



Maundy Thursday Devotion

The Spirit Anointed Christ for Mercy – Lenten Worship Series

Lent was the time when candidates for Holy Baptism were intently preparing to be baptized at the Vigil of Easter. We, too, in this season of Lent prepare ourselves to remember our Baptism at Easter as we ritually “pass over” with Jesus from death to new life. During this Lenten season we will remember Jesus’ Baptism, His anointing with the Holy Spirit, and His words in Luke 4: that He was anointed to show and to be mercy. We will be reminded that as His people — hearing Him proclaim God’s Word and being God’s Word as Prophet; seeing Him sacrifice Himself on a cross and knowing that He intercedes for us as Priest; and knowing that we live under Him as King in righteousness and purity — we will be reminded of our work of mercy. Tonight, Maundy Thursday, we remember the “mandatum” the new commandment that Christ gave us to love each other, and the great gift He gives us in His body and blood. *(Each service will present an opportunity to give of our treasures to the church’s corporate mercy work through LCMS World Relief and Human Care.)*

This service is adapted from the “Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish” service for Maundy Thursday, 2009.

HYMN “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” [LSB 637]

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT Ex. 24:3–11 *(The elders eat and drink with God.)*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” [LSB 631]

EPISTLE 1 Cor. 10:16–17 (*We are one body in Christ.*)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN “When You Woke That Thursday Morning” [LSB 445, Stanzas 4 and 5]

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 22:14–20

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 22nd chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN “When You Woke That Thursday Morning” [LSB 445, Stanzas 1–3]

SERMON

CREED Nicene Creed (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*based on 1 Tim. 2:1–4*)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the church, both clergy and laity, that the Holy Spirit moves us all to greater devotion in our thoughts, words, and actions, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Anointed Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the nations, that God in heaven would raise up leaders endowed with compassion, mercy, and a sense of true justice, that peace and harmony may prevail within and beyond their borders, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Anointed Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who do not know the love of God in Christ, who still languish in their sins and have no hope, that God would use us to spread the news of His gracious pardon through the sacrifice of Christ our King, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Anointed Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who struggle with illness of body or mind, addictions, poverty, broken relationships, injustice, or oppression, that we might be instruments of Your mercy and that our heavenly Father would visit and relieve them in His mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Anointed Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, eternal God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As we are about to receive the Holy Supper of our anointed Prophet, Priest, and King, the Lord Jesus Christ, it is proper that we examine ourselves. The Ten Commandments, the moral code of the Kingdom, reveal to us the gravity of our sin, for they call us to love God with our whole being and our neighbors as ourselves.

Pastor: You shall have no other gods.

People: We confess that we put other things above our fear, love, and trust in God.

Pastor: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

People: We confess that we do not call upon it in every trouble, prayer, praise, and giving of thanks.

Pastor: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

People: We confess that we do not always hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn God's Word.

Pastor: Honor your father and your mother.

People: We confess that we do not always honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Pastor: You shall not commit adultery.

People: We confess that we are not pure in all we say and do, and we do not always love and honor our spouses.

Pastor: You shall not steal.

People: We confess that we do not always help our neighbors to improve and protect their possessions and income. We have not shared our possessions and income with the poor and the broken, the needy and homeless.

Pastor: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

People: We confess that we do not always defend our neighbors, or speak well of them, or explain everything in the kindest way.

Pastor: You shall not covet.

People: We confess that we do not always help our neighbors keep their property and family relationships.

Pastor: The Lord's Supper was instituted for the comfort of those who are troubled by their sins. Our Prophet, Priest, and King has paid for our sins. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you (2 Tim. 4:22).

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts (Col. 3:1).

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God (Ps. 136).

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Pastor: In the year that King Uzziah died [Isaiah] saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

People: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! (Is. 6:1–3)

Pastor: [As Jesus entered Jerusalem,] the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting,

People: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! (Matt. 21:9)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord our God, for You have not remained apart from Your people, communing with a select few atop a holy mountain. In this Sacrament Your Son comes to us with His body and blood for us to eat and to drink. He gives Himself to us whole and entire that we might give ourselves to our neighbor whole and entire. Gathered in His name, we pray that Your Holy Spirit will strengthen our faith thereby so that we may remain faithful to death and receive the crown of everlasting life. To You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all glory in Your church, both now and evermore.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (Matt. 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Cor. 11:23–25)

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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: St. Paul wrote in the Epistle, “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” (1 Cor. 10:16–17).

Fellow members of the one Body of Christ, “As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes” (1 Cor. 11:26).

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus (Rev. 22:20b).

Pastor: Lord Jesus, in giving us Your body and blood in this Sacrament You enable us to remember Your life, Your bitter passion and death, Your rest in the tomb, Your glorious resurrection and ascension; we await Your return. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI (*The Peace of the Lord*)

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always (John 20:19).

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God”

Pastor: “[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29)!

People: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: grant us peace, grant us peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” [LSB 624]

“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior” [LSB 627]

THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us with the body and blood of Your Son, given and shed for the remission of our sins. We ask that it strengthen our faith so that it may remain constant throughout time until we join the saints and angels to praise Him

for His innocent suffering and death; we pray that as we are one body and one loaf we may bear each other's burdens and live lives of mercy; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

+ STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR +

PSALM Psalm 22 [Spoken or chanted by the congregation or choir to a familiar tune as found in the hymnal. As the psalm is spoken or chanted, members of the altar guild assist the pastor in removing linens, paraments, ornaments, and candles from the chancel. The altar symbolizes Christ; removing its usual adornments symbolizes the abuse our Lord endured this night. As soon as the chancel is cleared, unnecessary lights may be dimmed.]

There is no Benediction; our worship continues with the Service of Tenebrae (darkness) tomorrow. Please observe silence while departing.