

*I* am the bread of life.  
Whoever comes to me  
will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me  
will never be thirsty."  
-John 6:35



**Maundy Thursday**  
**March 28, 2024**

**Pastor Kirk L. Peters**  
**St. Matthew Lutheran Church LC-MS**

**GATHERING OF OFFERING & HYMN:**

*"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"*

**# 575**

St. 1: My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

St. 2: When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

St. 3: His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

St. 4: When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne!  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

*Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** I will go to the altar of God,

**C** to God my exceeding joy.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*The congregation may be seated.*

**P** Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.” It is as if He said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat.”

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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.” Again, it is as if He said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink.”

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life. We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup.

For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C** Amen.

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*Stand*

**C** O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**C** Amen.

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C** Yes.

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** Upon this confession, I by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in peace.

**C** Amen.

*The congregation may be seated.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** *Exodus 24:3-11*

Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do." And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words." Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE READING:** *1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a

participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** *Mark 14:12-26*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus'] disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my

body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

#### NICENE CREED

LSB, pg. 191

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by Whom all things were made;  
Who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again  
according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge  
both the living and the dead,  
Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshiped and glorified,  
Who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic  
Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

**HYMN:** *“Not All the Blood of Beasts”*

**# 431**

St. 1: Not all the blood of beasts

On Jewish altars slain

Could give the guilty conscience peace

Or wash away the stain.

St. 2: But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,

Takes all our sins away;

A sacrifice of nobler name

And richer blood than they.

St. 3: My faith would lay its hand

On that dear head of Thine,

While as a penitent I stand,

And there confess my sin.

St. 4: My soul looks back to see

The burden Thou didst bear



When hanging on the cursèd tree;  
I know my guilt was there.

St. 5: Believing, we rejoice  
To see the curse remove;  
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice  
And sing His bleeding love.

## SERMON

Stand

## OFFERTORY

*Psalm 51:10-12*

**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up you hearts.

*[Colossians 3:1]*

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

*[Psalm 136]*

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary. . . evermore praising  
You and saying:

## SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**C** 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.

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24  
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

**P** 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 is My blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

**☐ 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 takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**DISTRIBUTION**

**HYMN: “Come To Calvary’s Holy Mountain”**

**# 435**

St. 1: Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain,  
Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain  
Flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide,  
Opened when our Savior died.

St. 2: Come in poverty and meanness,  
Come defiled, without, within;  
From infection and uncleanness,  
From the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white;  
Ye shall walk with God in light.

St. 3: Come in sorrow and contrition,  
Wounded, impotent, and blind;  
Here the guilty, free remission,  
Here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore;  
They that drink shall thirst no more.

St. 4: They that drink shall live forever;  
‘Tis a soul-renewing flood.  
God is faithful; God will never

Break His covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died,  
Sealed when He was glorified.

**HYMN:** *“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”*

**# 631**

St. 1: Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;  
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,  
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

St. 2: Here would I feed upon the bread of God,  
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav’n;  
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv’n.

St. 3: This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
This is the heav’nly table spread for me;  
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong  
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

St. 4: I have no help but Thine; nor do I need  
Another arm but Thine to lean upon.  
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

St. 5: Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;  
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:  
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

St. 6: Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;  
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;  
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;  
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

St. 7: Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,

Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

## NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon*

*Luke 2:29-32*

**C** 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.

## THANKSGIVING

*Psalm 107:1*

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Bless we the Lord.

*[Psalm 103:1]*

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

**P** 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.

**C** Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN: "*The Lamb*"

# 547

St. 1: The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

St. 2: The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

St. 3: The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

St. 4: He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

St. 5: He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

*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.*

**P** I love the Lord, because he has heard  
my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**C** **Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

**P** The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.

**C** **Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
“O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

**P** Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;  
our God is merciful.

**C** **The Lord preserves the simple;  
when I was brought low, he saved me.**

**P** Return, O my soul, to your rest;  
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

**C** **For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears,  
my feet from stumbling;**

**P** I will walk before the Lord  
in the land of the living.

**C** **I believed, even when I spoke,  
“I am greatly afflicted”;**

**P** I said in my alarm,  
“All mankind are liars.”

**C** What shall I render to the Lord  
for all his benefits to me?

**P** I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord,

**C** I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.

**P** Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his saints.

**C** O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.  
You have loosed my bonds.

**P** I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the Lord.

**C** I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,

**P** in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!



*All leave in silence.*