

Holy Thursday, Thurs., March 28, 2024, 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

321 North 10th St., Beatrice, NE 68310 | 402-228-1540

www.stpaulbeatrice.org | stpaulbeatrice@gmail.com

Rev. Daryn Bahn, Pastor | 715-305-8667 | reverend.bahn@gmail.com

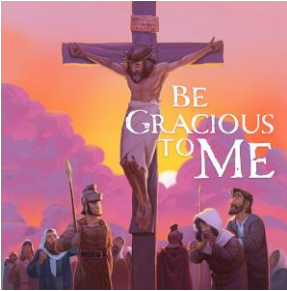
St. Paul's Lutheran School & Childcare Center

930 Prairie Lane, Beatrice, NE 68310 | 402-223-3414

Mrs. Amy Duever, Principal | aduever@diodecom.net | Cassie Rhoden, Childcare Director

Hymns: 452, 617, 445, 622, 619, 636; Liturgy: 192, 195, 198, Psalm 22 (G)

My Close Friend



Have you ever been betrayed by someone close to you? You are not alone. King David prayed in Psalm 41:9, “Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.” To have a heel lifted against you is to receive a tremendous kick. It is a kick that sends you reeling and knocks the breath out of you—much like the feeling of being betrayed by a trusted friend. When trust has been broken, you can pray David’s words

as your own and put your trust in the One whose betrayal they prophesy. For your Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took the pain and shame for you.

452 O Perfect Life of Love *stanzas 1-4*



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,
2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;
3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.
All forms of hu - man grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.; Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591; Text and tune: Public domain.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences *Psalm 34:1, 3, 8-9, 15, 22*

- P** I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- C** **Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!**
- P** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!
- C** **Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!**
- P** The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and His ears toward their cry.
- C** **The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.**

Confession and Absolution

- P** In the Upper Room on the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ gave a new command that His people are to love one another as He has loved them. When we look at our lives, we see clearly that we have not fulfilled that new command He has given. We know that we are by nature sinful and unclean and realize that we have transgressed the Law of God in thought, word, and deed. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves and have missed opportunities to be of service in the name of the Lord. In His mercy, God has promised His forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him, humbly asking for His grace in Christ Jesus. Realizing our need for forgiveness in Christ, the Lamb of God, let us then make our confession to our God. 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. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

617 O Lord, We Praise Thee *stanzas 1-2*



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish; Our weak souls that
love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
of re - mind us! 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
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;
In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (st. 2): Martin Luther, 1483-1546; Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter; Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Tune: Public domain.

Salutation & Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- 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** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 12:1-14*

P The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, the twelfth chapter.

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell 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. ⁴And 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. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and 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.

⁷“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. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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.

¹⁴“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.**

Psalm *Psalm 41*

- P** Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
- C** **In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;**
- P** the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;
- C** **You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**
- P** The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.
- C** **As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!”**
- P** My enemies say of me in malice, “When will he die and his name perish?”
- C** **And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**
- P** All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.
- C** **They say, “A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.”**
- P** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- C** **But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!**
- P** By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- C** **But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever. Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle *1 Corinthians 11:23-32*

- P** The Epistle is from First Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵In 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.” ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

²⁷Whoever, 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. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But 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.

Verse *John 13:1b*

C Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

Holy Gospel *John 13:1-30*

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now 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. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus 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." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When 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? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I

then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' ¹⁹I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me." ²¹After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²²The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. ²³One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table close to Jesus, ²⁴so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." ²⁸Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,
 2 Nev - er so a - lone and lone - ly, Long - ing
 3 What was there that You could give them That would
 4 One in faith, in love u - nit - ed, All one
 5 One day all the Church will cap - ture That bright



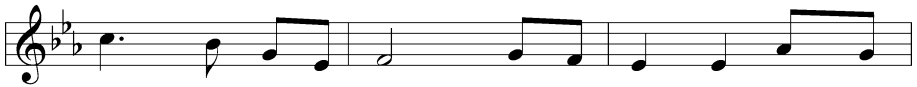
teach - er, faith - ful friend, Thoughts of self and safe - ty
 with tor - ment - ed heart To be with Your dear ones
 nev - er be out - spent, What great gift that would out -
 bod - y, You the head, When we meet, by You in -
 vi - sion glo - ri - ous, And Your saints will know the



scorn - ing, Know - ing how the day would end;
 on - ly For a qui - et hour a - part:
 live them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?
 vit - ed, You are with us, as You said.
 rap - ture That Your heart de - sired for us,



Lamb of God, fore - told for a - ges, Now at
 Sin - less Lamb and fall - en crea - ture, One last
 "Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me
 One with You and one an - oth - er In a
 When the longed - for peace and u - nion Of the



last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's
 pas - chal meal to eat, One last les - son as their
 as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance
 u - ni - ty sub - lime, See in us Your sis - ter,
 Great - est and the least Meet in joy - ous, blest com -



wa - ges: You as - sumed their dread - ful sum.
 teach - er, Wash - ing Your dis - ci - ples' feet.
 of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."
 broth - er, One in ev - 'ry place and time.
 mu - nion In Your nev - er - end - ing feast.

