



*Welcome to*  
**SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

***Maundy Thursday***

April 17, 2025

"In Nomine Iesu"

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For a thousand years the Hebrews celebrated the Passover to commemorate the “saving event” in their history. The ritual called for bitter herbs and wine, but mostly it called for a lamb. The paschal lamb reminded them how a lamb’s blood, painted on the lintels of their father’s doorways, saved their fathers from the angel of death one fateful night in Egypt; the herbs recalled their bitter suffering in the wilderness and through the centuries following.

In the peculiar way our Lord has of reaching in both directions at one time, He allowed the covenant people to draw their identity from the Passover/Red Sea experience, but He used the event as a “sign” of the salvation to come. The lamb of the Passover was sign for the true Paschal Lamb, Jesus Christ.

*St. Paul’s welcomes our family and our guests. Everyone is asked to please fill out the registration card found in your pew rack.*

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. Since this is also a sign of our common confession of faith, we welcome to the Lord’s Supper all those who are presently confirmed members of congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you wish to commune for the first time at St. Paul’s, please speak to Pastor before the service.

## **Prelude**

### **Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells**

#### **The Order of Worship**

Lutheran Service Book – page 184 –  
Divine Service Setting Three with Communion

**Invocation** *(please stand)*

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

**C Amen.**

P As we observed Ash Wednesday, there were physical signs of our repentance, visible in the mirror and to everyone we met. The ashes were placed on our foreheads, reminding us of our need for forgiveness and of our Savior. Soon, many of us will be receiving our Lord's real, physical body and blood, somehow in, with, and under the bread and wine – certainly a miracle in our midst.

As the true Lamb of God, Jesus gives to us Himself, forgiving us of our sins and, just as the Passover lamb's blood told the Angel of Death to pass over the homes of the Israelites, He fends off the death sentence our sins deserve.

**Confession**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**All I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy,**

**innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

### **Absolution**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

### **Service of the Word**

#### **Introit**

*Ps. 116:1-4; antiphon: Ps. 116:5*

**P** Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

**C** **our God is merciful.**

**P** I love the LORD, because he has heard

**C** **my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

**P** Because he inclined his ear to me,

**C** **therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

**P** The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**C** **I suffered distress and anguish.**

**P** Then I called on the name of the LORD:

**C** **“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

**P** Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

**C** **our God is merciful.**

### **Salutation**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

### **Collect of the Day**

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the

fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C**      **Amen.**

*(be seated)*

**Choir Anthem**                      *“The Upper Room”*

Music: Don Besig; Text: Don Besig & Nancy Price

**Old Testament Reading**

*Exodus 31:12-18*

<sup>12</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, <sup>13</sup> “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. <sup>14</sup> You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. <sup>15</sup> Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death. <sup>16</sup> Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever. <sup>17</sup> It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.’”

<sup>18</sup> And he gave to Moses, when he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

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

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

**Epistle Reading**

*Hebrews 10:15-25*

<sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

<sup>16</sup> “This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, declares the Lord:  
I will put my laws on their hearts,  
and write them on their minds,”

<sup>17</sup> then he adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

<sup>18</sup> Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers,[a] since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia and Verse** (*omitted during Lent*)

**Holy Gospel** (*please stand*)

*Luke 22:7-20*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chapter

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

<sup>7</sup> Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> So Jesus[a] sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" <sup>10</sup> He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters <sup>11</sup> and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>12</sup> And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." <sup>13</sup> And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>14</sup> And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup> For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this,

and divide it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup> For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” <sup>19</sup> And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>20</sup> And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

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

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

### **Nicene Creed**

**All** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(be seated)*

### **Hymn of the Day**

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

LSB #631

## Sermon

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

## Presentation of the Offering

### Offertory



■ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P Lord, in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs:

- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we  
pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus  
Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.



## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface *(please stand)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We life them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### The Lord's Prayer

**All** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My (+) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My (+) blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## **Distribution** *(be seated)*

*(All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.*

*The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)*

## **Distribution Hymns**

*"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord*      LSB #637

*"What Is This Bread"*      LSB #629

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

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

C      **Amen.**

## **The Stripping of the Altar**

After instituting the Lord's Supper, Jesus went to Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives, where He prayed, was betrayed and arrested, and started His way to the cross. Knowing that it was for us and our salvation, Jesus willingly let Himself be stripped of freedom, friends, dignity, and life itself.

Everything on the altar is a reminder of God's love for us in Jesus, and of His work for our forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life. Just as Jesus was stripped of everything that evening, we now strip the altar.

As the items are removed from the altar, Psalm 22, words which Jesus prayed on the cross, is prayed.

*We then depart in silence, continuing  
our worship tomorrow evening.*

## “Soli Deo Gloria”

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