



MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2, 2026 | 10:00 AM AND 7:00 PM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

In the Book of Exodus, Moses asks Pharaoh to let God's people go seven times (Ex 5:1; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3), and Pharaoh finally does it! When he does, God's salvation is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. Israel's Scriptures mention the exodus 125 times! Throughout the book, God reveals who He is through His absence and His presence, through His silence and His speech, through His wrath and His mercy, and through His judgment and His amazing grace. In doing so, the book paints a beautiful portrait of our Savior Jesus.

Maundy Thursday likely receives its unusual title from the Latin *mandatum*, "command." On this night, Jesus says to His disciples, "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" (John 13:34 ESV). We see His love for us most clearly in the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

✠ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 445 *"When You Woke That Thursday Morning"*

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS

2 Corinthians 6:2 NIV; Genesis 3:19; Joel 2:12; Psalm 51:17; John 3:16-17

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Lord says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you."

C But we are dust, and to dust we shall return.

P "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."

C The sacrifice the Lord desires is a broken and contrite heart; it will not be despised. ►

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P “God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 24:1–11*

God confirms His covenant relationship with His people by sharing a meal with Moses and Aaron, Aaron's sons, and seventy elders of the people.

Then [the LORD] said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. ²Moses alone shall come near to the LORD, but the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him.”

³Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules.

And all the people answered with one

voice and said, “All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.” ⁴And 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. ⁵And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD.

⁶And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. ⁷Then 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.” ⁸And 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.”

⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and 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. ¹¹And 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.

EPISTLE *Romans 5:1–11*

The incredible value of each sinner in God’s eyes is shown in the sacrifice of His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ for our salvation.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 26:26–30*

On the night of His betrayal, arrest, and trial, Jesus shares the Passover with His disciples and institutes the Lord’s Supper.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

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

²⁶Now 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.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the

covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I 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.”

³⁰And 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.**

NICENE CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

SERMON HYMN 434 *“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy”*

SERMON *Let My People Go!: “Access!”*

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

Music during the offering:

VOLUNTARY *“Go to Dark Gethsemane” arr. Jeffrey Honoré (7 pm, Handbells)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**



We receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

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.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS | Holy, Holy, Holy *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

Tune: SOUTHWELL ("Lord Jesus, Think on Me")

- C** (sung) **O holy Lord of hosts,
Our loud hosannas cry:
Bring Your almighty pow'r to bear;
Save us, O Lord, we pray.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26*

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So 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.**

PAX DOMINI | Peace of the Lord *John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI | Lamb of God *John 1:29*

Tune: SOUTHWELL (“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”)

C (sung) **O spotless Lamb of God**

Who takes away our sin,

By Your great mercy and Your grace

Wash us without, within.

We believe that in the Lord’s Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord’s Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

VOLUNTARY “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now” arr. Sandra Eithun (7 pm, Handbells)

HYMN 431 “Not All the Blood of Beasts”

HYMN 446 “Jesus, Greatest at the Table”

HYMN 631 “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”

HYMN 436 “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (vv. 1–2)

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

During this solemn act, we prepare our sanctuary and our hearts to remember the death of our Lord.

PSALMODY *Psalm 22 NIV*

- I** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?
- II** *My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest.*
- I** Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises.
- II** *In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.*
- I** To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- II** *But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people.*
- I** All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.
- II** *“He trusts in the Lord,” they say, “let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”*
- I** Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you, even at my mother’s breast. From birth I was cast on you; from my mother’s womb you have been my God.
- II** *Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.*
- I** Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- II** *Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me.*
- I** I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me.
- II** *My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.*
- I** Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet.
- II** *All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me.*
- I** They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.
- II** *But you, Lord, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me.*
- I** Deliver me from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.
- II** *Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.*
- I** I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you. You who fear the Lord, praise him!
- II** *All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!*
- I** For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.
- II** *From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.*
- I** The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him—may your hearts live forever!
- II** *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,*
- I** for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations. ►

- II *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.*
- C **Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!**

The omission of the benediction today indicates our Holy Week worship is not complete until Easter's celebration. The Holy Week story continues tomorrow, Good Friday, at 10 am and 7 pm.

All leave the sanctuary in silence.

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Liturgist*

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Elaina Rankin, *Flute (7:00 pm)*

Owen Wasson, Jonah Virus, *Acolytes (7:00 pm)*



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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