



**<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.”**

*Holy Cross Lutheran Church*  
**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**

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## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

The ringing of the bells starts at 6pm Pastor prepares for a long set of bell tones before walking up to altar.

Words written in **Bold** generally signify congregation response.

### AS WE GATHER

“On the night in which He was betrayed....” These words mark Maundy Thursday as a special moment in the life of Jesus. These words are repeated during every celebration of the Lord’s Supper. These words mark a moment in time that bridges Jesus’s joyful celebration of the Passover to His sacrificial death on the cross. When we hear these words tonight, we may know both joy and sorrow---joy in knowing that our sins are forgiven as we receive the body and blood of Jesus in bread and wine; sorrow in knowing what great suffering Jesus experienced so that we could have the forgiveness of sins.

**Sit**

**423 *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary***

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.

**Stand**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

C **Amen.**

P I will go to the altar of God,

C **to God my exceeding joy.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

## **Christian Questions with Their Answers**

*1. Do you believe that you are a sinner?*

**Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.**

*2. How do you know this?*

**From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.**

*3. Are you sorry for your sins?*

**Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.**

*4. What have you deserved from God because of your sins?*

**His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Romans 6:21, 23.**

*5. Do you hope to be saved?*

**Yes, that is my hope.**

*6. In whom then do you trust?*

**In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.**

*7. Who is Christ?*

**The Son of God, true God and man.**

*8. How many Gods are there?*

**Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

*9. What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?*

**He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.**

*10. Did the Father also die for you?*

**He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.**

*11. How do you know this?*

**From the Holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.**

*12. What are the Words of Institution?*

**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."**

*13. Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?*

**Yes, I believe it.**

*14. What convinces you to believe this?*

**The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.**

*15. What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?*

**We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.**

*16. Why should we remember and proclaim His death?*

**First, we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.**

*17. What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?*

**His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; and Ephesians 5.**

*18. Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?*

**That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.**

*19. What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?*

**First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.**

*20. But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?*

**To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15–16 and in 1 John 2 and 5. Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.**

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

*P Having heard the Word of God about the Sacrament, let us now confess our sins:*

**C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C **Amen.**

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C **Yes.**

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

P O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your 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.**

**Sit**

## **1st Reading**

**Jeremiah 31:31–34**

<sup>31</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## **2nd Reading**

## **Hebrews 10:15–25**

<sup>15</sup>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, 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.**

## **Stand**

## **3rd Reading**

## **Holy Gospel**

## **Luke 22:7–23**

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus 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.”<sup>21</sup> But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table.<sup>22</sup> For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!”<sup>23</sup> And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## **Nicene Creed**

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us 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.

Sit

## **623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray**

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.

**Sermon**

**Pastor Stephen Constien**

*For today's prayer requests, please write them on the attendance card provided during the service. Once completed, fold the card and either hand it to an usher or place it in the offertory plate.*

We honor the Lord with our tithes and our gifts. Please Stand as the offering is brought forward and sing

## Stand

*Three ways to give:*

- 1) offering plate—cash or check.
- 2) online at [holycrossstegen.org](http://holycrossstegen.org) Click the “Give” icon.
- 3) by mail.

## 956 Create in Me (intro)

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.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12  
Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.  
Text and tune: Public domain  
Prayers of the Church

## ***Prayer of the Church***

Gathered by the love and remembrance of Jesus, we offer our prayers to God.

### ***Silence for reflection***

**P** For the Church, that the celebration of the Lord's Supper renew and strengthen us; that by our love for one another, the world may know that we are disciples of Jesus Christ that pastors and teachers follow the example of Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, let us pray to the Lord,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** for the poor, the hungry, and the homeless, that God use us to reach out to them and lift them up, let us pray to the Lord,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who have lost their faith and for those who struggle to believe, that during these

holy days they be filled with Christ's light and peace, let us pray to the Lord,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick, the dying, and the mourning, help them to trust in the promise that nothing—not even sickness or death—can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all of us, gathered on this holy night, that, nourished by the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, we forgive those who have wronged us and love one another from our hearts, let us pray to the Lord,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Hear the prayers of Your people, merciful God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **Service of the Sacrament**

## **Preface**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P** You are indeed holy, O Lord, and holy is Your name. When we rebelled against Your will and were delivered over to sin and its death, You did not abandon those whom You had made but gave us Your Law and Prophets to point us to Him who was to come. When, in the fullness of time, our Lord was delivered of Mary, the blessed Virgin, He was obedient to Your will and made us Your holy people, cleansed by His blood and redeemed by His saving death upon the cross. Grant us to grow in Christ and in His righteousness, that we delight in Your Law and do what is pleasing in Your sight, until that day when His redemptive work is brought to full fruition and we are delivered into Your presence forevermore. At His word and invitation we come, O Lord, as Your own baptized people to receive according to His promise the blessed covenant and grace of His body in this bread and His blood in this cup.

**C** Amen.

## **Lord's Prayer**

**LSB 196**

**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 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 T 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 T 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.

### **Sit**

### ***Distribution***

*The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.  
**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.  
**Amen.**

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.  
C Amen.

## ***618 | Come, O Savior, to Thy Table***

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003473

# 420 *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81

## **Stand**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

P Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy  
Sacrament.

Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us.

May

Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for  
the

sake of Your name.

C: Amen.

## **Sit**

### **Stripping of the Altar**

*The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.*

P: the stripping of the altar—removing all ornaments, linens, and paraments—is  
an

ancient custom of the church is done on Maundy Thursday. It is symbolic of the  
humiliation of our Lord Jesus Christ at the hands of the soldiers—as Jesus

willingly

and lovingly gave up all that he had in order to save us. While this occurs, we will  
read psalm 22 responsively. this psalm, written by King David a thousand years  
before Christ was born, prophesied and foreshadowed Jesus' suffering and

death

on the cross.

## **Psalm 22**

P: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me,

so far from the words of my groaning?

C: **O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.**

P: Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel.

C: **In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.**

P: They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.

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

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

C: **“He trusts in the Lord let the Lord rescue him. let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”**

P: Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother’s breast.

C: **From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother’s womb you have been my God.**

P: Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

C: **Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.**

P: roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.

C: **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.**

P: My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

C: **dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet.**

P: I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me.

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

P: But you, O Lord, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

C: **Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.**

P: rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.

C: **I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you.**

P: You who fear the lord, praise him, all you descendants of Jacob, honor him. revere him, all you descendants of Israel.

**C: For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.**

P: From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who

fear you will I fulfill my vows.

**C: The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the Lord. will praise him-- may your hearts live forever.**

P: All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord. and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,

**C: For dominion belongs to the lord. and he rules over the nations.**

P: All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him-- those who cannot keep themselves alive.

**C: Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.**

P: They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn-- for he has done it.

all: 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.

C **Amen.**

### ***Benediction (Aaronic)***

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

**Please Depart in Silence.**

## Acknowledgments

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## SERVING TODAY

Pastor : Stephen Constien

Scripture Readers: Wayne Schremp

Ushers: Wayne Schremp & Rick Hutson

Communion Servicer: Randy Ruzicka

Orgnist: Todd Brueckner

## **UP COMING Good Friday APRIL03,2026**

Seminarian: Peyton Holland

Scripture Readers: Randy Ruzicka

Ushers: Wayne Schremp & Rick Hutson

Communion Servicer: Randy Ruzicka

Organist: Todd Brueckner

<b>Sunday Church Attendance</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
<b>First Week</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Second Week</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Third Week</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Fourth Week</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Fifth Week</b>	<b>43</b>