

## Maundy Thursday April 17, 2025

### PRELUDE

*O Mankind, Mourn Your Great Sins* (J. S. Bach)

Masako Bacon, organ

### WELCOME

### FIRST COMMUNION MILESTONE BLESSING

*The word “communion” means together-with. When we come to church to hear God’s Word, we come together with each other, but—even more importantly—we come together with God. Holy Communion is a time when this happens in a special way. We gather together today as the family of God to celebrate that God chooses to be with us. We gather as God’s community around the presence of His son, Jesus, in the bread and the wine.*

*Today is special because we gather with one of our young people for this holy meal for the first time.*

- L In Holy Baptism, Owen was received into the family of the church and by Christ as his own. As a gift of his love, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his church his Holy Supper and invites his own to receive the sacrament in faith for the forgiveness of sins, as he said: Do this in remembrance of me. Now these young people have learned what Christ has done for them and the gift that is being offered them.
- C **We gladly join with you at the Lord’s Table today, one in Christ through the mystery of this gift of life and the promise of God’s most holy word.**

L Let us pray: Holy and loving God, you who feed us daily with your love, we thank you for the gift of Holy Communion and for the opportunity to gather together in faith to receive forgiveness and new life as we receive the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ through bread and wine. Come, Holy Spirit, fill our lives with trust in your promises, inspire us to acts of love, and encourage us with the hope of the heavenly banquet feast that knows no end.

In Jesus' name we pray,

C **Amen!**

**FIRST COMMUNION PARTICIPANT** Owen Meyer, *Parents: Brandon & Shanon Meyer*

#### **DIALOG**

P Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.

C **God's mercy endures forever.**

P Blessed be God, who gives us life and salvation,

C **a gift we can never deserve or earn.**

P Given for you, for me, for all for the forgiveness of sins

C **in bread and wine, body and blood, Word and presence.**

P Given in grace, received by faith.

C **Give us truly believing hearts, O God, so that we might receive this great gift.**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to repent and struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and neighbor. In baptism, we are buried with Christ in his death and raised to new life in the promise of resurrection.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, hear God's Word of forgiveness, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

P Merciful God,

**C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C Amen.**

**HYMN**

*Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now (ACS 930)*

**1 Three holy days enfold us now  
in washing feet and breaking bread,  
in cross and font and life renewed:  
in Christ, God's firstborn from the dead.**

**2 The myst'ry hid from ages past  
is here revealed in word and sign,  
for Jesus' story is our own:  
new life through death is God's design.**

**3 Christ, lifted high upon the tree,  
before you ev'ry knee shall bend  
and ev'ry tongue in praise proclaim:  
"You are the Lord of all. Amen."**

**GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray. Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

Exodus 12:1-4, 7, 11-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>11</sup>This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. <sup>14</sup>This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

**R** Word of God. Word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup>In the same way he

took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

R Word of God. Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

C **Glory to you O Lord.**

## GOSPEL

John 13:1-17

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” <sup>12</sup>After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not

greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON**

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

*The Word of God and the theme of the day are repeated in song.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Great God, Your Love Has Called Us* (ELW 358)

- 1 Great God, your love has called us here  
as we, by love, for love were made.  
Your living likeness still we bear,  
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.  
We come, with all our heart and mind  
your call to hear, your love to find.**
- 2 We come with self-inflicted pains  
of broken trust and chosen wrong,  
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,  
by social forces swept along,  
by powers and systems close confined  
yet seeking hope for humankind.**
- 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name  
and then receive us as your own  
not through some merit, right, or claim,  
but by your gracious love alone.  
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat  
and find you kneeling at our feet.**
- 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread,  
and humble us, and call us friends.  
Suffer and serve till all are fed,  
and show how grandly love intends**

to work till all creation sings,  
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

- 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free  
your life to live, your joy to share.  
Give us your Spirit's liberty  
to turn from guilt and dull despair,  
and offer all that faith can do  
while love is making all things new.

