

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025 - 1:00pm/7:00pm

Peace

**As We Gather**  
The name for Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin word “Mandatum,” which means “commandment.” It refers to the two new commandments our Lord gave to His disciples on this day: “Love one another,” and, “Do this in remembrance of me.” In the early Christian Church, Maundy Thursday was also the day on which those who had fallen away from the Church were restored to full fellowship with other believers after having observed the 40-day penitential time of Lent.

In his Small Catechism, Martin Luther asks: “What is the benefit of eating and drinking in the Sacrament of the Altar?” Luther’s answer: these words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” shows us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. Today’s service focuses on these gracious gifts of God freely given in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

This evening, the Confirmands will sit together as a class and assist in stripping the altar. This is a meaningful way for our young people to participate in the worship and service of God.

**Prayer Before Worship**  
My Lord Christ, I have fallen, I would gladly be strong. For this purpose You have instituted the Sacrament, that with it we may rekindle and strengthen our faith and be helped. Therefore I am to receive it. Behold, Lord, it is Your Word. My weakness and failings are known to You. You Yourself have said: “Come unto me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” I now come to be helped. Amen.  
- *Martin Luther*

If you wish to join us at the Lord’s Table, please read this Communion information. If you share our beliefs regarding the Lord’s Supper, we welcome you to our altar.  
+ I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, Satan, and death.  
+ I believe that Christ is really present in the Sacrament and that with the bread and wine I receive His true Body and Blood.  
+ I resolve to dedicate my life to my Lord and Savior in His Body, the Church, by regular worship, and devoted Christian service and living.

**Prelude** Rick Helderop

**Opening Hymn 158** Glory Be to Jesus

- Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood from his sacred veins!
- Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;  
Blest be his compassion, infinitely kind!
- Blest through endless ages be the precious stream  
Which from endless torments did the world redeem!

**Invocation**  
*P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*  
**C: Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution** (*Adapted from Psalm 116*)  
*P: I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy.*  
**C: Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**  
*P: The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.*  
**C: Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**  
*P: For you, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.*  
**C: Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**  
*P: How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?*  
**C: In Christ, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He has lavished upon us.**  
*P: As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God unto you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I assure you all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**Children’s Message - 7:00pm**

**Hymn** Blest Are They - Haas

*Verse 4:*  
Blest are they who seek peace,  
They are the children of God!  
Blest are they who suffer in faith,  
The glory of God is theirs!

*Refrain:*  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours is the kingdom of God!

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 22:7-27  
*(Nothing but the blood of Jesus)*

**Hymn of the Day** At the Lamb’s High Feast - Salzburg

- At the Lamb’s high feast we sing praise to our victorious King.  
Who has washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;  
Praise we him, whose love divine gives his sacred Blood for wine,  
Gives his Body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
- Where the Paschal blood is poured, death’s dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel’s hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, Paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.
- Easter triumph, Easter joy, this alone can sin destroy;  
From sin’s power, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in you to be.  
Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days, Three in One, your name we praise.

**Sermon** Beatitude 7:  
Blessed Are the Peacemakers, for They Will be Called Children of God  
Rev. Randall J. Schlak

**Offering - 7:00pm**  
*(1:00pm offering will be received at the door.)*  
*At this time, please take a moment to record your attendance here with us today.*  
*Instructions are on the back page.*

**Voluntary - 7:00pm** Come With Me - Drennan  
Chancel Choir with Mike Dundas, *Soloist*

**Prayer of the Church**

**Liturgy of Holy Communion**  
**The 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.**

**Proper Preface**  
*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. You bid Your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:*

**The Sanctus**  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest,  
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

**The Lord’s Prayer**  
**P:** 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;  
**C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**The Words of Institution**  
*P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.”*

**The Pax Domini**  
*P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!*  
**C: Amen.**

**The Agnus Dei**  
O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us  
O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
That takes away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.



**The Distribution of Holy Communion**  
*For prayers before and after receiving the Sacrament,  
see pages 118-119 in the red hymnal.*

Communion wine is dark in color, grape juice is light. It is in the individual cup trays in the glass cups allowing for each member to grab their own wine cup. **If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer or desire the common cup, at the appropriate time, please raise your pointer finger.**

**Communion Song**  
1:00pm  
The Beatitudes - Malotte  
Bonnie L. Brooks, *Soprano*

**The Nunc Dimittis (Sung)**  
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Stripping of the Altar**  
As the disciples, following the supper, sang a Psalm, so, now after the Holy Supper, we sing a Psalm and depart. “When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.” (Matthew 26:30)

**Psalm 22** *(Sung during the stripping of the altar.)*  
(Psalm 22 is known as the “Psalm of the Cross”. The Psalm begins with Jesus’ words from the Cross, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?” and ends with “For He has done it” bringing to mind the words of Jesus on the Cross, “It is finished.”)

Bonnie L. Brooks, *Soprano - Cantor (1:00pm)*  
Steve SeGraves - *Cantor (7:00pm)*



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(There is no Benediction or Postlude as the altar is cleared in preparation for Good Friday. This ritual symbolically represents Christ stripped of His power and glory and abandoned to His captors. We thank the Confirmands of Redeemer for participating in this solemn tradition at the 7:00pm service. After the worship leaders leave, all depart from the church silently. We leave, but our worship is not over. Tomorrow, we will continue our worship as we reassemble to follow our Lord to the Cross.)

**Silent Recessional**

Please take a moment to record your attendance here with us today. There are two simple ways to do this:

- 1. Scan the QR code and fill out the online attendance form.
- 2. Use the worship card found in your pew. You may drop it in the offering plate or simply leave it in your pew after you fill it out.



**Thanks and appreciation to:**  
Bonnie L. Brooks, Mike Dundas, and the Chancel Choir  
for providing special music at today’s services.

Piano/Organist  
Rick Helderop

Audio/Video Operators  
7:00pm - Jim Endress and David Hardoin

Altar Guild  
Laurie Krentz, Katie Moigis, Julie Nummer,  
Beth Lanthier, Sandy Pourcho, Cheryl Carr, Asia Maeder,  
Crissy Bienkowski, Erin Mortenson, Tracey Fish

Ushers  
1:00pm - Bob Stewart  
7:00pm - Karl Bushuiakovish, *Captain*; Greg Bloom,  
Scott Kamm, Ben Kamm, Brian May, John Mills

Elders Assisting with Communion  
7:00pm - Brad Baldner and Chris Lagoe

Rev. Randall J. Schlak, Senior Pastor  
Rev. James Greenwalt, Assistant Pastor  
Steve SeGraves, Director of Music



**EASTER SERVICES**

**Good Friday - April 18**  
**1:00pm Worship**  
**7:00pm Tenebrae Service**  
**Easter Vigil - April 19 - 5:00pm**  
We will end the Easter Vigil service  
in the Columbarium announcing the resurrection.  
**Easter Sunday Services - April 20**  
**7:30am with Holy Communion**  
**9:00am and 10:30am - Hallelujah Chorus**  
*Easter Egg Hunt to follow the 10:30am  
Easter Sunday service. Bring your Easter Basket and  
join us on the front lawn (weather permitting).  
Jericho the Bunny is returning!!*

\*The 10:30am Easter Sunday Service will be livestreamed.\*  
All of these services will be in the Sanctuary.

ATTITUDE CHECK



THE LAST SUPPER

MAUNDY THURSDAY  
APRIL 17, 2025  
1:00pm/7:00pm  
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER  
1800 WEST MAPLE  
BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009