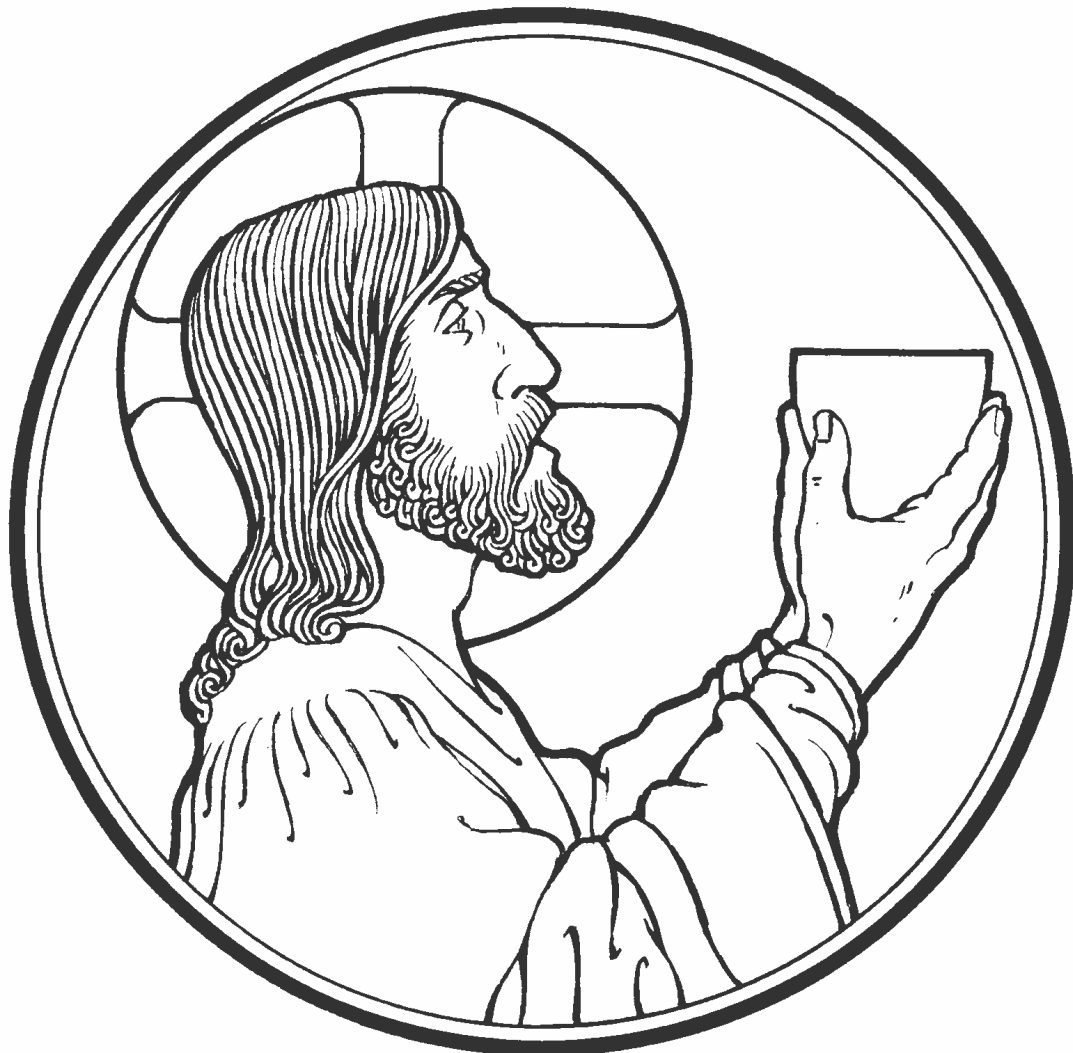


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Holy Maundy Thursday

Divine Service-Setting Three

April 2, 2026

Invocation (Please stand)

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

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.**

Confessional Address

P Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are

all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Confession of 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.

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.

Absolution

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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Blessing

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C Amen.

Introit *(sung responsively with the choir)*



But far be it from | me to boast*

except in the cross of our Lord | Jesus Christ.

In him is salvation, life, and resurrection | from the dead;*

by him we are redeemed and set at | liberty.

May God be gracious to us and | bless us*

and make his face to shine up- | on us,

that your way may be | known on earth,*

your saving power among all | nations.

Let the peoples praise you, | O God;*

let all the peoples | praise you!

God, our God, shall | bless us.*

God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth | fear him!

