



REFLECTIONS
on
REPENTANCE

**Renewed through the
Gospel**



April 17, 2025

Maundy Thursday

Welcome, guests! We're delighted that you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. This folder contains all the information about our services and the congregational responses are indicated by indented and bolded letters. Please also take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; this is used by the pastor and elder only. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: MAUNDY THURSDAY – CWOS, PG. 185

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY

OPENING HYMN:

THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD

#135

Vs 1–3



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
2 He blot - ted out with his own blood The judg - ment
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this
5 A pre - cious food is this in - deed— It nev - er



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
that a - gainst us stood; He full a - tone - ment
sol - emn guar - an - tee; In this his ho - ly
sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,
fails us in our need— A heav'n - ly man - na



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
for us made, And all our debt he ful - ly paid.
sup - per here We taste his love, so sweet, so near.
as he said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.
for our soul Un - til we safe - ly reach our goal.

6 Oh, blest is each believing guest
Who in this promise finds his rest,
For Jesus will in love abide
With those who do in him confide.

7 The guest that comes with true intent
To turn to God and to repent,
To live for Christ, to die to sin,
Will thus a holy life begin.

8 They who his Word do not believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—
May we this warning keep in mind!

9 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Your supper and in you find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text: Haquin Spegel, 1645–1714, abr.; tr. Olof Olsson, 1841–1900, alt.
Tune: GOTTLÖB, ES GEHT NUNMEHR ZU ENDE (LM) Wagner, *Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien*, 1742, alt.

SERMON TEXT

PSALM 51: 10 – 13

***¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God.
Renew an unwavering spirit within me.
¹¹Do not cast me from your presence.
Do not take your Holy Spirit from me.
¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation.
Sustain me with a willing spirit.
¹³I will teach rebels your ways,
and sinners will turn to you.***

SERMON:

RENEWED THROUGH THE GOSPEL

RESPONSE HYMN:

#135

THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD

Vs 4 – 6

END OF LENT

In this Lenten season, we have once again heard how our Lord walked the path of suffering that 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 committed ourselves 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.

Within the family of the Church, God never tires of giving peace and new life. Through absolution, we receive forgiveness directly from God Himself. We should not doubt His absolution, but rather firmly believe that our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, as it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord. Those who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another and serve each other, just as Jesus became our servant.

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.

RESPONSE HYMN:

THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD

#135

Vs. 7–9

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

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 own 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*****

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

Upon your confession, come forward to the altar of the Lord and receive the declaration of the forgiveness of all your sins.

***** At the Usher's Direction, Come Forward as in Communion *****

By the authority of God and my holy office, I declare to you the gracious forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

EXHORTATION

***** Dismissal of those at the Altar *****

May God who has begun the good work in you perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

Amen.

***** Blessing to all the congregation *****

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord (†) look upon you with His favor and give you His peace.

Amen.

Let us pray.

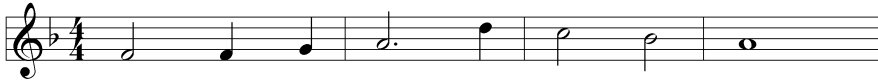
Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us the strength to firmly believe your words and promise so that we may always partake of this Sacrament for our eternal good, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

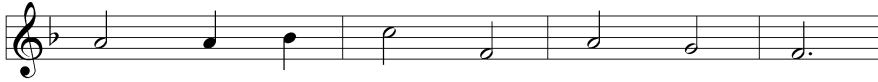
HYMN:

#136

'Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night



1 'Twas on that dark, that dole - ful night
 2 Be - fore the mourn - ful scene be - gan,
 3 "This is my bod - y, slain for sin;
 4 "Do this," he said, "till time shall end,
 5 Je - sus, your feast we cel - e - brate;



When pow'rs of earth and hell a - rose
 He took the bread and blessed and broke.
 Re - ceive and eat the liv - ing food."
 In mem - 'ry of your dy - ing friend;
 We show your death; we sing your name



A - gainst the Son, our God's de - light,
 What love through all his ac - tions ran!
 Then took the cup and blessed the wine:
 Meet at my ta - ble and re - cord eat
 Till you re - turn and we shall eat



And friends be - trayed him to his foes.
 What won - drous words of grace he spoke!
 "'Tis the new cov - 'nant in my blood."
 The love of your de - part - ed Lord."
 The mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
 Tune: St. CROSS (LM) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

FIRST LESSON:

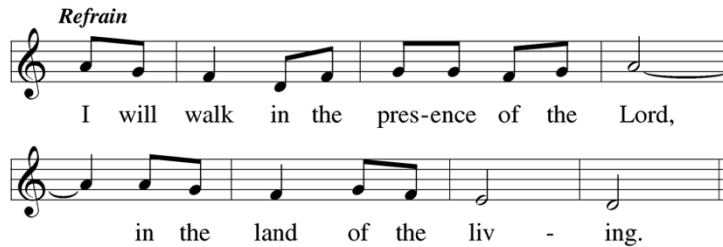
JEREMIAH 31: 31 – 34

Yes, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers, when I took them by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, although I was a husband to them, declares the Lord. But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord. I will put my law in their minds, and I will write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will each one teach his neighbor, or each one teach his brother, saying, "Know

the Lord," because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord, for I will forgive their guilt, and I will remember their sins no more.

LENTEN PSALM:

Psalm 116



Refrain

I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;*
he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me,*
I will call on him as long as I live.
The LORD is gracious and righteous;*
when I was in great need, he saved me.

Refrain

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
How can I repay the LORD*
for all his goodness to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation*
and call on the name of the LORD.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

PSALM PRAYER

Lord Jesus, as I face death, turn my thoughts to your body, broken for me, and your blood, spilled for me. Let me rise as you have risen from the dead, to walk with you forever in the land of the living. I call on your name, for you have promised to be with me. Amen.

