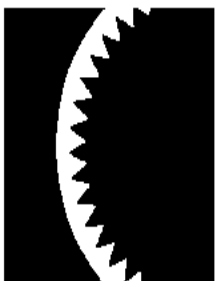


The Three Holy Days of Christendom

Holy Week 2023



The Triduum (TRID-oo-um, “three days”) refers to the time from worship on Maundy Thursday until the final worship of Easter Day. The “Three Holy Days” of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire church year. It is over these days – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter – that we celebrate God’s redeeming love in the dying and rising of his Son, Jesus, and still see that love today. The Triduum is a single celebration. Once we have begun the Triduum on Maundy Thursday, we do not “leave” it until Easter Sunday. It is one continuous celebration of dying and rising, with Christ. Thus this booklet. It contains as one liturgy our corporate worship life during the Three Holy Days of 2023.

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Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran
Synod

*Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we help people
Grow in the Gospel
and
Go with the Gospel*



MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today. Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

Maundy Thursday Worship

April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday ushers the believer into the “Three Holy Days” of Christendom. It is more than history that is celebrated today. The Holy Sacrament extends to the believer the very body and blood of our Savior and gives the forgiveness of sins.



M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

To underscore the end of the Lenten time of preparation, the sermon is placed at the beginning of the service. When placed here, the proclamation of the “new command” in the sermon provides (both by its placement and content) a powerful preamble to the Instruction for the End of Lent and the confession that follows.

Sermon

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

INSTRUCTION FOR THE END OF LENT

M: In this Lenten season, we have heard our Lord’s call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil – all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at baptism; God’s forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

With the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the Absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God’s love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ’s body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord’s last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord’s gift of himself and participate in that new covenant that makes us one in him. The Lord’s Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Stand

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. In what I have done and left undone, I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.

I am truly sorry for my sins.

I repent of them.

I beg for your mercy, O Lord.

Silence for meditation

M: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

C: Cleanse me from my sins.

Release me from my guilt.

Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

M: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake he forgives us our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Our Lord, who has forgiven us and reconciled us to God through Christ our Lord, has also promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Therefore, let us be reconciled with one another and extend to each other the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Brothers and sisters, I forgive you just as in Christ, God has forgiven me. May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

THE WORD

First Lesson

Exodus 12:1-14

¹² The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ² “This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵ The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷ Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. ⁸ That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ⁹ Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. ¹⁰ Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. ¹¹ This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD’s Passover.

¹² “On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.

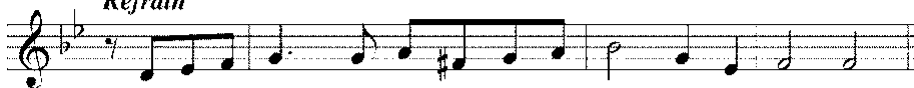
¹³ The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

¹⁴ “This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 115 (CWS)

Refrain



Not un - to us, O Lord, but to your name be the glo - ry.

Psalm Tone



Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us but to your name be the glory,
because of your love and faithfulness.

Why do the nations say, “Where is their God?”

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.

The LORD remembers us and will bless us:

He will bless the house of Israel,

he will bless those who fear the LORD—
small and great alike.

Refrain

May the LORD make you increase,
both you and your children.
May you be blessed by the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

The highest heavens belong to the LORD,
but the earth he has given to man.
It is not the dead who praise the LORD,
it is we who extol the LORD, both now and forevermore.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

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

Stand

Gospel

John 13:1-15,34

¹³ It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸ “No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.”

Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.”

⁹ “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”

¹⁰ Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. ¹³ “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior CW 313



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way
2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre -
3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; Take heed how
4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion If sal - va -



God's wrath for - ev - er; By his bit - ter grief and
cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives his bod - y with the
you are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be -
tion you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup -



woe He saved us from the e - vil foe.
bread And with the wine the blood he shed.
lieve, Judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.
pose You need not him who died and rose.

Offering

Musical Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the president of our synod, for the president of our district, for all pastors and teachers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For those who do not yet believe and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For a blessing on human labor and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart and show forth your glory in all we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For ourselves, for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our lives to Christ our God.

C: Amen.

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The Lord's Prayer

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Words of Institution

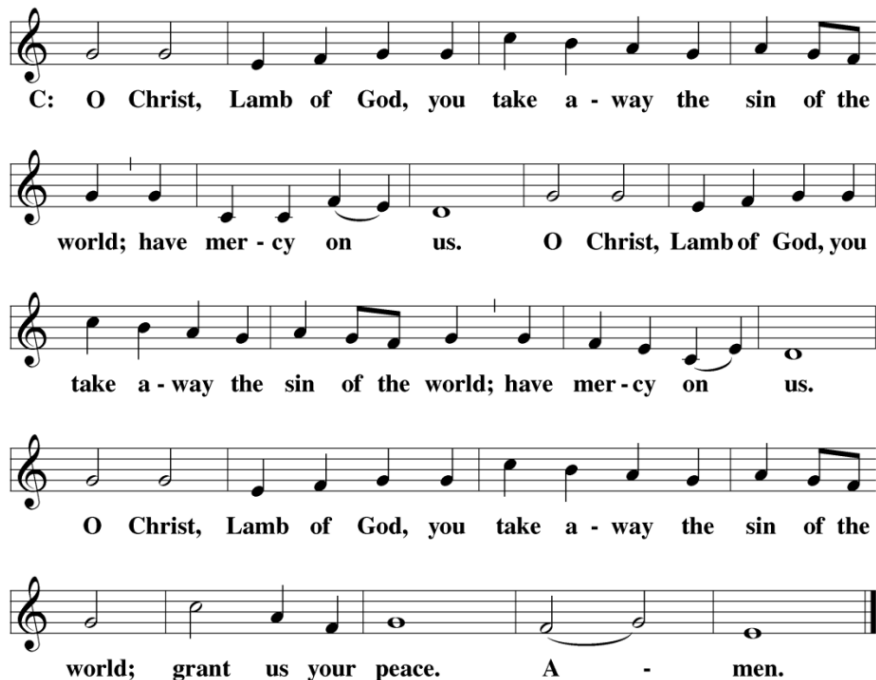
M: Our Lord Jesus, Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - - men.

Be seated

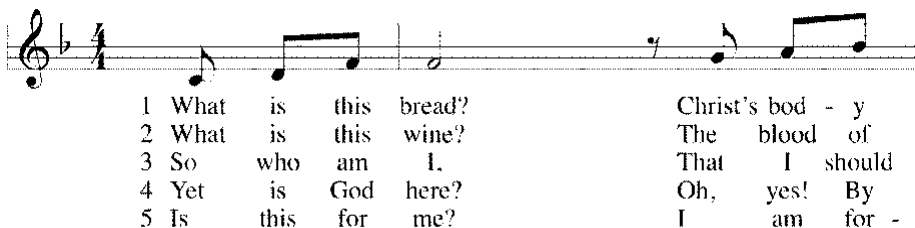
Distribution Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Hymns

In This Holy, Blest Communion Junior Choir (11:00 a.m.)

