



Maundy Thursday

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

6:30 p.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thursday, April 2, 2026

11 a.m.

6:30 p.m.



WELCOME VISITORS:

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the

narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT

In deep Christian love and commitment to the Word of God we continue to hold to the Biblical and Ancient practice of closed communion. The Church Body's official teaching is that those who commune together must confess the same faith, and recognize the great power and real presence of the body and blood Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine. (1 Corinthians 10:16-18;

11:23-29; Romans 16:17). Likewise, since one's membership helps promote that church's major teachings we ask that only those commune who are confirmed and communicant members of the LCMS, and who are not under church discipline. Thank you for respecting our beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around the Word of God. If you have any question please contact Pastor Love.

NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available at the Lord's Table. Please let Pastor know before worship service that you would like the gluten free wafers.



OPENING HYMN

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

LSB #524

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

- P** Jesus said “I did not come to invite righteous people, but sinners.” Merciful God, we do not dare to come before You trusting in our own goodness and virtue. We come because we are struggling sinful people that desire to sincerely repent of our sins, submit to Your Word, and receive Your Almighty forgiveness. We come because we are hungry to know Your will and be led and fed by Your Holy Spirit through Your Word and Sacrament.
- C** **Father, forgive us and feed us.**
- P** We come because Christ has invited us sinners. We come in gratitude and wonder to offer our very selves to You in worship, adoration, and humble repentance.
- C** **Father, accept our praise; Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P** We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Let us search our hearts, and minds.. God's Word says in Psalm 32, "When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me...Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord and You forgave the guilt of my sin.'"
- C** **Let us rend our hearts and not our garments and turn unto the Lord our God; for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding great kindness. (Psalm 32:3-5)**
- P** Heavenly Father, we have sinned by not keeping Your commands, given out of love and kindness for us. We have not loved You with our whole heart, soul, and mind nor have we not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. For lack of loving kindness,
- C** **Forgive us, Lord...**
(silence)

P We have sinned by not regarding Your way, life, and gifts as truly holy and sacred. We have taken Your precious Word for granted. For apathy towards all holy things,

C **Forgive us, Lord...**

(silence)

P We have harbored thoughts of hatred, lust, and selfish gain. For a myriad of ungodly thoughts

C **Forgive us, Lord...**

(silence)

P Heavenly Father, for Jesus' sake, have mercy on us and forgive us for all our sins, even those of which we are unaware.

C **In the name of Jesus Christ, we ask for forgiveness. Deliver and restore us that we may be refreshed with forgiveness, serving You with confidence and joy. Amen.**

P Beloved in Christ, our Lord Jesus heard the prayer of our souls. He came to live among us. He stooped down to wash the feet of His disciples, taking upon Himself the task of a slave. He stooped down in order to be lifted up on a cross, taking upon Himself the sins of the world. His life is your life by faith. As called and ordained servant of Christ Jesus, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen! God has had mercy on us through the bitter loss and bring to life again His Own dear Son. We live forgiven by His Son's blood! Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

CHORAL SELECTION *(Faith)*

"Lead Me in Thy Righteousness"

RESPONSIVE PRAYER *Psalms 119:10-16*

- P** I seek you with all my heart;
C **do not let me stray from your commands.**
P I have hidden your word in my heart
C **that I might not sin against you.**
P Praise be to you, O Lord;
C **teach me your decrees.**
P With my lips I recount
C **all the laws that come from your mouth.**
P I rejoice in following your statutes
C **as one rejoices in great riches.**
P I meditate on your precepts
C **and consider your ways.**
P I delight in your decrees;
C **I will not neglect your word.**

***THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES US
THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD.***

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 12:1-13

The 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. ¹⁰ And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29

“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? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. ¹⁸ Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?

²³ 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, ²⁴ 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.” ²⁵ 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.” ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.”

P Jesus said “Blessed rather are those who hear the Word of God”

C “and keep it” (Luke 11:28)

CHORAL ANTHEM (*Faith*)

“Just As I Am”

Carl E. Wacker

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 22:7-20

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” ⁹ They said to him, “Where will you have us prepare it?” ¹⁰ He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters ¹¹ and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ ¹² And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.” ¹³ And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴ And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁰ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

CATECHISM

P *The Seventh Petition*

C **But deliver us from evil.**

P *What does this mean?*

C We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

SERMON HYMN

“When You Woke That Thursday Morning”

LSB# 445

MAUNDY THURSDAY MESSAGE

THE OFFERING

THE FAMILY OF GOD PRAYS TOGETHER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 HOLY SACRAMENT

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“I Come, O Savior, To Thy Table”

LSB# 618

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB #621

THE THANKSGIVING

P As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:

C You do show the Lord’s death until He comes!

THE CLOSING COLLECT

- P** Dear Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You that You have again refreshed us with the gift of Your holy body and blood in this comforting sacrament. Bless our participation that we may depart from Your presence with peace and joy in the knowledge that we are reconciled to God. We ask this in Your name.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Go To Dark Gethsemane”

LSB# 436 vs 1–3



STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Stripping of the altar [removing all ornaments, linens, and paraments] is an ancient custom of the Church done on Maundy Thursday. It points to the humiliation of Jesus at the hands of the soldiers.

After the Last Supper, events in our Lord's life moved rapidly: prayer in Gethsemane, betrayal by Judas, arrest, mock trial, painful beating, the tormenting trudge to Golgotha and execution. As his life was stripped from him, so we strip our altar of the signs of life to point to His purposeful, redemptive suffering and death for us. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness." The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the Light of the world. As even creation was dark when He suffered, so we extinguish our candles and remove them.

[Candles extinguished and removed]

Our offerings represent one way of serving God and others. They reflect God's greatest offering to the world and to us in sending His Son, Jesus, in human form. As the offered body of Jesus was removed from sight in burial, so we remove our offerings.

[Offerings are removed]

The missal stand holds our worship books that guide our worship life together as we sing praises to God. As Jesus suffers, joyous songs are not heard. As these sounds of joy are removed from our lips, we remove the missal stand.

[Missal stands and service books are removed]

Jesus' offered Body and His shed Blood have been given to us in, with, and under the form of bread and wine in this Holy Mystery. As He was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of this Sacrament.

[Communion vessels removed]

Our altar is in the form of a table. It is here where our Lord Jesus serves us as both host and meal at his banquet feast.

The coverings and paraments are made of fine linen and brocade; materials appropriate for feasting with our King. As our King's body was stripped in crucifixion, so our altar is stripped of its coverings.

[Altar clothes and paraments are removed]

**After the stripping of the altar has been completed,
all may leave the church silently.**



Good Friday, April 3

1:00 p.m. Worship at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 4

6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil at St. John's
(30 minute silent prayer sessions)

Easter Sunday, April 5

8:30 a.m. Worship

with Holy Communion at St. John's

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith