

# St Peter Lutheran Church

## Order of Worship

*Maundy Thursday*

*The Last Supper: A Place of Forgiveness*

### Welcome

The forty days of Lent now draw to a close in the three great days of Holy Week, **the Triduum**: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Often treated as one long service, these three days place our Lord's Passion at the center of our lives. We go home to rest and rise to labor, only to return and find that our Lord continues to labor for us. This one long service traces the days of our Lord's Passion, when He labored in love and offered His life for the forgiveness of our sin.

This evening, we gather to remember our Lord's celebration of Passover, His institution of the Lord's Supper. When faced with betrayal, Jesus remained faithful to His Father's mission. He prepared the Passover table, creating a place of forgiveness for His disciples. This evening, He opens that place of forgiveness for you.

Meditate now on the wondrous love of your Savior, who in the face of certain sin offered His life to be the certainty of your salvation.

### Opening Hymn LSB 704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Renew me, O eternal Light,<br>And let my heart and soul be bright,<br>Illumined with the light of grace<br>That issues from Your holy face. | 2 | Remove the pow'r of sin from me<br>And cleanse all my impurity<br>That I may have the strength and will<br>Temptations of the flesh to still.      |
| 3 | Create in me a new heart, Lord,<br>That gladly I obey Your Word.<br>Let what You will be my desire,<br>And with new life my soul inspire.   | 4 | Grant that I only You may love<br>And seek those things which are above<br>Till I behold You face to face,<br>O Light eternal, through Your grace. |

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**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son  $\text{✠}$  and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

**C** **according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

**P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

**C** **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

**P** Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,

**☩ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

**☐** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

**☩ wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

**☐** Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

**☩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

**☐** People of God,

We are here at the Lord's bidding, confessing to Him all our sins of thought, word, and deed, of evil done and of good left undone. We are here that we might be absolved of our sins, renewed by the Spirit, and restored to joy. We pray that the Lord will drive from us all unclean thoughts, keep from our lips all lies and wicked words, and guard us in temptation. We know that it is God's will to forgive and restore us and that the only merits we have to plead are Christ's alone. Before we approach His table, let us make humble confession, plead for the forgiveness of Christ's blood, and, by the aid of the Spirit, seek to amend our sinful lives.

**☩ I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and personal confession*

**☐** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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.

**☩ Amen.**

**☐** May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**☩ Amen.**

## **LSB 956 Create in Me**

1 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence;  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;  
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen. Text: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Blessed Lord, we gather on this night when You sat at table with Your disciples to keep the Passover. You knew the hearts of Your disciples and saw that Judas was to betray You, yet Your love did not falter and You did not shrink from Your saving will and purpose. Give us confidence in Your love and make us resolute in Your promise so that we may know the forgiveness, comfort, and peace of Your saving wounds; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

### First Reading, Jeremiah 31:31–34

"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."

### 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, 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.

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **The Holy Gospel, Luke 22:7-23**

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.

*(Please be seated)*

## **Sermon – The Last Supper: A Place of Forgiveness**

### **LSB 445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning**

1 When You woke that Thursday morning, Savior, teacher, faithful friend, Thoughts of self and safety scorning, Knowing how the day would end; Lamb of God, foretold for ages, Now at last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's wages: You assumed their dreadful sum.	2 Never so alone and lonely, Longing with tormented heart To be with Your dear ones only For a quiet hour apart: Sinless Lamb and fallen creature, One last paschal meal to eat, One last lesson as their teacher, Washing Your disciples' feet.
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3 What was there that You could give them  
That would never be outspent,  
What great gift that would outlive them,  
What last will and testament?  
"Show Me and the world you love Me,  
Know Me as the Lamb of God:  
Do this in remembrance of Me,  
Eat this body, drink this blood."

4 One in faith, in love united,  
All one body, You the head,  
When we meet, by You invited,  
You are with us, as You said.  
One with You and one another  
In a unity sublime,  
See in us Your sister, brother,  
One in ev'ry place and time.

5 One day all the Church will capture That bright vision glorious,  
And Your saints will know the rapture That Your heart desired for us,  
When the longed-for peace and union Of the Greatest and the least  
Meet in joyous, blest communion In Your never-ending feast.

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## Prayers

- P** Your perfect love, O Lord, has borne our sin and delivered us from death. Give to us the grace of Your forgiveness so that we may enjoy the blessing of a clear conscience and serve You without fear. Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Your love has gathered the lonely and lost and created church, where sinners may come and find grace and mercy and peace. Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Your love watches over a world that has become Your enemy and leads those who govern and brings peace amid violence and oppression. Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Your love supports the wounded in flesh and spirit, and Your grace sustains the sick and suffering . Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Your love welcomes the stranger and gives courage to Your people in their witness. Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Your love has promised to hear our prayer and to answer us with all that is good and right and true. Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Your love has set a table for us in the presence of our enemies and prepared us a place to receive the food and drink of Christ's body and blood. Lord,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray:

**G** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**G** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, who gathered once with His disciples to fulfill the Passover and deliver to His Church the sacred meal of His own flesh and blood in bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins, and who has gathered us now for this Holy Communion. 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

**G** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Lord of all creation, You kept Your promise to Adam and Eve and delivered up Your own Son to be the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He has kept the Passover for us and paid once for all our debt to sin. Now He comes to us with His own flesh in and with the bread and His own blood in and with the wine so that we might eat, drink, and be filled with forgiveness. Unite us as Your people that with one heart and one mind we may show forth Your unity before the world and by the forgiveness of sins unite us in love as Your people of love. Give us faith that what we receive we may keep in holy hearts to our benefit and for Your glory. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**G** 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 Word 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

As often as you eat of this bread and drink of this cup you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## **Pax Domini**

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

## **Agnus Dei**

**C** **1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## **Communion Distribution** *(Please be seated)*

### *St Peter's Communion Statement*

The Lord's Supper is a special gift given by Jesus Christ to all baptized believers in the community of faith. In preparing for the Lord's Supper, we are to reflect upon the following questions:

1. Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?
2. Do I believe that, within this Sacrament, the bread and wine are Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins?
3. Do I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life?
4. Do I confess and believe the same doctrines of faith as the church body with which I am about to commune?

If you are having difficulty in answering "yes" to any of the above questions, please follow the guide of Scripture and refrain from taking communion today. Our Pastor would be glad to visit with you after the

service to answer any questions you may have about our Communion practice.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please signal to Pastor by holding up your index finger in front of you.

Non-alcoholic white grape juice is available in the center of the tray, for those with alcohol sensitivities.

## 444 No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

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|--|---|
| 1    No tramp of soldiers' marching feet<br>With banners and with drums,<br>No sound of music's martial beat:<br>"The King of glory comes!"<br>To greet what pomp of kingly pride<br>No bells in triumph ring,<br>No city gates swing open wide:<br>"Behold, behold your King!"      | 2    And yet He comes. The children cheer;<br>With palms His path is strown.<br>With ev'ry step the cross draws near:<br>The King of glory's throne.<br>Astride a colt He passes by<br>As loud hosannas ring,<br>Or else the very stones would cry<br>"Behold, behold your King!" |
| 3    What fading flow'rs His road adorn;<br>The palms, how soon laid down!<br>No bloom or leaf but only thorn<br>The King of glory's crown.<br>The soldiers mock, the rabble cries,<br>The streets with tumult ring,<br>As Pilate to the mob replies,<br>"Behold, behold your King!" | 4    Now He who bore for mortals' sake<br>The cross and all its pains<br>And chose a servant's form to take,<br>The King of glory reigns.<br>Hosanna to the Savior's name<br>Till heaven's rafters ring,<br>And all the ransomed host proclaim<br>"Behold, behold your King!"     |

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## 431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

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|---|--|
| 1    Not all the blood of beasts<br>On Jewish altars slain<br>Could give the guilty conscience peace<br>Or wash away the stain. | 2    But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,<br>Takes all our sins away;<br>A sacrifice of nobler name<br>And richer blood than they.   |
| 3    My faith would lay its hand<br>On that dear head of Thine,<br>While as a penitent I stand,<br>And there confess my sin.    | 4    My soul looks back to see<br>The burden Thou didst bear<br>When hanging on the cursèd tree;<br>I know my guilt was there. |
| 5    Believing, we rejoice To see the curse remove;<br>We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice And sing His bleeding love.        |  |

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## 547 The Lamb

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|--|--|
| 1    The Lamb, the Lamb,<br>O Father, where's the sacrifice?<br>Faith sees, believes<br>God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain    | ref <b>Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes<br/>me His own!<br/>The Lamb is reigning on His throne!</b>                          |
| 2    The Lamb, the Lamb,<br>One perfect final offering.<br>The Lamb, the Lamb,<br>Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.<br>Refrain | 3    The Lamb, the Lamb,<br>As wayward sheep their shepherd kill<br>So still, His will<br>On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain |
| 4    He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.<br>He lives, forgives,<br>He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain         |  |
| 5    He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.<br>His song prolong<br>Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain              |  |

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## 618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

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|---|---|
| 1    I come, O Savior, to Thy table,<br>For weak and weary is my soul;<br>Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able<br>To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain                | ref <b>Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood<br/>Be for my soul the highest good!</b>  |
| 2    Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning<br>That sinners may salvation see<br>Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;<br>So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain | 3    Unworthy though I am, O Savior,<br>Because I have a sinful heart,<br>Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,<br>For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain      |
| 4    Weary am I and heavy laden;<br>With sin my soul is sore oppressed;<br>Receive me graciously and gladden<br>My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain             | 5    What higher gift can we inherit?<br>It is faith's bond and solid base;<br>It is the strength of heart and spirit,<br>The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain |

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## Post-Communion Prayer

**P** Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for having fed us Your body and blood and for covering all our sins with Your forgiveness. As we prepare to approach again the remembrance of Your suffering and death upon the cross, renew our strength and make us strong in Your grace, so that we may serve You with all our heart, mind, body, and soul; whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit, You are one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

### The Stripping of the Altar

**For the Stripping of the Altar, members of the Altar Guild (or other congregational members) come forward wearing white gloves. The minister reads the following explanations to the congregation as each item is being removed.**

**Flowers and flower vases are the first items to be removed.** Plants represent life, New life springing forth. During the Passion and suffering of Christ, life receded and was stripped from Him. It is in recognition of these events that the flowers and vases are taken from our presence.

**The candles are extinguished and removed.** Candles represent the "Light of the World." Jesus said, "I Am the light of the World." In recognition of the darkness following the death of Jesus on the cross, the candles are removed from our presence.

**The Offerings** that have been placed on the Altar are removed. Our offerings are one manner by which we serve God and others. They represent the greatest offering that has ever been made—the offering of God's only Son, given unto death. Just as the body of Christ, which had been offered for our Salvation, was removed from the cross and removed from sight, our offerings are removed from our presence.

**The Missal stand is removed.** The Missal contains all of the instructions and texts that guide our worship services, our readings, the songs of praise we sing. During Jesus' suffering, the songs of joy and thankfulness are not heard. Just as these songs are removed from our own lips, so, too, the Missal stand and book are removed from our presence.

**The Communion Ware is removed.** Jesus' Body and Blood, have been sacrificed for us and are given to us with, in, and under the form of the bread and wine. Just as He was removed from us in the grave, so, too, the elements and the vessels of the Holy Eucharist are removed from our presence.

**The Altar itself is in the form of a Table.** This is the place where our Lord Jesus Christ serves us as both host and meal at His banquet feast. The Altar is dressed in fine linens, coverings and paraments, fitting and deserving of such a Holy Meal, and in the presence of the King of Kings. And just as Jesus' body was stripped of its coverings, so we, too, strip the coverings from this Altar.

**Finally, The Paschal candle,** which has remained lighted throughout this part of our worship service, is carried to the back of the sanctuary, there is no benediction,... there is no postlude, no closing hymn,... because the service is not over.

**We will continue our worship service tomorrow evening on Good Friday 6:30 PM**