How Beautiful Choir (7:00 p.m.)

What Is This Bread? CWS 742

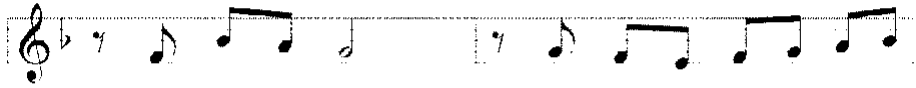


1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod	-	y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood	of	
3	So	who	am	I.	That	I	should	
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes!	By	
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am	for	-



ris - en from the dead;
 Je - sus shed for mine;
 live and he should die.
 Word and prom - ise clear,
 giv - en and set free!

This bread we break.
 The cup of grace
 Un - der the rod?
 In mouth and soul
 I do be - lieve



This life we take
 Brings his em - brace
 My God, my God,
 He makes us whole—
 That I re - ceive

Was crushed to pay for our re -
 Of life and love un - til I
 Why have you not for - sak - en
 Christ, tru - ly pre - sent in this
 His ver - y bod - y and his



lease. Oh, taste and see—
 sing! Oh, taste and see—
 me? Oh, taste and see—
 meal. Oh, taste and see—
 blood. Oh, taste and see—

the Lord is peace,
 the Lord is King,
 the Lord is free,
 the Lord is real,
 the Lord is good.

This hymn nicely summarizes Martin Luther's fine discussion on the institution and blessings of Holy Communion as outlined in his Small Catechism.

Text: Frederic W. Baue, b. 1946 © 1991, 1998 Fred and Jean Baue. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: PREPARATION (48 44 88) Jean Neuhauser Baue, b. 1951 © 1991, 1998 Fred and Jean Baue. All rights reserved.
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THANKSGIVING

Stand

O Lord, We Praise You



I O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, In thanks-



giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your bod - y

and your blood you nourish Our weak souls that they may
 flourish. O Lord, have mercy! May your bod - y,
 Lord, born of Mar - y, That our sins and sor - rows
 did car - ry, And your blood for us plead In all
 tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: German folk hymn, 15th century, st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, st. 2-3; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET (PM) *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The post-Communion moves liturgically from the upper room in Jerusalem to Gethsemane's Garden in preparation for Good Friday. The altar, which represents the presence of Christ, becomes the focus. After the Communion table has been cleared to the sacristy, the altar is solemnly stripped of its vestments and appointments in token of the abandonment of Jesus in Gethsemane. The liturgy ends in silence; the congregation hears no benediction . . . yet. Rather, the Three Holy Days' services flow into one another as the congregation disperses in silence to reassemble on Good Friday.

Hymn

What Wondrous Love is This CW 120

During the hymn the Communion vessels and linens are removed to sacristy



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul! What won - drous love is this, O my soul!
down, When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down,
sing; To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.



What won-drous love is this That caused the Lord of
When I was sink - ing down Be - neath God's right - eous
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for



bliss To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
Am, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: *A General Selection of . . . Spiritual Songs*, Lynchburg, 1811, alt.

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE (12 9 66 12 9) *Southern Harmony*, New Haven, 1835.

Psalm 22

During the psalm the altar is solemnly stripped. Psalm 22 leads us into the worship of Good Friday, where we see our Savior forsaken on the cross.

Refrain



Psalm tone



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

Why are you so far from saving me?

I am a worm and not a man,*
scorned by men and despised by the people.

All who see me mock me;*
they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

“He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him.*
Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”

Refrain

My strength is dried up, and my tongue sticks
to the roof of my mouth;*
you lay me in the dust of death.

A band of evil men has encircled me,*
they have pierced my hands and my feet.

They divide my garments among them*
and cast lots for my clothing.

But you, O LORD, be not far off;*
O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Psalm ends, the pastor exits the chancel, and the congregation disperses quietly into the night. The service concludes with no blessing or postlude because Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter are one continuous service of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection.

If possible, please return the service folder to the stands by the doors in the rear of church as you leave. They will be used Friday through Sunday and may be taken home Sunday.

The Three Holy Days Worship continues on Good Friday. *Seven Words* worship will be at 11:00 a.m. *Tenebrae* worship will be at 7:00 p.m. Both services will have communion.

Good Friday Worship: Service of Seven Words

April 7, 2023

The Three Holy Days of Christendom continue on Good Friday with a service that focuses our attention on the words Christ spoke while on the cross. In these words we see the depth of our Savior's suffering as well as the depth of his love for us.



The minister enters in silence.

Stand

Rite of Nails and Cross

This year we will use a visual to help us contemplate the love of Jesus on the cross. All who wish to do so will be invited to come forward and place a nail in the cross on the main floor of church. The nail has a red ribbon attached to remind us that it was our sins that caused Jesus to shed his blood. This truth pains us. This truth causes us joy because Jesus' life and death is the sacrifice that paid for the guilt of our sins and the sins of the whole world.

M: The cross is a confusion for us.

C: There is mystery in the cross.

M: The cross is a paradox which we do not understand.

C: There is mystery in the cross.

M: We see the weakness of a dying man on the cross:

C: Yet we acknowledge the power of the living Lord upon the cross.

M: We see the life of Jesus draining out of him on the cross:

C: Yet we acknowledge the reconciliation of the world through it.

M: We see a servant on the cross:

C: Yet we acknowledge him as Lord.

M: There is mystery in the cross:

C: And great joy.

M: The cross is a confusion for us.

C: And life and peace and hope.

M: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless your saving name:

C: Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world. Amen.

If you wish to place a nail in the cross please come up the middle aisle and return to your seat down the outside aisle. There are holes in the cross in which you may place your nail. As you take a nail from the tray the minister will speak the words, "Pierced for you."

