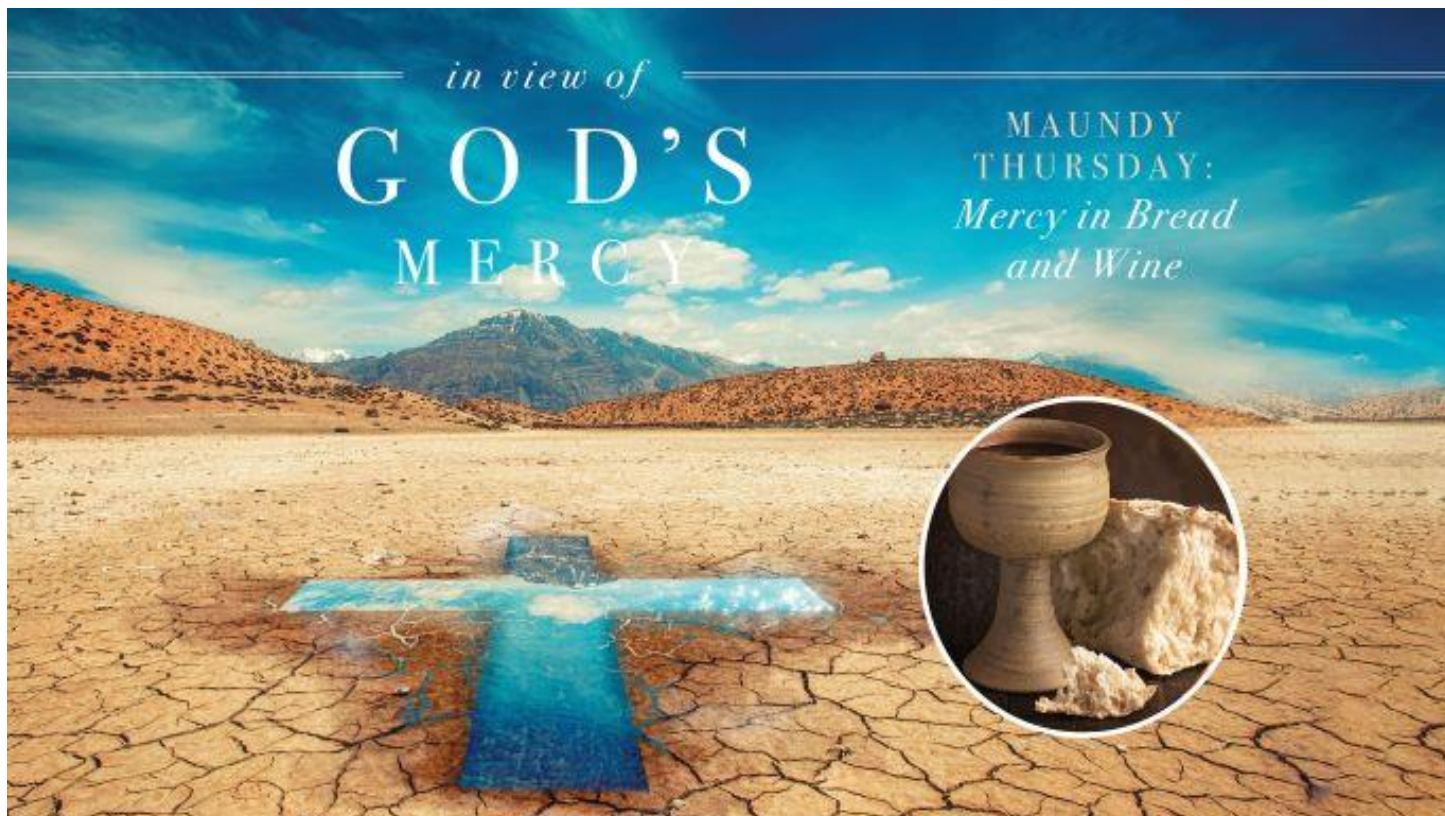


Maundy Thursday
April 6, 2023



*For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
-1 Corinthians 11:26*

Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)
10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134

"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others"

Bold print is congregational responses

**Indicates when to stand*

Worship 7:00 p.m.

***Call to Worship**

P The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Amen.

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters.

Come to the feast of the Lord.

He who has no money, come, buy and eat without price.

Come to the feast of the Lord.

Listen diligently to me, says the Lord; eat what is good and delight yourselves in rich food.

Come to the feast of the Lord.

Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live.

Come to the feast of the Lord.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant.

Come to the feast of the Lord.

This is my body which is for you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Come to the feast of the Lord.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Amen.

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P On the night in which he was betrayed Jesus took bread and wine and gave it to his disciples as the meal of the New Covenant. Tonight as we prepare to receive the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper, we confess that we have betrayed our Lord by our sinful thoughts, words and deeds. We repent of that sin, and we seek God's mercy to forgive our iniquity.

Most merciful God, we are not worthy to receive you. We are sinful and unclean. We have disobeyed your Word and disregarded your will for us. We ask you not to remember our evil but instead to forgive our transgression. For the sake of Jesus Christ, who sacrificed his body and blood for our salvation, pardon us and restore us in righteousness. Renew us so that we walk in obedience to your Word, to the glory of your holy name.

We cry to you for mercy!

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, God's mercy is greater.)

Hear the good news! God's Word declares: "the blood of Jesus Christ God's Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you. For Christ's sake God forgives you all your sins and gives you his righteousness, making you holy in his sight. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.

Amen.

***Hymn: "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"**

LBW #225

1. Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray that we may
2. Give us, who share this won - drous food, your body bro -
3. One bread, one cup, one bo - dy, we, re - joic - ing
4. Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us

feast on you to - day; Be - neath these forms of bread and
ken and your blood, The grate - ful peace of sins for - giv'n,
in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim your love un - til you
stead - fast till that day When each will be your wel - comed

wine en - rich us with your grace — di - vine.
the cer - tain joys of heirs of — heav - 'n.
come to bring your scat - tered and loved — ones home.
guest in heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932
Music: GRACE CHURCH, Ignaz J. Pleyel, 1757–1831
*Verses 2 and 3 are re-written by David Peter's "In View of God's Mercy"/Creative Communications 2022

***Prayer of the Day**

L Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, in the Upper Room you left us a memorial of your passion in a wonderful meal of forgiveness and life. Grant that we may share in this sacred supper of your body and blood so that your redeeming work may continue to abide in us.

In view of your mercy, form us by your Spirit to remember him who comes to us in the bread and wine. We pray these things in the holy name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading *Exodus 16:4-5*

L Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

L 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, 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." 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." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God

Please stand.

***Gospel Acclamation**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

***Gospel Reading** *Matthew 26:17-35*

P The holy gospel according to Matthew, chapter 26

Glory to you, O Lord,

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from 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 never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Becky Sells

Hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW #471

Please stand.

***Prayers**

L Loving Lord Jesus, we approach your table of grace today as unworthy guests.

Lord, have mercy.

You invite us to eat the bread and drink the wine of salvation.

Lord, have mercy.

You invite us to receive your body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of our sin.

Lord, have mercy.

You invite us to do this in remembrance of you, as we appropriate the fruit of your sacrificial death.

Lord, have mercy.

You invite us to proclaim your death by partaking in this covenant meal of grace.

Lord, have mercy.

In view of your mercy, move us by your Spirit to recognize your presence and receive in true faith the benefits of this meal—the forgiveness of sin, eternal life and the gift of salvation.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Give us this day your holy bread to forgive us our trespasses and deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Offering

L We are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth.

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or may be given electronically at www.lord-of-love.org. Children may put their offerings in the noise jar up front.

Offering Hymn “*For the Bread Which You Have Broken*”