But far be it from | me to boast*

except in the cross of our Lord | Jesus Christ.

In him is salvation, life, and resurrection | from the dead;*

by him we are redeemed and set at | liberty.

Kyrie



G Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

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

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



Old Testament Reading

Exodus 12:1–14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response “What Wondrous Love is this”

Epistle

1 Corinthians 11:23–32

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “**This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**” ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “**This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**” ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. ²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of

you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Tract (please stand)

He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

My flesh is true food, and my blood is | true drink.*

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and | I in him.

Holy Gospel

John 13:1–15, 34–35

¹Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "**What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.**" ⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "**If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.**" ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "**The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.**" ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "**Not all of you are clean.**" ¹²When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "**Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. . . .**

³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.**

Hymn of the Day

#617 O Lord, We Praise Thee



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546
 Tune: Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
 Tune: Public domain

Sermon

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.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

We remember all those in need of continued strength and healing:

Rev. Raymond and Abigail Doubrava (New Hope Lutheran Church)

Joyce Schaper, Cameron Sprunger (nephew of Stan and Pat Meyer)

Darlene Jester (sister of Melissa Tolson)

Amelia Phillips, James DeFrain, Kenneth Werling

Jenny Peterson (friend of Cheryl Louison)

Dan Bush (stepfather of Chad Dunham)

Grace Anderson (friend of Macie Saalfrank)

Hazel Krenzke (granddaughter of Dan and Sue Buchinger)

Brittany (Conrad) Clausius

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys), Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

Sorrow for those who have passed before us *Family and friends of Jerry Springer*

We pray for our expectant mothers *Makena Graham, Kaitlin (Meyer) Blair, Reese Springer*

Lillyan Laley, Jessica Schumm, Shelby Todd, Grace (Stoppenhagen) Mandeville, Kristin Gresley

We pray for our members shut-in:

Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Rev. Donald Lutze (Lutheran Life Village)

Norwin and Martha Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

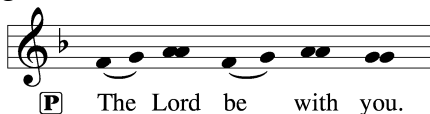
We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

The Board of Education seeking qualified candidates for teaching positions.

We pray for all military personnel

Service of the Sacrament pg. 194

Preface



P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C 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,

bles - ed is He, bles - 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.

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 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 \dagger 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 \dagger 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 al - ways.



C A - men.

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

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship. Bethlehem Lutheran Church administers this Holy Supper in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive, along with the Bread and Wine, the very Body and Blood of Jesus through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Furthermore, the communicants as a body of believers make a confession of the unity of their faith. **Those desiring to receive the Sacrament with us, who are not communicant members of Bethlehem or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are asked to please speak with the Pastor before the service.**

Distribution Hymns

#431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew-ish al-tars slain
2 But Christ, the heav'n-ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a-way;
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
4 My soul looks back to see The bur-den Thou didst bear
5 Be-liev-ing, we re-joice To see the curse re-move;

Could give the guilt-y con-science peace Or wash a-way the stain.
A sac-ri-fice of no-ble name And rich-er blood than they.
While as a pen-i-tent I stand, And there con-fess my sin.
When hang-ing on the curs-ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
We bless the Lamb with cheer-ful voice And sing His bleed-ing love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591
Text and tune: Public domain

#446 Jesus, Greatest at the Table

1 Je-sus, great-est at the ta-ble, The al-
2 Mar-vel how their Lord and teach-er Gent-ly
3 Je-sus took the role of ser-vant When up-
4 Can we fath-om such deep mer-cy? Do we
5 Je-sus gave to His dis-ci-ples A com-



might - y Son of Man, Laid a - side His out - er cloth - ing,
taught them not to vie As He hum - bly knelt be - fore them,
on that grue - some span. For all hu - man sin He suf - fered
see what God has done? Who can grasp this great re - ver - sal:
mand - ment that was new: "Show My love to one an - oth - er,



Poured some wa - ter in a pan; As the Twelve lay,
Dust - y feet to wash and dry, By His ten - der
As a vile and loath - some man; On the cross poured
Love that gives His on - ly Son? Christ, the sin - less
Do as I have done for you; All the world will



hushed in si - lence, He the ser - vant's task be - gan.
touch ex - press - ing True com - pas - sion from on high.
out like wa - ter To ful - fill the Fa - ther's plan.
for the sin - ners, For the man - y dies the
know you love Me As you love each oth - er too."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: David McCarthy, 1931