Hymn (congregation)

As The Nails by Ben Ott

1. As the nails the soldiers struck
Held my Lord upon the tree
Satan surely ran amuck
Thinking he had victory
While the world in darkness fell
Sorrow that words can not tell
2. It was me and my own sin
That caused Christ my Lord to die
It was all my thoughts within
That were focused all on "I"
All the times I broke His laws
All my dark and hidden flaws
3. It was love not sin or nails
That held Christ upon the tree
Love that for us never fails
Matchless love that set us free
Love to us by Spirit given
Bids our fears away be driven
4. When I look upon the cross
Where the world sees pain and loss
I see life and hope and love
From our Father up above
Who sent Christ His only Son
To make right what I have done

Lesson

Isaiah 53

M: Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

C: He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

M: He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

C: Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

M: But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

C: We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

M: He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

C: By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

M: He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

C: Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

M: After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied ; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

C: Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Be seated

Prayer for Good Friday

M: God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

First Word

Luke 23:26-34

Congregational Response:

CW 139:1

Jesus, in your dying woes, Even while your life-blood flows,
Craving pardon for your foes: Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, touch us with your hands
which the sins of the world pierced with the nails,
and forgive our ignorance,
for Lord, we knew not, indeed we know not
what we did in sinning against you.
Teach us to forgive and to bless, O Lord,
for your endless mercies' sake.**

Second Word

Luke 23:38-43

Congregational Response:

CW 139:2

Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief who near you dies,
Promising him paradise: Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, look on us with your eyes
as you looked upon the thief on the cross,
that with him we may confess our sins and ask, humbly,
'Lord remember us when you come into your kingdom,'
and by your same voice be comforted,
for your endless mercies' sake.**

Third Word

John 19:25-27

Congregational Response:

CW 139:3

Jesus, loving to the end Her whose heart your sorrows rend,
And your dearest human friend: Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, fill us with your love
as in your pain you did comfort your mother, and provide for her need,
and gave her both home and son.
To such love, without compare, without limit,
lead us, O Lord, now and forever.**

Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45-49

Congregational Response:

CW 139:4

Jesus, plunged in depths unknown With our evil foe alone,
While no light from heav'n is shown: Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, fill us with your faith
since in your last agony you cried to your Father,
'My God, my God.'
That no suffering, no shadow of doubt may darken our trust in God,
nor separate us from your Father and ours, now or ever.**

Fifth Word

John 19:28,29

Congregational Response:

CW 139:5

Jesus, in your thirst and pain, While your wounds the lifeblood drain,
Thus fulfilling Scripture's plan: Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, lead us to see your thirst
as you suffered in your humanity,
that we might drink from you and never thirst again,
but live in your Father's house forever,
for your tender mercies' sake.**

Sixth Word

John 19:30

Congregational Response:

Hymn 139:6

Jesus, all our ransom paid, All your Father's will obeyed,
By your sufferings perfect made; Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, give us your strength
as you resolved to do your Father's work and finish it.
That morning and evening we live in hope,**

knowing that your great work for us is completed,
to the glory of your holy name.

Seventh Word

Luke 23:33-46

Congregational Response:

Hymn 139:7

Jesus, all your labor vast, All your woe and conflict past,
Yielding up your soul at last; Hear us, holy Jesus!

Prayer (in unison)

**O Lord Jesus Christ, give us your trust,
unquestioning, complete as on the cross,
you committed your spirit to your Father.
That whatever may happen, we may rest
in the same everlasting arms,
for your endless mercies' sake. Amen.**

Offering

Confession of Sins

M: Lord God, Heavenly Father, we acknowledge the immensity of our guilt. We can offer you nothing to remove these sins. We are unworthy of all your grace. Yet in your grace we have confidence. Through the life and death of Jesus Christ we cry out to you in the full assurance of faith,

C: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God has had mercy on you, on me, and on the entire world. Jesus' holiness is ours by faith. His death was the punishment for all sin. In Christ, you are a forgiven child of God.

C: Amen.

Words of Institution

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Distribution Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Solo *It Is Done*

Hymn

God Was There on Calvary CW 140



1 God was there on Cal - va - ry, God the
2 All the world on Cal - va - ry, Cru - ci -
3 Sin was there on Cal - va - ry, All the
4 Love was there on Cal - va - ry, Stream - ing
5 Life was there on Cal - va - ry, Flow - ing



Fa - ther's on - ly Son, Dy - ing that the
fied the Prince of life, Pierced the hands of
sins of ev - 'ry - one, Laid up - on God's
from the heart of God, Reach - ing out for
from his wound - ed side, Spent that death it -



world might live, There on Cal - va - ry.
God's own Son, There on Cal - va - ry.
sin - less Lamb There on Cal - va - ry.
ev - 'ry - one There on Cal - va - ry.
self might die There on Cal - va - ry.

6 We were there on Calvary;
We were pardoned, saved, set free,
Saved to live eternally—
Blessed Calvary!

Text: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: GOD WAS THERE ON CALVARY (77 75) Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved.
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Bidding Prayer

The invitations to prayer may be said by an assisting minister or layperson, and the petitions may be said by the presiding minister. If there is no assisting minister, the presiding minister says both the invitations to prayer and the petitions.

A moment of silence follows each invitation to prayer.

M: Let us pray for the whole church, that our gracious Father would defend her from the devil and keep her faithful to her Lord:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your saving name to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Protect us from assaults of the evil one, and help us remain faithful to your Word so that, in every adversity, we may stand firm in our faith and give ourselves fully to our Savior's work, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray for those who serve in the public ministry and for all people of God:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you rule over all things for the good of your people. Preserve us from divisive spirits and false teachers. Give your servants the grace to proclaim Christ joyfully in word and deed so that all who hear them may come to know their Savior better and be strengthened for their lives of service, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray for those who are being instructed in the Word that they remain firm in the simple faith of Baptism:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you make us your own dear children by the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Give strength to all who are buried with Christ in Baptism that each day they may die to sin and rise again to live a new and holy life, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray for our earthly government, our rulers, and all who are in authority:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you have established earthly government to keep a measure of order in this dying world and to protect us from the disorder of sin. Give to all rulers the wisdom to govern well and to all citizens the desire to obey them, so that we may live peaceful lives in all godliness and holiness, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray that our gracious Father would protect us and our communities from the many earthly calamities that threaten us:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, on all sides we are surrounded by danger from wars and famine, from disease and pestilence, with the devil begrudging us every minute of our lives. Protect us from all these miseries so that your name may still

be glorified in them and so that we may safely pass through them to your heavenly kingdom, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray for those who are outside the Church, that they may come to know the one, true God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, your Son was lifted up on the cross so that he might draw all people to himself. Through the proclamation of your Word, mercifully gather from the nations a people that are your very own, that we may join together around your throne in glory to praise and thank you forever, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray for our enemies and for all those who hate us:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, no one can harm us without grieving you whose name we bear. We ask that you would change the hearts of those who work against us and who hate us without reason. Give them repentance and life so that they may be glad with us and find joy in your love, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us pray for all who suffer under cross and trial:

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our grief and to carry our sorrows. Help those who are suffering for your name's sake and who are struggling against temptation so that they may not be overwhelmed with sadness but find relief in your grace, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask in the words he himself has taught us:

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 minister exits the chancel.

The congregation may remain for prayer and meditation before dispersing quietly.

The service concludes with no blessing or postlude because Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter are one continuous service of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection.

If it is possible and convenient to you, please return the service folder to the stands by the doors in the rear of church as you leave. They will be used Friday evening and Sunday and may be taken home Sunday.

