

# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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## Maundy Thursday

28 March A✠D 2024

*Divine Service, Setting I*

## ✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

On this solemn day, Maundy (Holy) Thursday, we gather to remember and celebrate how our Lord, on the night when He was betrayed, instituted for us the blessed Sacrament of Holy Communion. Our service this evening will focus on this Supper, and it stands in Holy Week as a joyous moment of light, preceding the darkness and pain of Jesus' suffering. Our service tonight will begin with individual Absolution at the Communion rail and will conclude with the traditional stripping of the altar.

If you are a VISITOR here, we'd like to offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

Also, toward the end of our service today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, in which we will eat and drink Jesus' body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Therefore, we ask that you would please see the statement titled "On the Sacrament of Holy Communion," printed below, which describes our beliefs and practices regarding this sacred gift.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter,  
as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth,  
I humbly pray that You would open my heart  
to the preaching of Your Word so that I may  
repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my  
only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.  
Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

**ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION:** We believe that when we receive Holy Communion together, we are publicly declaring both our unity in Christ and our agreement in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10). We also believe that if we receive this sacrament in unbelief, we risk God's judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

Therefore, communion at this altar is reserved for those who believe and confess the teachings of our church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Those who have not been formally instructed in our teachings should wait to commune until completing a course of instruction with us.

If you are a VISITOR and would like to commune with us today, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you will not be communing, you are welcome to kneel at the altar with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing, or you may simply remain in your pew.

*As we reverently prepare for Confession and Absolution, there is no pre-service music.*

## Service of Corporate Confession and Individual Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**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.

*Sit*

### Confessional Address

**P** During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. 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 the 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, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

**C** Amen.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **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.

Sit

## Individual Absolution

*Parishioners are invited to form a single line in the center aisle, with two people approaching the altar at a time, one on pastor's left, and one on pastor's right. Pastor will absolve each penitent individually at the altar, laying his hands on their head, and pronouncing the following absolution:*

**P** 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.

*After all have returned to their seats, Pastor gives the blessing:*

Stand

**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.

## Service of the Word

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

### Collect of the Day

**P** 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.



**C** A - men.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. <sup>4</sup>And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, <sup>6</sup>and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

<sup>7</sup>“Then 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>8</sup>They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. <sup>10</sup>And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and 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 are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

*Ps. 111:4–5*

**P** He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**C** He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 11:23–32*

<sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>25</sup>In the same way also he took the cup, 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.

<sup>27</sup>Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup>Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup>For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup>That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. <sup>31</sup>But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup>But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Tract (spoken responsively)**

*Ps. 111:4–5; John 6:55–56*

*The Tract replaces the Alleluia during Lent.*

**P** He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**C** He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

**P** My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

**Holy Gospel**

*John 13:1–15, 34–35*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup>During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him, <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 back to God, <sup>4</sup>rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. <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 wrapped around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to

him, “Lord, do you wash my feet?” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.” <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, “You shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not 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, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.” <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

<sup>12</sup>When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. <sup>14</sup>If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

<sup>34</sup>A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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



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



Sit

## Hymn of the Day: 617 O Lord, We Praise Thee



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,  
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,  
3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy  
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er  
That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that  
love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -  
geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!  
blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our  
Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy  
Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead  
blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;  
heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

## Sermon

*Stand*

### Apostles' Creed

*The Apostles' Creed is used during Lent.*

**C** 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 Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was 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.**

### Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For faith directed toward the self-offering of Christ, that built on His humble image, the Church would resist the allure of worldly power and her members pursue their own sacrificial callings, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the deliverance of our souls, which are precious in God's sight; and for confidence that Christ Himself prays with us, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** In gratitude for the new testament in Christ's blood, whose institution is celebrated this day among all peoples, that the world for which He died may know Him and His sacrifice, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who have requested our prayers, [*including \_\_\_\_\_ and those we name in our hearts,*] that God would grant relief to the suffering, comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our evil way and live. We come before You, although we have sinned and deserve only Your wrath; yet we flee to Your mercy in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who gave His body and His blood for our redemption. Lord, grant that we may ever thus believe and never waver. Grant that in such faith we may worthily come to Your altar to eat the very body and drink the true blood which Your Son has given for our redemption. In thanksgiving, we remember and proclaim the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we place our trust. Until His return, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Offering**

*During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.*

Stand  
Offertory

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

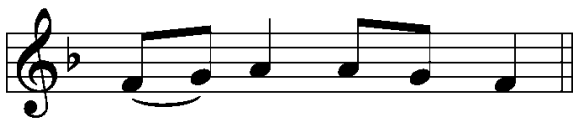
### Service of the Sacrament

Preface

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so 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 Him thanks and praise.

### Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

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

- 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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

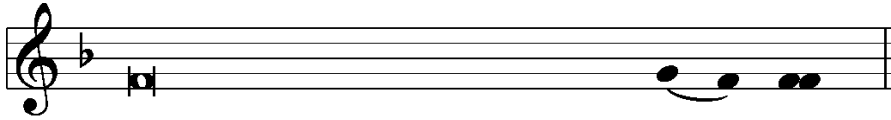
*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

- 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

**Distribution**

*Visitors – Please see note on the inside front cover of this service folder regarding our practice of Holy Communion.*

# Distribution Hymn: 619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which Thou for  
2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in Thee and  
3 Who can con-demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is nigh, who  
4 Though death may threat-en with dis - as - ter, It can - not rob me  
5 My heart has now be-come Thy dwell-ing, O bless - ed, ho - ly



me didst shed, These are my life and strength for -  
Thou in me. No sor - row fills my soul, de -  
jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and thus se -  
of my cheer; For He who is of death the  
Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy prais - es

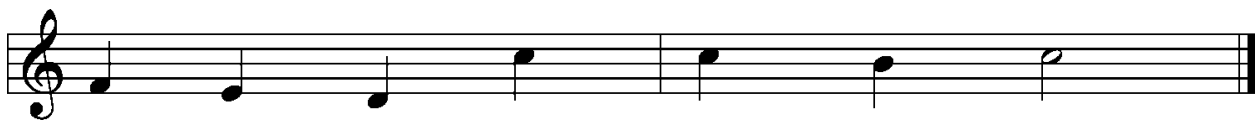


ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.  
light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.  
cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.  
mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.  
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

## *Refrain*



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be



for my soul the high - est good!



*Stand*

## Post-Communion Collect

**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 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.



## Stripping of the Altar

*Sit*

### Psalm 22

*Read by Worship Assistant*

*While Psalm 22 is read, the communion vessels, linens, and all the ornaments of the altar and chancel are reverently removed in preparation for the solemn service of Good Friday. When the candles are extinguished prior to their removal, the lights of the church are dimmed. Psalm 22 expresses the abandonment suffered by Christ during His suffering and crucifixion. On this night, as the darkness rises up against Christ, the church is emptied of its beauty and darkened. The congregation goes quietly into the night, to return on Good Friday to “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” by his sacrificial death on the cross.*

*The words to Psalm 22, can be found on the next page.*

## Psalm 22

### Why Have You Forsaken Me?

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,  
and by night, but I find no rest.

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>In you our fathers trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

<sup>5</sup>To you they cried and were rescued;  
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man,  
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock me;  
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

<sup>8</sup>“He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;  
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

<sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me from the womb;  
you made me trust you at my mother’s breasts.

<sup>10</sup>On you was I cast from my birth,  
and from my mother’s womb you have been my God.

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me,  
for trouble is near,  
and there is none to help.

<sup>12</sup>Many bulls encompass me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint;

my heart is like wax;  
it is melted within my breast;

<sup>15</sup>my strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup>For dogs encompass me;  
a company of evildoers encircles me;  
they have pierced my hands and feet—

<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones—  
they stare and gloat over me;

<sup>18</sup>they divide my garments among them,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.

<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far off!  
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

<sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my precious life from the power of the dog!  
Save me from the mouth of the lion!

<sup>21</sup>You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

<sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,  
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and he has not hidden his face from him,  
but has heard, when he cried to him.

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup>The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!  
May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before you.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep himself alive.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve him;  
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

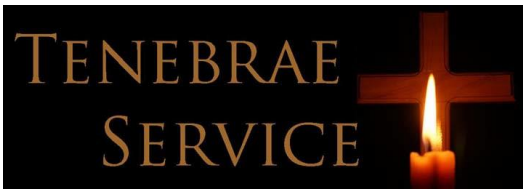
<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,  
that he has done it.

*At the conclusion of the Stripping of the Altar, all leave the church in silence.*

#### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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We hope you will join us for tomorrow night's Tenebrae Vespers Service (the Service of Darkness) starting at 7 p.m.



You won't want to miss our joyous Easter Sunday Divine Service celebration this Sunday, March 31 at 9:30 a.m. After, your invited to an Easter Potluck at 11:00 and we will be having our Children's Easter Egg Hunt around 11:30 a.m. (outdoor, weather permitting otherwise, indoor)



**SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS EVENING**

Presiding Minister  
Elder on Duty  
Organist  
Ushers

Rev. Dr. Frank Pies, Emeritus  
Tom LoCascio  
Rob Wheeler  
Matt Maier