SECOND LESSON:

HEBREWS 10: 15 – 25

The Holy Spirit also testifies in Scripture to us, for first he said: This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, says the Lord. I will put my laws on their hearts and I will write them on their mind.

Then he adds: And I will not remember their sins and their lawlessness any longer. Now where these sins are forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.

Brothers, we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place through the blood of Jesus. It is a new and living way he opened for us through the curtain, that is, his flesh. We also have a great priest over the house of God. So let us approach with a sincere heart, in the full confidence of faith, because our hearts have been sprinkled to take away a bad conscience, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. Let us hold on firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful.

Let us also consider carefully how to spur each other on to love and good works. Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have the habit of doing. Rather, let us encourage each other, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

PASSION READING:

LESSON SEVEN

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

THE GREAT LITANY

Please Stand

PRAYER OF APPROACH TO GOD

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,	Have mercy on us.
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,	Have mercy on us.
O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,	Have mercy on us.
Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God,	Have mercy on us.

PRAYER OF DELIVERANCE

Lord Jesus Christ remember not our offenses nor the offenses of our forebears. Spare us, good Lord; spare your people, whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all spiritual blindness; from pride, vain glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of charity,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all deadly sin and from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart and contempt for your Word and your will,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From earthquake and tempest; from drought, fire, and flood; from civil strife and violence; from war and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared, **Good Lord, deliver us.**

PRAYER OF RECALLING CHRIST'S SAVING WORK

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your baptism, fasting, and temptation; and by your proclamation of the kingdom, **Good Lord, deliver us.**

By your bloody sweat and bitter grief, by your cross and suffering, and by your precious death and burial, **Good Lord, deliver us.**

By your mighty resurrection, by your glorious ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, **Good Lord, deliver us.**

In our times of trouble, in our times of prosperity, in the hour of death, and on the day of judgment, **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Receive our prayers, O Lord our God. **Hear us, good Lord.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Govern and direct your holy Church, fill it with love and truth, and grant it unity which is according to your will. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Enlighten all ministers with true knowledge and understanding of your Word, that by their preaching and living they may clearly declare it and show its truth. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Encourage and prosper your servants who spread the gospel in all the world and send out laborers into the harvest. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless and keep your people, that all may find and follow their true vocation and ministry. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us hearts to love and revere you, that we may diligently live according to your commandments. **Hear us, good Lord.**

To all your people, give grace to hear and receive your Word and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Strengthen those who stand firm in the faith, encourage the fainthearted, raise up those who fall, and finally give us the victory. **Hear us, good Lord.**

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Rule the hearts of your servants, *the president of the United States*, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection and shield them in all dangers and adversities. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Grant wisdom and insight to those who govern us and to judges the grace to execute justice with mercy. **Hear us, good Lord.**

PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

To all nations grant unity, peace, and concord, and to all people give clothing, food, and shelter.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us abundant harvests, strength and skill to conserve the resources of the earth, and wisdom to use them well.

Hear us, good Lord.

Enlighten with your Spirit all who teach and all who learn.

Hear us, good Lord.

Come to the help of all who are in danger, necessity, and trouble; protect all who travel by land, air, or water; and show your pity on all prisoners and captives.

Hear us, good Lord.

Strengthen and preserve all women who are in childbirth and all young children, and comfort the aged, the bereaved, and the lonely.

Hear us, good Lord.

Defend and provide for the widowed and the orphaned, the refugees and the homeless, the unemployed, and all who are desolate and oppressed.

Hear us, good Lord.

Heal those who are sick in body or mind, and give skill and compassion to all who care for them.

Hear us, good Lord.

Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins, and strengthen us by your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your Holy Word.

Hear us, good Lord.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant us peace.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you, and you have promised through your beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be with them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth and in the ages to come, life everlasting.

Amen.

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 SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



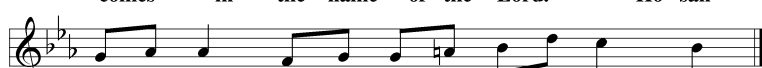
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



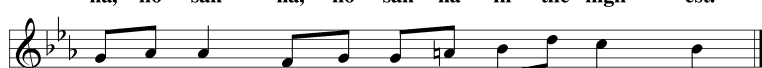
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



C: A - - men.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

HYMN:

LAMB OF GOD, PURE AND HOLY

#268

AGNUS DEI

Stanzas 1, 2, 3

Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross did
 suf - fer, Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly,
 Your - self to scorn did of - fer. All sins you car - ried
 for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-------|------|------|-----|---|----|--------|
| 1 | Have | mer | - cy | on | us, | O | Je | - sus! |
| 2 | Have | mer | - cy | on | us, | O | Je | - sus! |
| 3 | Your | peace | be | with | us, | O | Je | - sus! |

Text: Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. composite.
 Tune: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG (77 77 778) Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546.

****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul’s guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: “For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord’s body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself.” Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

****Please Stand****

SONG OF SIMEON

NUNC DIMITTIS

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

** Please join in singing the first three verses. Pastor Emmons will sing the final two verses, during which the altar is solemnly stripped to symbolize the Lord's abandonment by His disciples and to prepare for Good Friday.*

STRIPPING OF THE ALTER

HYMN

#714

THE LAMB

First Verse

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

Refrain

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me his own!
The Lamb is reigning on his throne.

Second Verse

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, let earth join heav'n his praise to sing. *Refrain*

Third Verse

The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill.
So still, his will, On our behalf the law to fill. *Refrain*

*****Please remain for prayer and meditation. When you are ready, please quietly depart. When you return on Good Friday, there will be no prelude music; we return in silence and in meditation on our Lord's death.*****