Good Friday Worship continues with Tenebrae worship at 7:00 p.m. Communion will be a part of worship.

The Three Holy Days continues with the Easter Vigil Service on Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Easter Festival worship will be at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Communion will be a part of worship at both services.

Good Friday Worship: Tenebrae

April 7, 2023

The word *tenebrae* means “darkness” and refers to a worship service in which the progressive extinguishing of candles represent the approaching death of Christ. The Tenebrae service is one of prolonged meditation of the suffering of Christ. The service is divided into seven chief parts. At the end of each part the sanctuary will become darker. At the end of the service, the church will be very dark. No offering will be taken during the service. As you leave in silence you may place your offering in the basket in the back of the church



Stand

Confession of Sins

Silence for self-examination

M: Lord God, Heavenly Father, we acknowledge the immensity of our guilt. We can offer you nothing to remove these sins. We are unworthy of all your grace. Yet in your grace we have confidence. Through the life and death of Jesus Christ we cry out to you in the full assurance of faith,

C: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God has had mercy on you, on me, and on the entire world. Jesus' holiness is ours by faith. His death was the punishment for all sin. In Christ, you are a forgiven child of God.

C: Amen.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus, Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Distribution Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Hymn

Oh, Darkest Woe CW 137



1 Oh, dark - est woe! O tears, forth flow! Has
 2 Oh, sor - row dread! God's Son is dead! But
 3 Lo, stained with blood, The Lamb of God, The
 4 How blest shall be E - ter - nal - ly Who
 5 O Je - sus blest, My Help and Rest, With



earth so sad a won - der? God the Fa - ther's
 by his ex - pi - a - tion Of our guilt up -
 Bride - groom, lies be - fore you, Pour - ing out his
 oft in faith will pon - der Why the glo - rious
 tears I now en - treat you: Make me love you



on - ly Son Now is bur - ied yon - der.
 on the cross Gained for us sal - va - tion.
 life that he May to life re - store you.
 Prince of life Should be bur - ied yon - der.
 to the last Till in heav'n I greet you.

Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1591–1635, st. 1; Johann Rist, 1607–67, st. 2-5, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1, 3-5, alt.; composite, st. 2.

Tune: O TRAURIGKEIT, O HERZELEID (44 776) *Himmlische Harmony*, Mainz, 1628, alt.

Hymn

138



1 Oh, per - fect life of love! All, all is
 2 No work is left un - done Of all the
 3 No pain that we can share But he has
 4 And on his thorn - crowned head And on his
 5 In per - fect love he dies; For me he



fin - ished now, All that he left his
 Fa - ther willed; His toil, his sor - rows,
 felt its smart; All forms of hu - man
 sin - less soul Our sins in all their
 dies, for me! O all - a - ton - ing



throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.
grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.
guilt were laid That he might make us whole.
Sac - ri - fice, You died to make me free!

6 In ev'ry time of need,
Before the judgment throne,
Your works, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,
Your merits, not my own.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77, abr., alt.
Tune: SOUTHWELL (SM) William Daman, c. 1540–91.

Rite of Nails and Cross

This year we will use a visual to help us contemplate the love of Jesus on the cross. All who wish to do so will be invited to come forward and place a nail in the cross on the main floor of church. The nail has a red ribbon attached to remind us that it was our sins that caused Jesus to shed his blood. This truth pains us. This truth causes us joy because Jesus' life and death is the sacrifice that paid for the guilt of our sins and the sins of the whole world.

M: The cross is a confusion for us.

C: There is mystery in the cross.

M: The cross is a paradox which we do not understand.

C: There is mystery in the cross.

M: We see the weakness of a dying man on the cross:

C: Yet we acknowledge the power of the living Lord upon the cross.

M: We see the life of Jesus draining out of him on the cross:

C: Yet we acknowledge the reconciliation of the world through it.

M: We see a servant on the cross:

C: Yet we acknowledge him as Lord.

M: There is mystery in the cross:

C: And great joy.

M: The cross is a confusion for us.

C: And life and peace and hope.

M: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless your saving name:

C: Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world. Amen.

If you wish to place a nail in the cross please come up the middle aisle and return to your seat down the outside aisle. There are holes in the cross in which you may place your nail. As you take a nail from the tray the minister will speak the words, "Pierced for you."

Hymn (congregation)

As The Nails by Ben Ott

1. As the nails the soldiers struck
Held my Lord upon the tree
Satan surely ran amuck
Thinking he had victory
While the world in darkness fell
Sorrow that words can not tell
2. It was me and my own sin
That caused Christ my Lord to die
It was all my thoughts within
That were focused all on "I"
All the times I broke His laws
All my dark and hidden flaws
3. It was love not sin or nails
That held Christ upon the tree
Love that for us never fails
Matchless love that set us free
Love to us by Spirit given
Bids our fears away be driven
4. When I look upon the cross
Where the world sees pain and loss
I see life and hope and love
From our Father up above
Who sent Christ His only Son
To make right what I have done

The candles are lit.

Stand

Gospel

John 19:17-30

Carrying his own cross, Jesus went out to The Place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

"Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it."

This happened that the Scripture might be fulfilled which said, "They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing." So this is what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Be seated

Psalm 2

Antiphon M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

M: Why do the nations conspire

C: And the peoples plot in vain?

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together

C: Against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

M: "Let us break their chains," they say,

C: "And throw off their fetters."

M: The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

C: The Lord scoffs at them.

M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

C: "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

C: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

M: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance,

C: The ends of the earth your possession.

M: You will rule them with an iron scepter;

C: You will dash them to pieces like pottery."

M: Therefore, you kings, be wise;

C: Be warned, you rulers of the earth.

M: Serve the LORD with fear.

C: And rejoice with trembling.

M: Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a moment.

C: Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

The first candle is extinguished.

Silence for meditation.

Psalm 22:1-21

Antiphon M: They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

M: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

C: **Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?**

M: My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,

C: **By night, and am not silent.**

M: Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;

C: **You are the praise of Israel.**

M: In you our fathers put their trust;

C: **They trusted and you delivered them.**

M: They cried to you and were saved;

C: **In you they trusted and were not disappointed.**

M: But I am a worm and not a man,

C: **Scorned by men and despised by the people.**

M: All who see me mock me;

C: **They hurl insults, shaking their heads:**

M: "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him.

C: **Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."**

M: Yet you brought me out of the womb;

C: **You made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.**

M: From birth I was cast upon you;

C: **From my mother's womb you have been my God.**

M: Do not be far from me,

C: **For trouble is near and there is no one to help.**

M: Many bulls surround me;

C: **Strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.**

M: Roaring lions tearing their prey

C: **Open their mouths wide against me.**

M: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.

C: **My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.**

M: My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

C: You lay me in the dust of death.

M: Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me,

C: They have pierced my hands and my feet.

