to us as He establishes His last will and testament, a provision enacted by His death on the Cross.

This service begins our journey through the three days of Christ's Passover from death to life and from captivity to freedom.

*Gathering in silence, we reflect on God's Word to prepare for confession and absolution. Those at home are invited to use the "Self-Examination Questions based on the Holy Ten Commandments" which you can download from [zionkearney.com/resources/sermons](http://zionkearney.com/resources/sermons).*

+ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO +

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** I will go to the altar of God,

**C** to God my exceeding joy.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Sit*

## CONFESSIONAL ADDRESS

**P** During this Lenten season, we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving one another. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, 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. For our benefit, He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the New Testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by

washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one Body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also, we, being many, are one Body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word but also in deed and in truth.

May the Almighty and Merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

*Please Stand*

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C 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** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C Yes.**

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe. 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.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Exodus 24:3-11*

**P** A reading from Exodus, the twenty-fourth chapter.

<sup>3</sup> Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. <sup>6</sup> And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. <sup>7</sup> Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." <sup>8</sup> And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

<sup>9</sup> Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> And He did not lay His hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God and ate and drank.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

<sup>12</sup> What shall I render | to the LORD\*  
 for all His bene- | fits to me?  
<sup>13</sup> I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation\*  
 and call on the name | of the LORD,  
<sup>14</sup> I will pay my vows | to the LORD\*  
 in the presence of all His | people.  
<sup>15</sup> Precious in the sight | of the LORD\*  
 is the death | of His saints.

<sup>16</sup> O LORD, I am Your | servant;\*  
 I am Your servant, the son of your maidservant.  
 You have | loosed my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\*  
 and call on the name | of the LORD.

<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!  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

## EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 10:16–17*

**P** A reading from First Corinthians, the tenth chapter.

<sup>16</sup> The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup> Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE FOR HOLY THURSDAY

*John 13:1b*

**C** **Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.**

*Stand*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus'] disciples said to Him, "Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?" <sup>13</sup> And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, <sup>14</sup> and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is My guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?' <sup>15</sup> And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." <sup>16</sup> And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>17</sup> And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. <sup>18</sup> And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me." <sup>19</sup> They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, "Is it I?" <sup>20</sup> He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. <sup>21</sup> For 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>22</sup> And as they were eating, He took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is My body." <sup>23</sup> And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. <sup>24</sup> And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. <sup>25</sup> Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup> And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

HYMN 628

"Your Table I Approach"

SERMON

*Stand*

**☩ 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 OF THE CHURCH



## SHARING THE PEACE

*Following the prayers, you may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you". Shaking hands is not required unless one is comfortable doing so. Please respect your neighbor's needs.*

*Sit*

## CONSECRATION OF THE OFFERING

*After the peace please be seated. The altar is set for the Lord's Supper and the offering is consecrated. As you prepare to receive the sacrament you may use the prayers in the front of the hymnal or meditate on a communion hymn.*

ADULT CHOIR ~ "Truly Present, Christ is With Us," by Richard Gieseke

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY

*LSB, p. 159*

- C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

## PREFACE

*LSB, p. 160*

- 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 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 on this night long ago established His Supper, that life-giving food and drink that now this night and throughout our lives nourishes us in body and soul. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

*LSB, p. 161*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

*LSB, p. 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*LSB, p. 162*

**P** 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

*LSB, p. 163*

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

- 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.

*Sit*

DISTRIBUTION (*Please follow the directions printed above.*)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” (LSB 631)

“When You Woke That Thursday Morning” (LSB 445)

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness” (LSB 636)

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

*Due to the unified nature of the services of the **TRIDUUM**, the **BENEDICTION** is omitted this evening. It is spoken on Easter Sunday to conclude all the services of the Three Days.*

## Stripping of the Altar

*The candles are extinguished, and we pray Psalm 22, which our Lord prayed from the cross. All items are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared. This reminds us of how our Lord endured being forsaken by the Father while suffering and dying on the cross, which remains our focus during the solemn services of Good Friday. As we pray the Psalm and observe this rite, ponder anew all that Jesus has done for you and your salvation because of His great love for you.*

*Pastor prays the odd verses and the congregation prays the even verses.*

### Psalm 22

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

**<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.**

*<sup>3</sup>Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel.*

**<sup>4</sup>In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.**

*<sup>5</sup>They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.*

**<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people.**

(Pause)

*<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:*

**<sup>8</sup>"He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."**

*<sup>9</sup>Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.*

**<sup>10</sup>From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother's womb you have been my God.**

*<sup>11</sup>Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.*

**<sup>12</sup>Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.**

(Pause)

*<sup>13</sup>Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.*

**<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.**

*<sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.*

**<sup>16</sup>Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet.**

*<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me.*

**<sup>18</sup>They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.**

**(Pause)**

*<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.*

**<sup>20</sup>Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.**

*<sup>21</sup>Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.*

**<sup>22</sup>I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you.**

*<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!*

**<sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.**

**(Pause)**

*<sup>25</sup>From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you will I fulfill my vows.*

**<sup>26</sup>The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the LORD will praise him-- may your hearts live forever!**

*<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,*

**<sup>28</sup>for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations.**

*<sup>29</sup>All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him -- those who cannot keep themselves alive.*

**<sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.**

*<sup>31</sup>They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn-- for he has done it.*

**+ At the conclusion of the Stripping of the Altar, please take a moment of silence, pondering what Jesus has done for you by His death and resurrection.**

**Acknowledgments**

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