

## Holy (Maundy) Thursday

April 2, 2026 7:30 p.m.

### Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution and Communion Service, Stripping of the Altar

\* =stand

Prelude "O Lord, We Praise You" Walter Hennig

Service Explanation

\* Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution pp. 290-291

Salutation and the Collect of the Day page 189

THE LESSONS page 190

The Old Testament - Ecclesiastes 9: 1-10

GRADUAL - Psalm 116: 12-19 (sung responsively by whole verses – no Gloria)

The Epistle - 1 Corinthians 11: 23-32

\* Verse (Vicar)

*"Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end"*

The Gospel - Matthew 26: 17-30

(The Nicene Creed is Omitted on Maundy Thursday)

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Lord, We Praise Thee" **LSB 617**

**SERMON** **"THE END OF WISDOM"**

OFFERINGS

(Please fill out an attendance sheet and place it in the baskets in the narthex as you leave.)

VOLUNTARY

\* **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** Page 194

COMMUNION HYMNS

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

*"The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"* **LSB 634**

*"Go to Dark Gethsemane"* **LSB 436**

**Stripping of the Altar** Psalm 22 in the front of the hymnal is chanted by congregation during stripping of the altar (*The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.*)

### Leave in Silence

#### **"WHAT IS "THE TRIDUUM?"**

The most solemn and joyful celebration of the Christian calendar is the period from Maundy Thursday through Holy Saturday. Worship services on these days or evenings are traditionally considered to be parts of a single extended liturgical event called The Triduum (Latin for "Three Days"). There is no Benediction till Holy Saturday.

The first part of the Triduum begins on the evening of Maundy Thursday (also called Holy Thursday), during which Christians recall the events that took place the night Jesus was betrayed. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke concentrate on the institution of the Lord's Supper. The gospel of John focuses instead on the Lord's final teachings to His disciples, dramatically punctuated by His washing of their feet

The word "Maundy" is derived from the Latin phrase mandatum novum, meaning "new commandment." It refers to the Lord's words to His apostles as recorded in John 13: 34: *A new command I give you: love one another.* The true climax of Maundy Thursday worship is the celebration of the Lord's Supper. This night is the "anniversary" of the sacrament and therefore a memorable event.

After the sacrament has ended, the "stripping of the altar" takes place. The ministers and several assistants remove all vessels, crosses, books, candles, linens, paraments, banners, and other decorations from the altar and chancel area. This ancient ritual is a powerful and dramatic reenactment of the Lord's humiliation at the hands of the Roman soldiers. As the altar is being stripped, Psalm 22, containing clear prophecies of Christ's suffering, is chanted. The altar, left bare or adorned only with black paraments, is transformed from the Communion table of Maundy Thursday into the tomb stone slab of Good Friday.

### **HOLY COMMUNION POLICY**

*Holy Communion is distributed to members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and LCMS guests who have been baptized, instructed and catechized in the Lutheran faith. If you are visiting today, please speak to the pastor or elder before communing.*

### **OFFICIANTS:**

*Pastor  
Vicar Seth Horn  
Elder Clark Everett  
Organist Timothy  
Schmidt  
Acolyte Haden Poarch*

### **GOOD FRIDAY - April 3**

**9:00 a.m. Litany and Readings**

**12:00 noon Litany and Readings**

**3:00 p.m. Good Friday Chief Service**

*This special service features: hymns, scripture lessons, and prayers. Also includes the processional of the roughhewn cross carried down the aisle through the sanctuary to be placed in the chancel. It is a very moving experience and we encourage your attendance.*

**7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service of Tenebrae**

**The 7 Last Words of Christ from the Cross**

*The candles extinguished one by one. Leave in darkness. This ancient and very moving service will feature the extinguishing of the candles as Jesus speaks His last words and phrases on the cross before He dies. Come honor the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ for us on this holy day!*



### **HOLY SATURDAY - April 4 7:30 p.m.**

**"The Great Vigil of Easter"**

A Service of Baptism Remembrance  
and the Resurrection of Christ

- Candle-light procession into darkened church
- Gather around the baptismal font

### **EASTER SUNDAY - April 5 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

Bell Choir & Special Music - Resurrection Gospel Lessons

8:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

**8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast**

10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion