



Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Pastor Mark S. Voss

April 5, 2007

APOSTOLIC GREETING

MUSICAL SELECTION – Jr. Choir

“A Lenten Lesson”

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INSTRUCTION FOR THE END OF LENT

P: In this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. 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.

At the close of our worship, the altar will be stripped, marking the transition from the celebration of Holy Communion to Jesus' crucifixion and death.

Symbolically, Jesus, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors. The events of Good Friday are near. The congregation observes the ceremony in quiet contemplation.



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: 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.

P: In Holy Communion 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 his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

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

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. 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

P: 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.

The minister pronounces a corporate absolution with these words:

P: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives 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.

EXHORTATION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

ALL: Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON - *EXODUS 12:1-14*

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, “This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. 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. 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. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the



people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. 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. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire — head, legs and inner parts. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. 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. “On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down



every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. 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. “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.”

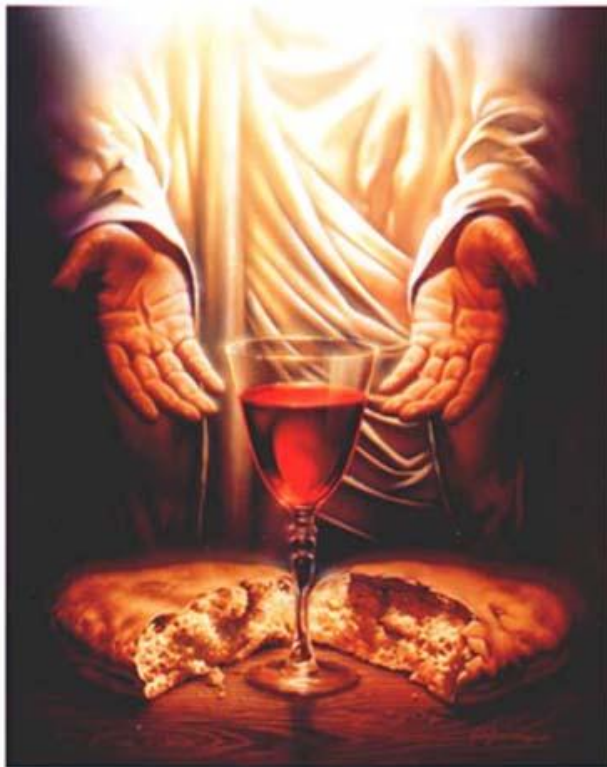
SERMON

The Hidden Glory of the Cross

Matthew 26:26-30

“Hidden in the Savior’s Feast”

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." ²⁷Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.



MUSICAL SELECTION - Teen Choir

“How Beautiful”

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OFFERING AND EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

LORD’S PRAYER Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD’S SUPPER The Bible teaches that receiving the Lord’s Supper together is a public statement of our unity and agreement in the faith. If you are a visitor and have not communed with us before, we ask that you speak with our pastor outside the service before communing. It is our hope that we can share with you our beliefs from the Bible about our Savior and this Sacrament. Thank you.

P: In the body broke, blood outpoured,

C: God’s love breaks through.

P: Lift up your hearts to thank the Lord.

C: It is an honor so to do.

THE CONSECRATION

MUSICAL SELECTION - Sr. Choir

"In Remembrance of Me"

Lyrics Mary Kay Beall, Music Lloyd Larson ©1996 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

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**"Prepare a room for Me, Your Savior, Host and Priest,
Where I may gather you, My friends, To celebrate the feast.**

**"This room we have prepared; The table now is set.
We wait Your promised presence, Lord, Where we once more are met.**

**"Where even two or three Have come the Meal to share,
Unseen, but living, loving still, I surely will be there!**

**"Lord Christ, we seek the food Your grace alone can give.
We come with empty, hung-ring hearts That we may eat and live.**

**"My promise I will keep; Your hunger will be fed,
For in this Meal I offer you Myself, the living bread!"**



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

During the hymn the Communion vessels are removed to the sacristy.

497 HYMN

"This Is My Will"

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**"This is my will, my one command, That love should dwell among you all.
This is my will, that you should love As I have shown that I love you.**

**"No greater love can any have Than that one die to save his friends.
You are my friends if you obey What I command that you should do.**

**"I call you now no longer slaves; No slave knows all the master does.
I call you friends, for all I hear My Father say, you hear from me.**

**"You chose not me, but I chose you, That you should go and bear much fruit.
I chose you out that you in me Should bear much fruit that will abide.**

**"All that you ask my Father dear For my name's sake you shall receive.
This is my will, my one command, That love should dwell in each, in all."**

PSALM 88 - Sr. Choir

*During the singing of the psalm
the altar, which symbolizes Christ
is solemnly stripped
in token of the Lord's abandonment
by his disciples in Gethsemane
and in preparation for Good Friday.*

DISMISSAL

As you are ushered out, please leave quietly.

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF DARKNESS 7:30P
EASTER MORNING 8 AND 10:30A
EASTER BREAKFAST 8-10A**

