

Given for you . . .

*Maundy
Thursday*



Ascension Lutheran Church
Maundy Thursday ~ April 14, 2022

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23-30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians, (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine, (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament, and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins.

(Grape juice is available for those who not drink alcohol and gluten free wafers are available upon request.)

Due to the solemnity of Maundy Thursday, an offering will not be taken during the worship service. Plates are available in the back of the church should you desire to place an offering.

(P = Pastor, C = Congregation, A = Reader/Assisting)

✠ THEME ✠

RETURN FROM EXILE

“MEAL TO MEAL: THE PASSOVER TO THE LORD’S SUPPER”

AS WE GATHER: This evening, we partake of a meal that the Lord God has prepared with His own hands. It is a holy feast that nourishes our faith and restores our souls. It is a rich feast purchased with the most costly coin, the Son of God. Today, we eat and drink and remember and give humble thanks. Other holy meals have brought us to this feast; all meals provided by the hands of the Holy One. This day, we remember the Passover meal and the blood of the lamb on the doorposts that protected from the angel of death. We remember the day of Passover and the lamb because it points to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. It points us to this holy feast of His body and blood. But there is one more, one greater feast yet to come—the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end. A feast provided by the hands of the Lord God. A feast enjoyed in the presence of the Lamb in the courts of His heaven. A greater feast indeed!

PRELUDE **“Gathered in the Upper Room”** words and music by Patricia Mock/Faye Lopez **Ascension Choir**

*Gathered as the time was drawing near, The Savior spoke to those so dear.
Just a while before He had to go, With tenderness He showed such care.*

*Sitting ‘round the table for a meal, He shared with them the Father’s will.
There, together in the Upper Room, Preparing now for what would come.
“Peace I leave with you, Not as the world would give,
That Your joy may be complete, Forever with Me, with Me Live.”*

*Then the Master washed the feet of men, Not just His servants, but His friends.
“When you take this cup and eat this bread, Remember Me and all I’ve said.
As I love you, love one another, As I serve you, serve each other,
Let your light shine! Let the world see a reflection of My love, My love.”*

*“Peace, My I leave with you, Not as the world would give,
That your joy may be complete, Forever with Me live, with Me live.”
Knowing now the time was drawing near, Gathered in the Upper Room.*

WELCOME

HYMN

“When You Woke That Thursday Morning”

When You woke that Thursday morning,
Savior, teacher, faithful friend,
Thoughts of self and safety scorning,
Knowing how the day would end;
Lamb of God, foretold for ages,
Now at last the hour had come
When but One could pay sin's wages:
You assumed their dreadful sum.

Never so alone and lonely,
Longing with tormented heart
To be with Your dear ones only
For a quiet hour apart:
Sinless Lamb and fallen creature,
One last paschal meal to eat,
One last lesson as their teacher,
Washing Your disciples' feet.

What was there that You could give them
That would never be outspent,
What great gift that would outlive them,
What last will and Testament?
“Show me and the world you love Me,
Know me as the Lamb of God:
Do this in remembrance of Me,
At this body, drink this blood.”

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING RESPONSES

Psalm 43:4; 124:8

P Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come.

He entered once for all into the holy places,

C **by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.**

P Therefore, He is the mediator of a new covenant,

C **so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. It is the meal of the new covenant. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves; but when we do, 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 and by His sacrifice for us took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve. By His death, He offers us full and free forgiveness.

Let us then confess our sins to our heavenly Father, imploring Him for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C **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.**

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C **Amen.**

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.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord, in this Sacrament You fulfilled and replaced the Passover meal of the old covenant with Your sacrifice once and for all. Grant us the faith to see that we have been rescued and redeemed thereby, and to live as Your people each day, until we celebrate the marriage feast in Your eternal presence; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

✠ THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:1–14 (ESV)

(The Passover is to be observed each year.)

¹ The 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. ³ Tell 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. ⁴ And 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. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ and 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. ⁸ They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰ And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ In 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. ¹² For 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. ¹³ The 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 This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(The Passover with the disciples)

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

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

¹² And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, His disciples said to Him, “Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?” ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ 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?’ ¹⁵ And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us.” ¹⁶ And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷ And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. ¹⁸ 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.” ¹⁹ They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, “Is it I?” ²⁰ He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. ²¹ 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.” ²² 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.” ²³ And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴ And He said to them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ 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.” ²⁶ And 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.**

HYMN

“Not All The Blood Of Beasts”

Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.

But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.

My soul looks back to see
The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursèd tree;
I know my guilt was there.

Believing, we rejoice
To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
And sing His bleeding love.

SERMON
The Passover to the Lord's Supper"

Pastor Jim Sprengle
Mark 14:12–26

NICENE CREED

C 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 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

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our evil way and live. We come before You, although we have sinned and deserve only Your wrath; yet we flee to Your mercy in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who gave His body and His blood for our redemption. Lord, help us always to believe and never waver. Grant that we may worthily come to Your altar to eat the very body and drink the true blood, which Your Son has given for our redemption. In thanksgiving, we remember and proclaim the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we place our trust. Until His return, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**We believe in the real presence of the body
and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.**

Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Jesus instituted, or established the Lord's Supper for us; 1Cor 11:23-26; Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20)

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“Your Table I Approach”

Your table I approach;
Dear Savior hear my prayer.
Oh let no unrepented sin
Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table
Lord, In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place,
This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more
Than what we think could be.

Oh grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

“I Come, O Savior, To Thy Table”

I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole:

REFRAIN

**Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **(refrain)**

Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **(refrain)**

Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **(refrain)**

What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **(refrain)**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

It is the night in which our Savior was betrayed. We remove the appointments of the chancel to symbolize the abuse He received. The candles shine no more as the Light of the World is taken to His death, the books are closed as the Word is silenced for a time, the paraments on the altar are removed as our Lord's body is laid bare, and the altar is left alone for the sacrifice to be remembered tomorrow.

(After the stripping of the altar has been completed, all may leave the church silently. Our Holy Week devotion continues tomorrow on Good Friday at 7:00 PM)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Ascension Lutheran Church

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Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God ‘s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God ‘s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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