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Sermon *Psalm 41:9*

Nicene Creed

- 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs... We pray for the Church, which is our spiritual home, and for the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's people would be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood at this blessed Table, that in their eating and drinking they receive the benefits of the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life, and truly have a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they would use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people and for all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and sciences, that God would

grant them skill and integrity in the performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their vocations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them. We also pray for all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful, generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the Church and to help those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those who are sick... that God would grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace and for those who mourn... that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will never leave them nor forsake them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Offering

Offertory *LSB 192*

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Preface & Proper Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is our duty and our delight at all times and in all places to give thanks to You, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has invited us to His Table of grace, where we receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Grant that we humbly and reverently receive these gifts before us, thankful to be joining the company of heaven gathered at Your eternal feast as evermore they praise You, saying:

Sanctus *LSB 195*

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who of Your tender love for all people gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon Him and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. Gathered at His Table in the fellowship of all the saints, we pray You to send down Your Holy Spirit on us to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Gathered at Your gracious invitation, we bring You our thanksgiving and pray that we be filled with all Your heavenly blessings; through Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ, Lord's Prayer, and Peace of the Lord

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So 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.**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared *stanzas 1, 4, 6, 8*

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious
 6 Lord, I be - lieve what You have said; Help me when
 8 For Your con - sol - ing sup - per, Lord, Be praised through-

our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
 Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y
 doubts as - sail me. Re - mem - ber that I
 out all a - ges! Pre - serve it, for in

and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
 and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.
 am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.
 ev - 'ry place The world a - gainst it ra - ges.

As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are
 Your sup - per in this vale of tears Re - fresh - es
 Grant that this sac - ra - ment may be A bless - ed

You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.
 me and stills my fears And is my price - less trea - sure.
 com - fort un - to me When liv - ing and when dy - ing.

Text: Samuel Kinner, 1603-68; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841-1931, alt.; Tune: Peter Sohren, c. 1630-c. 1692, alt.; Text and tune: Public domain.

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior



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



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
 Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
 nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
 rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
 thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
 prais - es 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!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677-1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.; Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig; Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Tune: Public domain.

636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness *stanzas 1-2, 4, 6*



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver
 6 Je - sus, sun of life, my splen - dor, Je - sus,



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is
 friend of friends, most ten - der, Je - sus, joy of my de -



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 bound-less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:
 sir - ing, Fount of life, my soul in - spir - ing:



Bless the One whose grace un-bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to
 At Your feet I cry, my mak - er, Let me be a



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 there a - dore Him; Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -
 fit par - tak - er Of this bless - ed food from



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!
 heav - en, For our good, Your glo - ry, giv - en.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; (stanzas 1, 4); tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (stanzas 2, 6); tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; Text (stanzas 1, 4); © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Text (stanzas 2, 6) and tune: Public domain.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray... We give thanks to You, gracious God, for having received us as guests at Your Table. We pray that You would remain with us at all times and in all places so that we may pass our earthly days in peace, assured of Your guidance and knowing the comfort of Your care and pardon. By the power of the Holy Spirit, rule our hearts and minds that we may serve You constantly; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

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.

Stripping of the Altar

Reading *Psalm 22*



- ¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*
- Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?
- ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,*
- and by night, but I | find no rest.
- ³Yet you are | holy,*
- enthroned on the praises of | Israel.
- ⁴In you our fathers | trusted;*
- they trusted, and you de- | livered them.
- ⁵To you they cried and were | rescued;*
- in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.
- ⁶But I am a worm and | not a man,*
- scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.
- ⁷All who see me | mock me;*
- they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;
- ⁸“He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;*
- let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”
- ⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;*
- you made me trust you at my | mother’s breast
- ¹⁰On you was I cast | from my birth,*
- and from my mother’s womb you have | been my God.
- ¹¹Be not far from me,
- for trouble | is near,*
- and there is | none to help.
- ¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;*
- strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;
- ¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,*
- like a ravening and roaring | lion.
- ¹⁴I am poured out like water,
- and all my bones are | out of joint;*
- my heart is like wax;
- it is melted with- | in my breast;
- ¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
- and my tongue sticks | to my jaws,*
- you lay me in the | dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me;*
 a company of evildoers encircles me;
 they have pierced my | hands and feet—
¹⁷I can count | all my bones—*
 they stare and gloat | over me;
¹⁸they divide my garments a- | mong them,*
 and for my clothing they | cast lots.
¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!*
 O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!
²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,*
 my precious life from the power | of the dog!
²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!*
 You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!
²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:
²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
 All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,*
 and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!
²⁴For 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.
²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation,*
 my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.
²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
 those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!*
 May your hearts live for- | ever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
 and turn | to the LORD,*
 and all the families of the nations
 shall worship be- | fore you.
²⁸For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
 and he rules over the | nations.
²⁹All 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 him- | self alive.
³⁰Posterity shall | serve him,*
 it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,*
 that he has | done it.

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. While this is done, Psalm 22 may be sung or spoken. The Gloria Patri is omitted. At the conclusion of the Stripping of the Altar, all leave the church in silence.

Acknowledgments

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Fill-In Sermon Notes: Holy Thursday, March 28, 2024 My Close Friend, Psalm 41:9

1. David's feeling of _____ is like the lifting of the heel, that is, a forceful kick.
 2. Because these words are about _____, they likewise apply to you by virtue of your baptismal union with Him (see Jeremiah 33:17; Psalm 110:1; Acts 2:34; Matthew 9:27).
 3. God's _____ to the betrayals of our Lord Jesus and David give us comfort.
- What are some particularly painful parts of the betrayals that both David and Jesus experienced?
 - What significance is there to observe that the washing of the disciples' feet preceded the revelation that one of the disciples (Judas) would betray Jesus?
 - How is the Lord's Supper a comfort to us in the face of betrayal?