

Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020 7:00 PM

When it comes to those things that we might call the “mysteries of faith” the Bible never really tries to explain to us how these things can be. God never explains how He created the world from nothing, how He can be three Persons and yet one God, or how Jesus can be fully divine and fully human at the same time. God simply presents these truths to us in His Word and lets the focus be on what they mean for us and our salvation.

The Lord’s Supper is one of these mysteries. Tonight we remember how our Lord instituted this meal for His followers to receive His body and His blood given and shed for us on the cross with the bread and the wine. No explanation is given by Jesus or the Apostle Paul regarding how this can be. Instead the focus of Scripture is on the blessings we receive: forgiveness, life, and salvation. Blessing we receive from God and blessings we share with one another as the body of Christ.

Welcome

Alas and Did My Savior Bleed (LSB 437)

Alas, and did my Savior bleed?
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears.
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

Was it for sins that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

But drops of grief can ne’er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
‘Tis all that I can do.

Well might the sun in darkness hide,
And shut His glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker, died
For man, His creature’s sin.

Invocation

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

People: **Amen.**

Confession

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us

People: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

Psalm 51:1-12

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.
- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Absolution

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

Readings

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 24:3-11

³When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD has said we will do." ⁴Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said.

He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD. ⁶Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar. ⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey."

⁸Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

⁹Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up ¹⁰and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as bright blue as the sky. ¹¹But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Holy Gospel: Matthew 26:26-30

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus 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."

²⁷Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave 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 from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

When You Woke That Thursday Morning (LSB 445)

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.

Never so alone and lonely,
Longing with tormented heart
To be with Your dear and 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.

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."

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.

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.

Sermon

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the live chat

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer**

The Service of Holy Communion

Preface

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.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary . . .

People: **Amen**

The 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 Words of Institution

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."

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

People: Amen.

Communion

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

People: Amen

(Take and eat)

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

People: Amen.

(Take and drink)

A Time for Prayer and Meditation

Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

People: Amen.

Prayer

We Are One

Look all around us
Your glory surrounds us
People of faith who believe
Loving and living this life we've been given
'Cause He died for you and for me
We're held together, His family forever
Bound by His grace and His love

***We are one, we are one,
Unified, side by side to glorify Him
We are one, we are one
Hand in hand we will stand
Children of the Great I Am,
His daughters and sons
We are one***

These ties that bind us are here to remind us
That faith can conquer all fears
All in one accord, we trust in the Lord
Whenever we gather He's here
We're undivided, He has decided
Nothing can tear us apart (*chorus*)

We are one, we are one,

unified, side by side to glorify Him
We are one, we are one
hand in hand we will stand
Children of God

We are one, we are one,
unified, side by side to glorify Him
We are one, we are one
hand in hand we will stand
Children of the Great I
Mothers, daughters, fathers, and sons
We are one

Benediction

*The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace
Amen.*

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

(You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

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