M: I can count all my bones;

C: People stare and gloat over me.

M: They divide my garments among them

C: And cast lots for my clothing.

M: But you, O LORD, be not far off;

C: O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

M: Deliver my life from the sword,

C: My precious life from the power of the dogs.

M: Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;

C: You have heard me from the horns of the wild oxen.

M: They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

The second candle is extinguished.

Silence for meditation.

Psalm 27

Antiphon M: False witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.

M: The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

C: The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

M: When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh,

C: When my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.

M: Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear;

C: Though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.

M: One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek:

C: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

M: For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling;

C: He will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

M: Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me;

C: At his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

M: Hear my voice when I call, O Lord.

C: Be merciful to me and answer

M: My heart says of you, “Seek his face!”

C: Your face, LORD, I will seek.

M: Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper.

C: Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior.

M: Though my father and mother forsake me,

C: The LORD will receive me.

M: Teach me your way, O LORD;

C: Lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

M: Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,

C: For false witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.

M: I am still confident of this:

C: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

M: Wait for the LORD;

C: Be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

M: False witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.

The third candle is extinguished.

Silence for meditation.

Seek the Lord Isaiah 55:6-11

M: Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty; but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Silence for meditation.

Stand

Hymn

Sing My Tongue, the Glorious Battle CW 122



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle;
2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness
3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished,
4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph,
5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry;



Sing the end - ing of the fray. Now a -
Of th' ap - point - ed time was come, He, the
He went forth from Naz - a - reth, Des - tined,
Be for all the no - blest tree; None in
To the Fa - ther and the Son, To th' e -



bove the cross, the tro - phy, Sound the loud tri -
Word, was born of wom - an, Left for us his
ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing, Did his work and
fo - liage, none in blos - som, None in fruit your
ter - nal Spir - it hon - or Now and ev - er -



um - phant lay. Tell how Christ, the world's Re -
Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of true o -
met his death; Like a lamb he hum - bly
e - qual be, Sym - bol of the world's re -
more be done— Praise and glo - ry in the



deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.
be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.
yield - ed On the cross his dy - ing breath.
demp - tion, For your bur - den makes us free.
high - est While the time - less a - ges run.

Text: Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: FORTUNATUS NEW (87 87 87) Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929. © 1967 Concordia Publishing House.
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Be seated

Lessons

M: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet.

Lamentations 1:1-5

How deserted lies the city, once so full of people!
How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations!
She who was queen among the provinces has now become a slave.
Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are upon her cheeks.
Among all her lovers there is none to comfort her.
All her friends have betrayed her; they have become her enemies.
After affliction and harsh labor, Judah has gone into exile.
She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place.
All who pursue her have overtaken her in the midst of her distress.
The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to her appointed feasts.
All her gateways are desolate, her priests groan,
her maidens grieve, and she is in bitter anguish.
Her foes have become her masters; her enemies are at ease.
The Lord has brought her grief because of her many sins.
Her children have gone into exile, captive before the foe.

M: Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

C: (sung) **Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! (CW 268:1)**

M: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet.

Lamentations 1:6-9

All the splendor has departed from the Daughter of Zion.
Her princes are like deer that find no pasture;
in weakness they have fled before the pursuer.
In the days of her affliction and wandering, Jerusalem remembers all the treasures
that were hers in days of old.
When her people fell into enemy hands there was no one to help her.
Her enemies looked at her and laughed at her destruction.
Jerusalem has sinned greatly and so has become unclean.
All who honored her despise her nakedness;
she herself groans and turns away.
Her filthiness clung to her skirts; she did not consider her future.
Her fall was astounding; there was none to comfort her.
'Look, O Lord, on my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed.'

M: Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

C: (sung) **Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross did suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Yourself to scorn did offer.
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! (CW 268:2)**

M: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet.

Lamentations 1:10-14

The enemy laid hands on all her treasures;
she saw pagan nations enter her sanctuary—
those you had forbidden to enter your assembly.

All her people groan as they search for bread;
they barter their treasures for food to keep themselves alive.
‘Look, O Lord, and consider, for I am despised.

‘Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look around and see.
Is any suffering like my suffering that was inflicted on me,
that the Lord brought on me in the day of his fierce anger?’

‘From on high he sent fire, sent it down into my bones.
He spread a net for my feet and turned me back.
He made me desolate, faint all the day long.

‘My sins have been bound into a yoke;
by his hands they were woven together.
They have come upon my neck and the Lord has sapped my strength.
He has handed me over to those I cannot withstand.’

M: Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

C: (sung) **Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross did suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Yourself to scorn did offer.
All sins You carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:
Your peace be with us, O Jesus! (CW 268:3)**

Sermon

Finished!

John 19:28-30

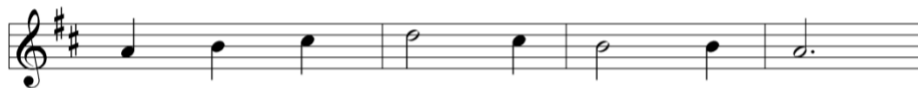
Stand

Song of Mary

My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord CW 274



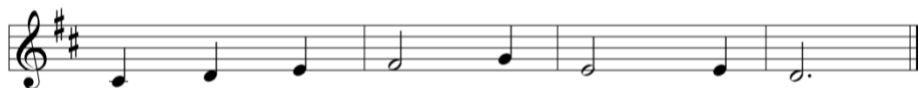
1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord;
2 Hence - forth shall peo - ple call me blest,
3 His mer - cy is on all who fear,
4 He brings down rul - ers from their seat
5 He helped his serv - ant Is - ra - el,



My spir - it shall in God re - joice.
For great things he has done for me.
Who trust in him from age to age.
And rais - es those of low de - gree,
Re - memb - 'ring his e - ter - nal grace,



My hum - ble state he did re - gard,
The might - y God is now my guest;
His arm of strength to all is near;
He fills the hun - gry souls with meat;
As from of old he did fore - tell



Ex - alt - ing me by gra - cious choice.
The Ho - ly One has set me free.
The proud he scat - ters, though they rage.
The rich de - part in pov - er - ty.
To A - bra - ham and all his race.

6 So praise with me the Holy One,
Who comes in all humility.
To our Redeemer, God's own Son,
Be glory in eternity!

Text: Hermann Bonnus, c. 1504–48; tr. John T. Mueller, 1885–1967, alt.
Tune: ANGELUS (LM) Georg Joseph, 17th century, adapt.

Be seated

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Silence for meditation.

M: Christ became obedient for us unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has exalted him to the highest place and given him the name that is above every name.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Psalm 51

M: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, and my sin always before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.
Surely I have been a sinner from birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.
Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Then will I teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.
Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
In your good pleasure make Zion prosper; build up the walls of Jerusalem.
Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

The sixth candle is extinguished.

