



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 West Gano Chance Road
Centralia, Missouri 65240

SERVING

CHALLENGE

Ambition

Holy (Maundy) Thursday w/Holy Communion
Thursday, April 17, 2025
7:00 p.m.

As We Gather

Sin gets heavy. Sin can be embarrassing. We try to ignore it, cover it up, or pretend it doesn't exist. None of those things get rid of our sin or its weight on us. God doesn't minimize, excuse, or relativize sin. He places our sin on Jesus and nails it to a cross. God forgives our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. As we come to our Lord's Table tonight, God freely forgives us through the body and blood of Christ that comes to us in, with, and under the bread and wine.

WELCOME

Pastor James Lanning

Opening Hymn – “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB 915

† PREPARATION †

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 32:1, 5

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

People: **I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;**

Pastor: I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

People: **Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our transgressions and sins to the Lord, our God, in the presence of one another.

People: **When we look into the mirror of Your perfect law, we are reminded that we are no better than our ancestors. We rebel against You like the Israelites on the way to the Promised Land. We are like King David, committing sins we think no one will know about. You know us. You know our transgressions and sins against You and one another. We humbly come to You seeking forgiveness. Sprinkle our hearts and make them clean. Forgive our sins by the blood of Jesus that was given and shed**

for us. Renew a right spirit within us for Jesus' sake.

Pastor: Blessed people of God, you have confessed your transgressions to the Lord. He forgives your iniquity and will remember your sin no more. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

† **WORD** †

INTROIT *Psalm 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

Pastor: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

People: I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

Pastor: Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

People: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

Pastor: I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the LORD:

People: “O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”

Pastor: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our hearts and with all our minds, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the Holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy. Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, it was on this night that You washed Your disciples' feet and instituted the feast we know as the Lord's Supper. Nourish our faith and our souls in this feast of Your body and blood, given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 31:31–34*

(God promises He will make a new covenant with His people.)

³¹“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, ³²not 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. ³³For 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. ³⁴And 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.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a*

Pastor: Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

People: Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

Pastor: He sent redemption to His people;

People: He has commanded His covenant forever.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 10:15–25*

(The new covenant gives us confidence, comfort, and hope because of Jesus.)

¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, ¹⁶“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,” ¹⁷then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. ¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let 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. ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *John 13:1b*

Lector: Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now 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.” ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.” ¹² When 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?” ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. ³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ ³⁴ 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. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

P. 206

HYMN OF THE DAY “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” *LSB 575*

SERMON – “Serving Challenge” **Ambition**”

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord God, on this night we remember how You rescued Your people from slavery in Egypt and brought them to the Promised Land. We are reminded of how You have rescued us from slavery to sin and are bringing us to Your heavenly kingdom. Nourish our faith and lead us to walk in Your ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You made covenants with Your people throughout the centuries. Yet, in these last days, You have made a new covenant with us through Your Son. Make this covenant known among us and all peoples of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You humbled Yourself and took on the role of a servant when You washed Your disciples' feet. You commanded them to love one another just as You loved them. Lead us to love others as You have first loved us. Stir us up to love and good works. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy Lord, as we come to Your Table, forgive our sins through Your body and blood and wrap us in the robe of Your righteousness that covers all our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls, and all things; redeem us, O Lord, faithful God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

† SACRAMENT †

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our God, King of the universe, for You made a covenant with Your people, Israel, when You rescued them from Egypt. In these last days, You sent Your Son to be the mediator of a new covenant, sealing it with His precious blood, which is given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. 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

p. 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for You have had mercy on us through Your only begotten Son, who welcomes us sinners to His Table.

We thank You for not sparing Your Son but sacrificing Him for the sins of the world. As we eat and drink Your Son's body and blood, remind us that You forgive our transgressions and cover our sins, no longer counting them against us, because of Jesus.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

p.210

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB 637

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

LSB 618

“The Lamb”

LSB 547

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

p 211

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we thank You for forgiving our transgressions, covering our sins, and no longer counting our iniquities against us. Nourish us with the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus, and lead us to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together as we see the Day drawing near; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Pastor: After the Last Supper, less than twenty-four hours remained in the earthly life of our Lord. Events moved rapidly: prayer in Gethsemane; betrayal by Judas; arrest, mock trial, painful beating; the trudge to Golgotha and execution.

Jesus' offered body and His shed blood have been given to us in, with, and under the bread and wine in the sacred mystery that is the Sacrament. As He was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of this Sacrament.

Communion vessels are removed.

Pastor: The cross is where Jesus took on our punishment to be able to give us the gift of heaven. When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). As this statement was fulfilled on the cross, the cross is removed from the altar area.

The cross is removed.

Pastor: The missal stand holds our worship books that guide our worship life together as we sing praises to God. As Jesus suffers, joyous songs are not heard. As sounds of joy are removed from our lips, we remove the missal stand and its book.

The missal stand and altar book are removed.

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The events at Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the light of the world. As creation was dark while He suffered, so we extinguish our candles and remove them.

All candles are extinguished and removed.

Pastor: Our offerings represent one way of serving God and others. They reflect God's greatest offering to the world and to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus, in human form. As the offered body of Jesus was removed 3 from sight in burial, so we remove our offerings.

The offerings are removed.

Pastor: The altar is the place where our Lord Jesus serves us as both host and Meal at His banquet feast. The coverings and paraments are made of fine linen and brocade, materials appropriate for feasting with our King. As our King's body was stripped in crucifixion, so our altar is stripped of its coverings.

The altar cloths and paraments are removed.

All may exit silently.