## PRAYERS

P On this holy day, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who await from the Lord  
great and abundant mercy. Lord in your mercy,

(After each petition, respond with, "**hear our prayer.**")

P Into the arms of your tender embrace, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom  
we pray, trusting in the one who, on the cross, opened his arms to all; Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

## OUR OFFERINGS ARE GATHERED

*Our gratitude is expressed in gifts for the church's mission and the world's need.  
Music invites us to reflect. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your  
smart phone to give online.*



## MUSICAL OFFERING

*A New Commandment (David Schwoebel)*

Adult Choir

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

1. Where char - i - ty and love pre - vai, there  
2. With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's

God is ev - er found; brought here to - gath - er  
char - i - ty we learn; let us with heart - and



## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

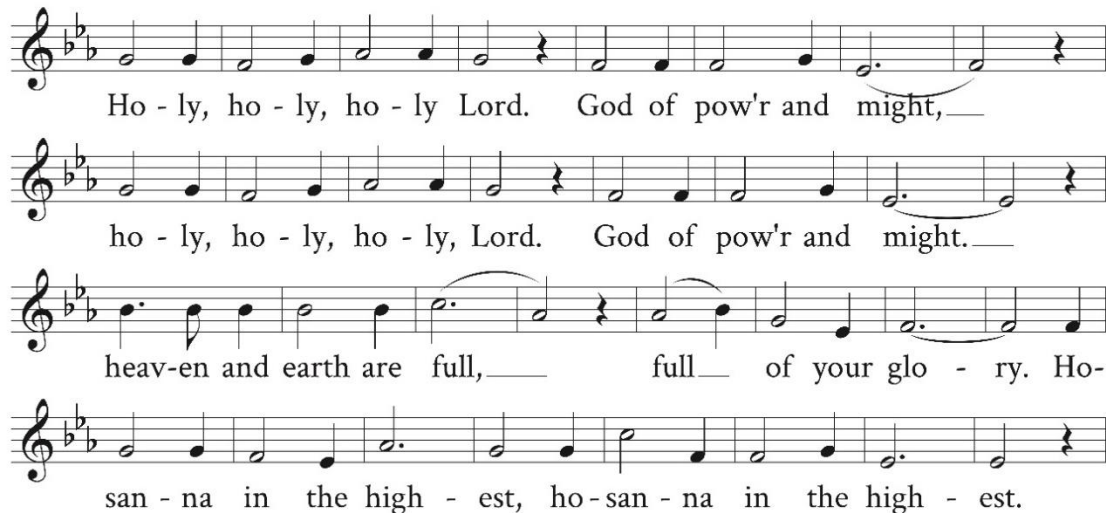
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

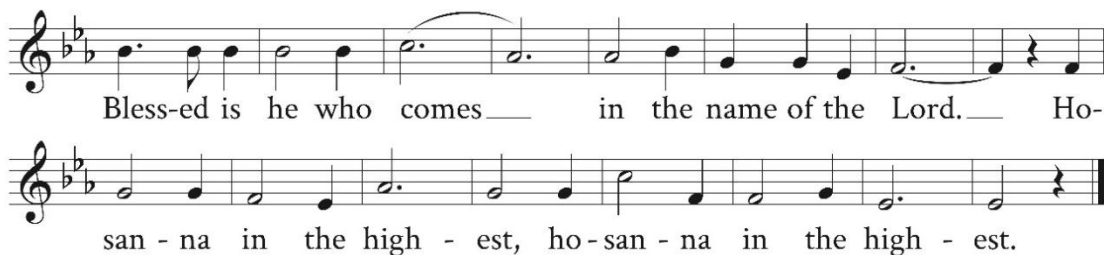
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed... *(here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:







## LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

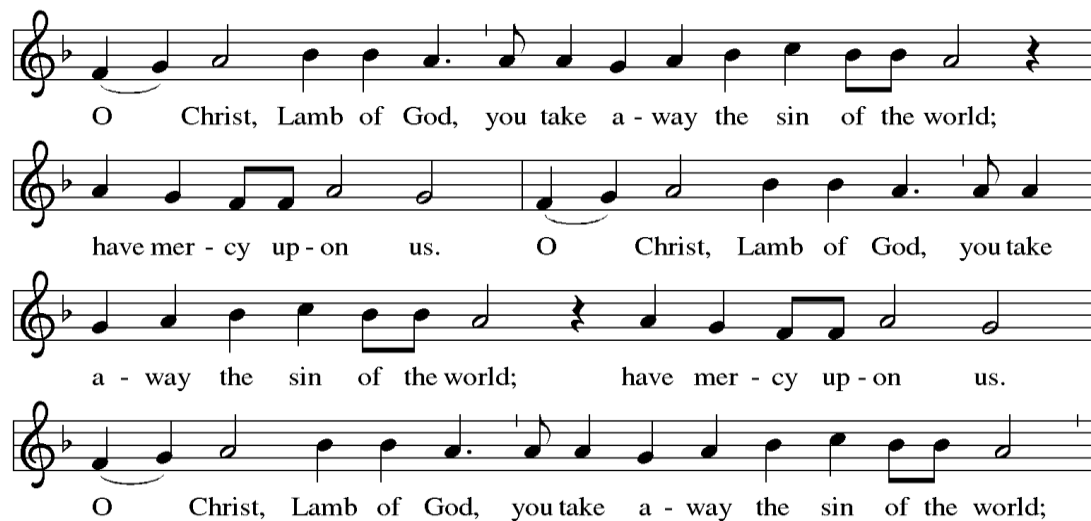
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

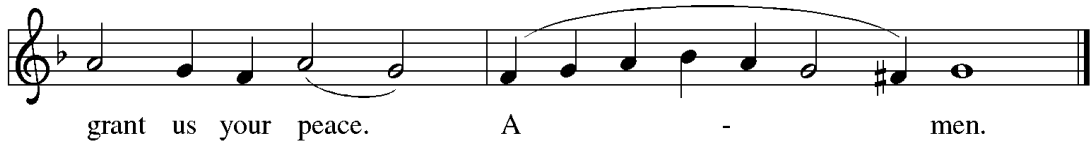
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** Come to Christ, broken and poured out for you.

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

## LAMB OF GOD





## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*We go to the table to encounter the body and blood of the living Christ in bread and wine, through which faith is nourished and sins are forgiven. Please proceed to the altar rail as directed by the usher. The Communion bread (Schar gluten-free bread) is free of gluten, wheat, dairy, egg, and nuts. You may take a grape juice-filled cup from the center of the tray or a wine-filled cup from the Communion tray. Afterward, cups are placed in a basket as you return to your seat. If you are unable to come to the Communion Table, please let an usher know. A Eucharistic Minister is available to bring Communion to you in the pew.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*Christ, the Life of All the Living (ELW 339)*

**1 Christ, the life of all the living,  
Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Christ, yourself for me once giving  
to the darkest depths of woe:  
through your suffering, death, and merit  
life eternal I inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,  
dearest Jesus, unto you.**

**2 You have suffered great affliction  
and have borne it patiently,  
even death by crucifixion,  
fully to atone for me;  
for you chose to be tormented  
that my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,**

dearest Jesus, unto you.

3        Then, for all that bought my pardon,  
          for the sorrows deep and sore,  
          for the anguish in the garden,  
          I will thank you evermore;  
          thank you for the groaning, sighing,  
          for the bleeding and the dying,  
          for that last triumphant cry,  
          praise you evermore on high.

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* (ELW 335)

1        Jesus, keep me near the cross,  
          there's a precious fountain;  
          free to all, a healing stream  
          flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

*Refrain*

          In the cross, in the cross  
          be my glory ever;  
          till my ransomed soul shall find  
          rest beyond the river.

2        Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
          love and mercy found me;  
          there the bright and morning star  
          sheds its beams around me. *Refrain*

3        **Near the cross! O Lamb of God,  
bring its scenes before me;  
help me walk from day to day  
with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain***

4        **Near the cross I'll watch and wait,  
hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand  
just beyond the river. *Refrain***

P    The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C    **Amen.**

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P    God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your Gospel of redemption for the world and continue forever in Christ Jesus.

C    **Amen.**

#### **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*During the stripping of the altar, a solo voice intones Psalm 22, the prophetic psalm which begins, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" These are words Christ will speak from the cross. The chancel—where our Lord comes to dwell with us with his body and blood—is stripped of its glory. We meditate on these words and actions.*

*We remain in quiet meditation and depart in silence.*

*Worship continues tomorrow on Good Friday at noon and 6:30 pm.*

#### **PSALM 22**

Lead Pastor: Erin Heidelberger  
Associate Pastor: Andrew Kitzing  
Reader: Karen Statham  
Cantor: Betsy Bjerke  
Livestream: Brian Niebuhr

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