Choir

Behold, What Wondrous Love!

The seventh candle is carried from the chancel.

Prayer of the Day

M: God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Silence for meditation.

A loud noise representing the opening of Christ's tomb is heard and the seventh candle is returned to burn in the chancel.

The minister exits the chancel.

The congregation may remain for prayer and meditation before dispersing quietly.

The service concludes with no blessing or postlude because Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter are one continuous service of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection

Communion is a part of worship today. Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor or an elder before communing.

If it is possible and convenient to you, please return the service folder to the stands by the doors in the rear of church as you leave. They will be used on Saturday evening and Sunday and may be taken home Sunday.

The Three Holy Days continues on Saturday. Easter Vigil worship will be at 8:00 p.m. Communion will be a part of worship. Easter Festival worship with communion is at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Easter Vigil Worship

April 8, 2023

In the early church the Easter Vigil was when the catechumens were baptized and received their first Communion. Baptism remains a central focus in the Vigil today. Even when there are no baptisms the congregation takes the time to remember their own baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The service traditionally was held late at night so that the pastor's statement, "Alleluia! Christ is Risen" and the people's response would be at midnight.



SERVICE OF LIGHT

The congregation gathers in entry. Those who do not wish to process into the church may be seated. Those processing are given candles to be lit later from the paschal candle. The paschal candle is a sign of the presence of the risen Christ among us.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

M: O God, you are like a refiner's fire, and your Spirit kindles the hearts of your faithful people with the fire of your love. Bless, we ask you, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival. Burning with desire for life with you, may we be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light 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.

The candlebearer presents the paschal candle.

M: Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. His are time and eternity; his are the glory and dominion now and forever. By his wounds we are healed now and forever.

As the paschal candle is lit from the final candle of the Tenebrae service, the minister says:

M: May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

M: Almighty and most merciful Father, once we were darkness, but now we are light in Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless abundantly all who joyfully celebrate this night in faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill them with your heavenly blessing in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

All light their candles from the paschal candle. Then, the paschal candle held by the candlebearer, all follow in procession into the dark church.

As the procession begins, the candlebearer holds the paschal candle aloft, pauses and says:

M: The light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Halfway to the altar, the candlebearer pauses and says the second time:

M: The light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

When the candlebearer arrives before the altar, he faces the congregation, lifts the candle, and says the third time:

M: The light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

The candlebearer places the paschal candle in its stand in the center of the chancel. Standing in its light the minister or an assistant sings or says:

Exsultet

solo

Rejoice now, all you heav'nly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.

Rejoice, too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished.

Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places, with all our hearts and minds and voices, praise you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, and your one and only Son, Jesus Christ.

C: For he is the true Paschal Lamb, who offered himself for the sin of the world, who cleansed us by the shedding of his precious blood.

M: This is the night when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground.

C: This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality.

M: This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of the night.

C: Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave you gave your Son.

M: How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away.

C: How holy is this day when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast.

M: How blessed is this night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, he who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

SERVICE OF LESSONS

The congregation extinguishes its candles. A few lights in the nave may be turned on.

M: On this most holy night, our Savior Christ the Lord broke the power of death and by his resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for he truly keeps his word. The sun of righteousness has dawned on those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3

M: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, you most wonderfully created human nature and yet more wonderfully redeemed it. By your mercy renew us in the image of him who came to share our humanity, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-15:1

M: Let us pray.

C: O God, you once delivered your people Israel from slavery under Pharaoh and led them safely through the Red Sea. By this you gave us a picture of Baptism. Lead us always to rejoice in your baptismal promise, that we may live in its grace and declare to all people your desire to make them children of Abraham, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Salvation Offered Freely To All

Isaiah 55:1-11

M: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, you created and sustained all things by the power of your Word. You send forth your Spirit to renew your creation. Give your saving water of life to all who thirst, that they may bear much fruit in your glorious kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Faith Strained But Victorious

Job 19:20-27

M: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son, you brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death to life. Give your servants patience and endurance that, looking in faith to your Son, we may see beyond the trials of this life to the joys of the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stand

The hymn is sung as the paschal candle is carried to the font.

Hymn

Let All Things Now Living CW 260

1 Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks-giv - ing
2 His law he en - forc - es; The stars in their cours - es

To God the Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
And sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine.

Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains,

Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
The deeps of the o - cean pro - claim him di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us; His light goes be - fore us,
We, too, should be voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing.

A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
With glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

Till shad - ows have van - ished And dark - ness is ban - ished,
Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks - giv - ing:

As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
"To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt. © 1939. Renewed 1966 by E. C. Schirmer Music Co. (admin. ECS Publishing). All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: THE ASH GROVE (66 11 66 11 D) Welsh folk tune.

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

M: On this holiest of days, the whole church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls his death and burial, rejoicing in the gospel of his glorious resurrection from the dead. Holy Baptism is the precious means of grace by which our Father in heaven connects us with Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The apostle Paul says,

“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God, In the same way count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus”

Hymn

All Who Believe and Are Baptized CW 299

1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us your

Lord's sal - va - tion; Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ,
Ho - ly Spir - it. Help us in our in - firm - i - ty

They are a new cre - a - tion. Through Christ's
Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it. Grant us

re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,
to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -

heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.
Tune: ES IST DAS HEIL (87 87 887) *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

If there are candidates for Holy Baptism, they gather at the font. We continue on p. 12. After the baptisms, the Vigil continues with the Service of Holy Communion.

If there are no candidates for Holy Baptism, the congregation joins in the following renunciation and profession of faith as a remembrance of their baptisms.

Stand

M: In Holy Baptism, God takes away our sins and gives us new life in Christ our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I ask you: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

C: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

M: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

**C: Yes, I believe in God the father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

M: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

**C: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

M: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

M: Do you intend to continue in this faith, to be diligent in the use of Word and sacrament and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

C: Yes, and I ask God to help me.

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins, strengthen you with his grace to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

The paschal candle is returned to its stand.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

The altar candles are lit from the paschal candle. The lights of the church are fully lit, the bells may be rung, and the minister proclaims:

M: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Refrain

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.
This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Refrain

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

Refrain

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Day

M: O God, who made this most holy night shine with the glory of the resurrection of our Lord, preserve in all your people the Spirit of adoption which you have given, that they may serve you in faith and joy, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Words of Institution

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Distribution Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Hymn

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain CW 142



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant
2 All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is
3 But to - day a - mong his own Christ ap - peared, be -



glad - ness! God has brought his Is - ra - el
fly - ing From his light, to whom we give
stow - ing Bless - ed peace, which ev - er - more



In - to joy from sad - ness. See the spring of
Laud and praise un - dy - ing. Nei - ther could the
Pass - es hu - man know - ing. Come, you faith - ful,



souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on And from
gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal Nor the
raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness! God has



three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en.
watch - ers nor the seal Hold him as a mor - tal.
brought his Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness.

Hymn

The Day of Resurrection CW 166



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil That we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful; Let earth her song be - gin.



The Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The Pass - o - ver of God.
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.



From death to life e - ter - nal, From this world to the sky,
And, lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord has ris - en; Our joy shall have no end.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: LANCASHIRE (76 76 D) Henry T. Smart, 1813–79.

THANKSGIVING

Stand

Thank The Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - news his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



M: Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

The Vigil service traditionally does not include a benediction.

Closing Hymn

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won CW 145:4,5

4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing the
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the
me gate from him shall sev - er, Life nor death nor
gate to life im - mor - tal; This shall calm my
pow'rs of hell Part me now from Christ for -
trem - bling breath When I pass its gloom - y
ev - er. God will be a sure de - fense;
por - tal. Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
This shall be my con - fi - dence.
"Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!"

Text: Christian F. Gellert, 1715-69, abr.; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1815-97, alt.
Tune: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT (78 78 77) Johann Crüger, 1598-1662.

Offerings may be placed in the baskets in the back of church as you leave.

If it is possible and convenient to you, please return the service folder to the ushers as you leave. They will be used on Sunday and may be taken home afterwards.

The Three Holy Days continues on Sunday. Festival worship will be at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Communion will be a part of worship at both services.

Easter Festival Worship will be at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Communion is a part of both services.

Easter Festival Worship

April 9, 2023

The Festival of the Resurrection of Our Lord is the high point of the Christian Church Year. We celebrate Christ's victory over death that is ours by faith. The Paschal Candle, as a symbolic reminder of the risen Christ, helps us to celebrate the fact that the darkness of sin and death has been overcome by the resurrection. The Paschal candle will burn throughout the Easter season until Ascension.



Preservice

Easter Hymns
Joyful, Joyful
Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Church Band

OPENING RESPONSES

Stand

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

C: (sung) Alleluia!

M: Jesus was delivered over to death for our sins

C: (sung) Alleluia!

C: And he was raised to life for our justification!

M: This is the day the Lord has made!

C: (sung) Alleluia!

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

C: (sung) Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise

Jesus Christ is Risen Today CW 157



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured,
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured,
 Praise e - ter - nal as his love,



Who did once up - on the cross,
 Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise him, all you heav'n - ly host,



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss,
 Sin - ners to re - deem and save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where the an - gels ev - er sing,
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century, st. 1-3; Charles Wesley, 1707-88, st. 4; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, st. 1-3, alt.
 Tune: EASTER HYMN (77 77 with Alleluias) *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, alt.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

O Lord, Our Lord

Festival Brass

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in

all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,

you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;

you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and

ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,

but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD

Choir

Mighty To Save

First Lesson

Jonah 2:2-9

² He said:

“In my distress I called to the LORD,
 and he answered me.

From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help,
 and you listened to my cry.

³ You hurled me into the depths,
 into the very heart of the seas,
 and the currents swirled about me;
 all your waves and breakers
 swept over me.

⁴ I said, ‘I have been banished
 from your sight;
 yet I will look again

toward your holy temple.’

⁵ The engulfing waters threatened me,^[a]
the deep surrounded me;
seaweed was wrapped around my head.

⁶ To the roots of the mountains I sank down;
the earth beneath barred me in forever.

But you, LORD my God,
brought my life up from the pit.

⁷ “When my life was ebbing away,
I remembered you, LORD,
and my prayer rose to you,
to your holy temple.

⁸ “Those who cling to worthless idols
turn away from God’s love for them.

⁹ But I, with shouts of grateful praise,
will sacrifice to you.

What I have vowed I will make good.

I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’” (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 118 CW

Refrain

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-
joyce and be glad! This is the day the
Lord has made, let us re-joyce and be glad!

Psalm tone

*

The LORD is my strength and my song;*
he has become my salvation.

The LORD’S right hand is lifted high;*
the LORD’S right hand has done mighty things!

I will not die but live,*
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

Refrain

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;*
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;*
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Marty Haugen. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Second Lesson

Colossians 3:1-4

3 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. **3** For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

Choir *This Is The Day*

This is the day that God has made, let all creation sing!
This is the day to praise the name of Christ, the risen King!
The tomb no longer holds him, death's darkness has turned to light.
The pow'r of God, triumphant for Jesus is alive! He is alive!
This is the day that God has made! Give thanks and rejoice!
Embrace the hope God's grace bestows for this is the day of victory!
This is the day Christ lets us free! This is the day we'll celebrate forevermore!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. **3** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. **4** The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. **6** He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. **7** Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

⁸ So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.” (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

Hymn

I Know that My Redeemer Lives CW 152

v. 1: all; v. 2: men; v.3 women; v.4:all; v. 5: choir; v. 6 all; v. 7 all; v. 8 all (stand)



1	I	know	that	my	Re - deem - er	lives;	What	com - fort
2	He	lives	tri - um - phant	from	the	grave;	He	lives e -
3	He	lives	to	bless	me	with	his	love;
4	He	lives	to	grant	me	rich	sup - ply;	He
5	He	lives	to	si - lence	all	my	fears;	He
								lives to



	this	sweet	sen - tence	gives!	He	lives,	he	lives,	who
	ter - nal - ly	to	save.	He	lives	all - glo - rious			
	plead	for	me	a - bove.	He	lives,	my	hun - gry	
	guide	me	with	his	eye.	He	lives	to	com - fort
	wipe	a - way	my	tears.	He	lives	to	calm	my



	once	was	dead;	He	lives,	my	ev - er - liv - ing	Head!
	in	the	sky;	He	lives	ex - alt - ed	there	on
	soul	to	feed;	He	lives	to	help	in
	me	when	faint;	He	lives	to	hear	my
	trou - bled	heart;	He	lives	all	bles - sings	to	im - part.

6	He	lives,	my	kind,	wise,	heav'ly	friend;	7	He	lives	and	grants	me	daily	breath;
	He	lives	and	loves	me	to	the	end.	He	lives,	and	I	shall	conquer	death.
	He	lives,	and	while	he	lives	I'll	sing;	He	lives	my	mansion	to	prepare;	
	He	lives,	my	Prophet,	Priest,	and	King.		He	lives	to	bring	me	safely	there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 "I know that my Redeemer lives!"

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99, abr.
 Tune: DUKE STREET (LM) attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793.

Offering

Musical Offering:

Antiphonal Celebration Church Band

Stand

Prayer of the Church

M: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

C: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins, and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: With the church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: He is risen indeed!

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C: Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia!