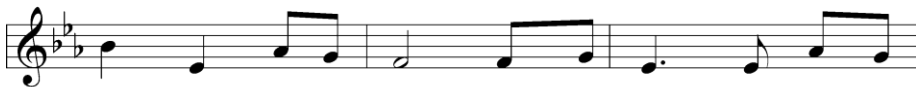
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Tune: © 1975 Stainer & Bell Ltd, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

#445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,
2 Nev - er so a - lone and lone - ly, Long - ing
3 What was there that You could give them That would
4 One in faith, in love u - nit - ed, All one
5 One day all the Church will cap - ture That bright



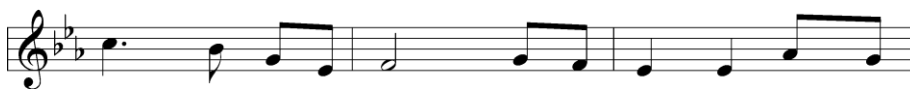
teach - er, faith - ful friend, Thoughts of self and safe - ty
with tor - ment - ed heart To be with Your dear ones
nev - er be out - spent, What great gift that would out -
bod - y, You the head, When we meet, by You in -
vi - sion glo - ri - ous, And Your saints will know the



scorn - ing, Know - ing how the day would end;
 on - ly, For a qui - et hour a - part:
 live them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?
 vit - ed, You are with us, as You said.
 rap - ture That Your heart de - sired for us,



Lamb of God, fore - told for a - ges, Now at
 Sin - less Lamb and fall - en crea - ture, One last
 "Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me
 One with You and one an - oth - er In a
 When the longed - for peace and u - nion Of the



last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's
 pas - chal meal to eat, One last les - son as their
 as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance
 u - ni - ty sub - lime, See in us Your sis - ter,
 Great - est and the least Meet in joy - ous, blest com -



wa - ges: You as - sumed their dread - ful sum.
 teach - er, Wash - ing Your dis - ci - ples' feet.
 of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."
 broth - er, One in ev - 'ry place and time.
 mu - nion In Your nev - er - end - ing feast.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008

Tune: Marty Haugen, 1950

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Tune: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

#452 O Perfect Life of Love



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,
 2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;
 3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;
 4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul

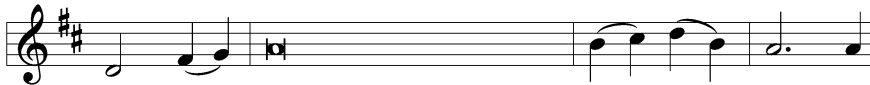


All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.
All forms of hu - man grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.

- 5 In perfect love He dies;
For me He dies, for me.
O all-atoning Sacrifice,
I cling by faith to Thee.
- 6 In ev'ry time of need,
Before the judgment throne,
Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,
Thy merits, not mine own.
- 7 Yet work, O Lord, in me
As Thou for me hast wrought;
And let my love the answer be
To grace Thy love has brought.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.
Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591
Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis



☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

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

Stripping of the Altar is done in preparation of the solemn observance of Good Friday. As this is being done, Psalm 22 is chanted by Vicar Charles McLain and Deaconess Carolyn Brinkley

Maundy Thursday: The name Maundy Thursday is from the Latin meaning "the Day of the Commandment," which refers to the words of our Lord in the Holy Gospel: "You also ought to wash one another's feet." and "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." As well as to the command of the Epistle, "This do in remembrance of Me." - Adapted from Fred H. Lindemann The Sermon and the Propers (Concordia: 1958)

The Stripping of the Altar: "The depth of Christ's servanthood is demonstrated as the altar is reverently stripped in preparation for the Church's observance of Jesus' death on Good Friday. On (Maundy) Thursday, the Church . . . begins the journey through the three days of Christ's Passover from death to life and from captivity to freedom." - From The Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book (Concordia: 2006).

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching

Vicar Charles McLain

Celebrant

Rev. Samuel Wirgau

Fieldworker's

Sem. Brandon Streeks, Sem. Nolan Wolf

Deaconess

Wendy Boehm

Elders on Duty

Bruce Werling and Mike Schumm

Kantor

Richard Brinkley

Choir

Adult Choir

Altar Guild Chairman

Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm

Ushers

Rory Geiger, Lane Harkless, Isaac Harkless
Mark Patrick, Darren Patrick, Cole Patrick