ELW #494

***Offertory Prayer**

P Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

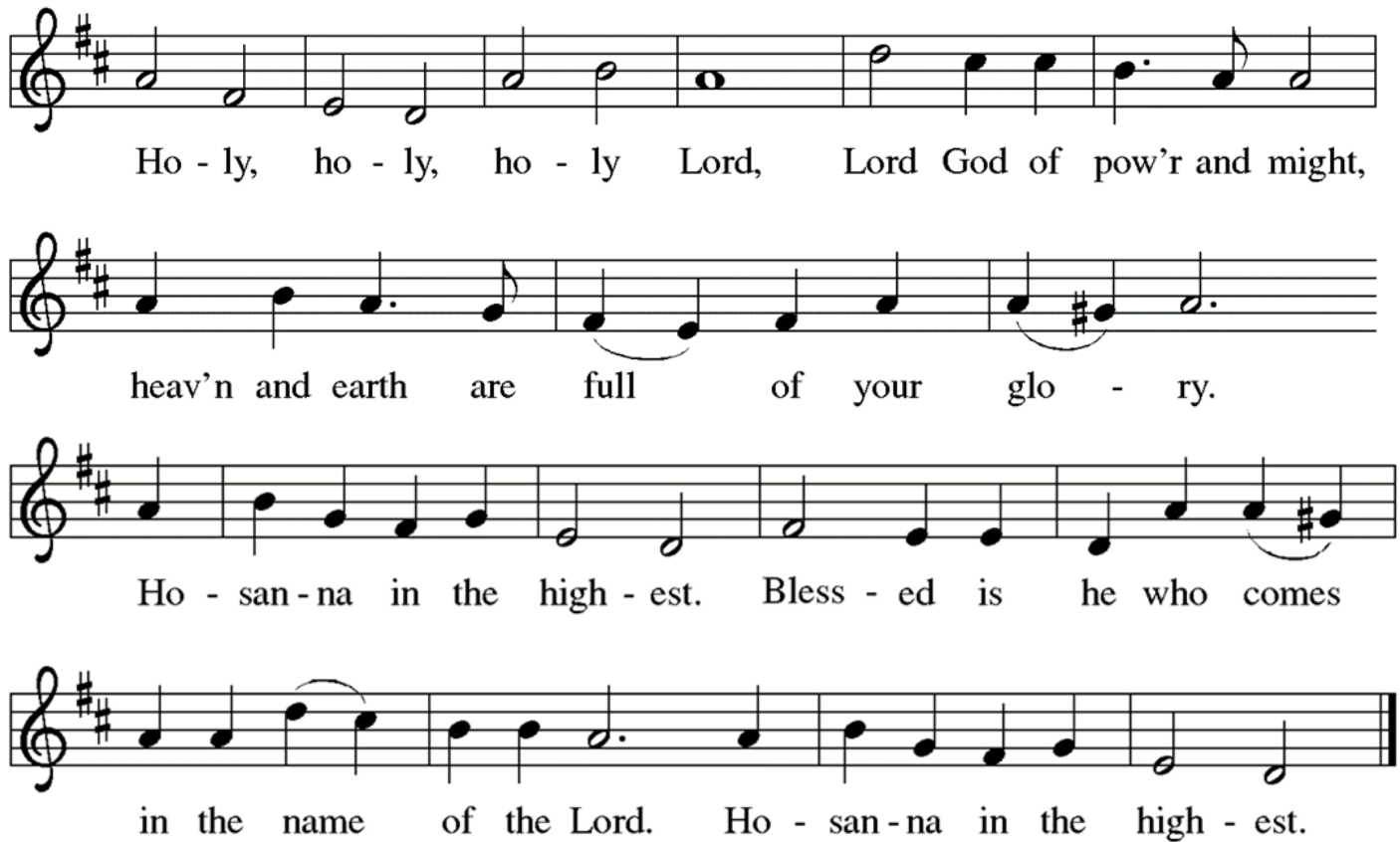
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Words of Institution**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

Invitation to Communion

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed. All are welcome!

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Received/Distribution Music

Prayer after Communion

P Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn “*Go to Dark Gethsemane*”

ELW #347, v. 1-3 only

The stripping of the altar happens during this hymn.

Please be seated.

Maundy Thursday Gospel Continuation *Matthew 26:36-56*

P Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

No blessing, dismissal, or postlude to end this service. Tonight, we leave in darkness and silence just as Jesus disciples left him.

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2023 Holy Week
“In View of God’s Mercy”

Lent is a season when we take a look at our lives in view of God’s mercy toward us in the sacrifice of his Son for us on the cross. We, in turn, are called by God, especially during this time of repentance and reflection, to be living sacrifices for him, displaying our devotion to him in word and deed. Jesus helps us to see the richness of God’s mercy in his life, death and resurrection. Our Holy Week series is a continuation of our Midweek Lenten series by theology professor David Peter.

Maundy Thursday, April 6th at 7pm “Mercy in Bread and Wine”

Good Friday, April 7th at 7pm..... “Mercy in the Cross”

Good Friday/Saturday Prayer Vigil from 8:30pm-8:30am

-You can sign up for a time in the e-news link

Community Easter Egg Hunt, April 8th at 9am Saturday at 10am

Easter Sunday, April 9th at 9am “Mercy at the Empty Tomb”

*Easter Youth Continental Breakfast offered from 8:15 – 9:00 am
and for 30 minutes after the service (10 – 10:30 am)*