The Lord's Prayer

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Words of Institution

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



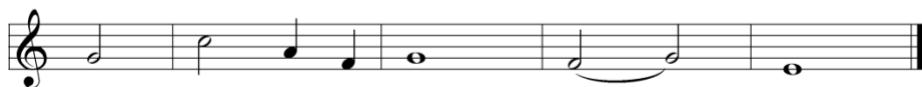
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Be Seated

Distribution Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us.

Distribution Hymns

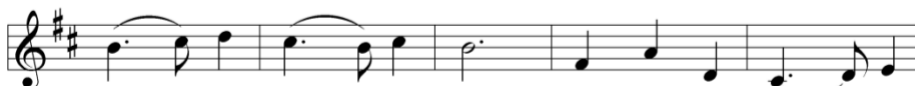
Awake My Heart With Gladness CW 156



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness! See what to -
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed When Christ lay
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens— What peace it
 4 Now I will cling for - ev - er To Christ, my
 5 He brings me to the por - tal That leads to



day is done; Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, Comes
 in the tomb. But lo, he now is rout - ed; His
 does im - part! Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens The
 Sav - ior true; My Lord will leave me nev - er, What -
 bliss un - told, Where - on this rhyme im - mor - tal Is



forth the glo - rious sun. My Sav - ior there was
 boast is turned to gloom. For Christ a - gain is
 joy with - in my heart. No gloom shall ev - er
 e'er he pass - es through. He rends death's i - ron
 found in script of gold: "Who there my cross has



laid Where our bed must be made When to the
 free; In glo - rious vic - to - ry He who is
 shake, No foe shall ev - er take The hope which
 chain; He breaks through sin and pain. He shat - ters
 shared Finds here a crown pre - pared; Who there with



realms of light Our spir - it wings its flight.
 strong to save Has tri - umphed o'er the grave.
 God's own Son In love for me has won.
 hell's dark thrall; I Shall fol - low him through all.
 me has died Shall here be glo - ri - fied."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
 Tune: AUF, AUF, MEIN HERZ (76 76 66 66) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing CW 141



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
 2 Might - y Vic - tim from the sky,
 3 Now no more can death ap - pall,
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy!
 5 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give,



Praise to our vic - to - rious King,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs be - neath you lie.
 Now no more the grave en - thrall;
 This a - lone can sin de - stroy;
 Sav - ior, by whose death we live,



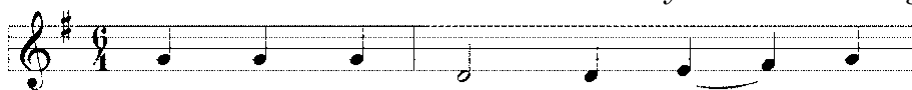
Who has washed us in the tide Flow - ing
 You have con - quered in the fight; You have
 You have o - pened par - a - dise, And your
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, New - born
 Spir - it, guide through all our days, Three in



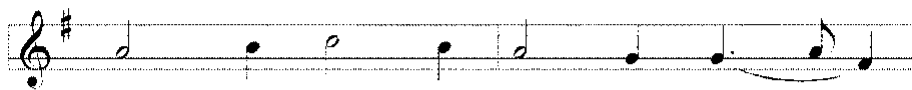
from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!
 saints in you shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 souls in you to be. Al - le - lu - ia!
 One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th century, abr.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt.
 Tune: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT (77 77 4) *Kirchengeseng*, Ivanceice, 1566.

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands CWS 720



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong
 2 No son of man could con - quer
 3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came
 4 It was a strange and dread - ful



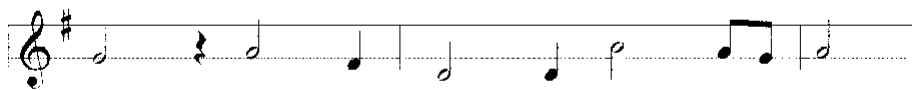
bands For our of - fens - es giv -
 death, Such ru - in sin had wrought
 down, His peo - ple to de - liv -
 strife When life and death con - tend -



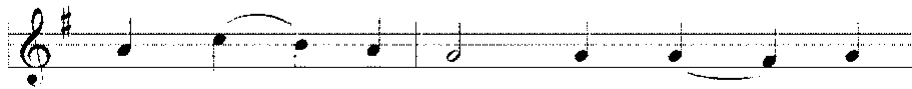
en; But now at God's right hand he
 us. No in - no - cence was found on
 er; De - stroy - ing sin, he took the
 ed. The vic - to - ry re - mained with



stands And brings us life from heav -
 earth, And there - fore death had brought
 crown From death's pale brow for - ev -
 life; The reign of death was end -



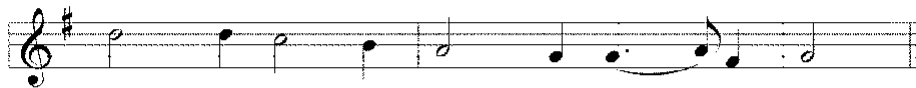
en. There - fore let us joy - ful be
 us In - to bond - age from of old
 er. Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns;
 ed. Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says



And sing to God right thank - ful -
 And ev - er grew more strong and
 An emp - ty form a - lone re -
 That death is swal - lowed up by



ly Loud songs of al - le - lu -
 bold And held us as its cap -
 mains; Its sting is lost for - ev -
 death. Its sting is lost for - ev -



ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tive. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
 Whom God so freely gave us;
 He died on the accursed tree—
 So strong his love—to save us.
 See, his blood now marks our door;
 Faith points to it; death passes o'er,
 And Satan cannot harm us.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 So let us keep the festival
 To which the Lord invites us;
 Christ is himself the joy of all,
 The sun that warms and lights us.
 Now his grace to us imparts
 Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
 The night of sin is ended.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 Then let us feast this Easter Day
 On Christ, the bread of heaven;
 The Word of grace has purged away
 The old and evil leaven.
 Christ alone our souls will feed;
 He is our meat and drink indeed;
 Faith lives upon no other!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

This important and historic Easter text is set to a new tune with the hope of reviving its use within the church.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.
 Tune: NORTHBRIDGE (87 87 78 744) Kermit Moldenhauer, b. 1949 © 2005 Kermit Moldenhauer. All rights reserved.
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THANKSGIVING

Stand

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - news his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

With High Delight Let Us Unite Hymn 168



1 With high de - light Let us u - nite In songs of sweet
2 True God, he first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
3 Let prais - es ring; Give thanks and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, Each take your part,
all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my Shall van - quished lie;
ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us free
His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall be
To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall his love



For - ev - er, he Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Said he, who
Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.
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Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART (448 448 44 44 8) *Cinquante Pseaumes*, Geneva, 1543, alt.

Thank you for joining us in worship today! Refreshments are available in the basement after the service.

Announcement Sheets are available in the back of church. In the announcements you will find a list of everyone who provided lilies for worship. Thank you!

Lilies may be taken home after Festival Worship. Thanks again!