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HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

APRIL 6, 2023

WATER AND BLOOD

AS WE GATHER

On this night when our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed into the hands of sinful men, we receive the blessings of forgiveness and new life as we partake of the Lord's Supper. Looking ahead to the death of Jesus on Calvary's cross, we remember with the apostle John that both water and blood flowed from Jesus' side as He was pierced by the spear of a Roman soldier (see John 19:34). The flowing water reminds us of the mystery of our Baptism, as God the Father cleanses us of our sin and makes us His children. The flowing blood reminds us of the deep love of the Savior, who allowed Himself to die a horrific death so that we may experience a glorious resurrection, and it points to the Sacrament of our Lord's body and blood. May the blessings of Jesus flow into our lives as we gather to worship Him.

THE OPENING HYMN "Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying"
(LSB 597)

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *2 Corinthians 5:21, alt.; Isaiah 53:5*

- P** For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,
C so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.
P But He was wounded for our transgressions;
C He was crushed for our iniquities;
P upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

C and with His stripes we are healed.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Based on Philippians 2:1–11*

P Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

P With humble hearts, let us pray together:

C **Lord Jesus, the Father’s only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**

P By the water and blood that flowed from Your pierced side, our redemption has been guaranteed and our salvation has been secured.

C **Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—**

P to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.

C **With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

P Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was betrayed, slandered, and sentenced to death on the cross. By the water and blood that flowed from His pierced side, Jesus pours out His cleansing forgiveness upon us all. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

KYRIE

- P** Lord, have mercy.
- C** **Christ, have mercy.**
- P** Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17:1–7

- P** The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, the seventeenth chapter.

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?”³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?”⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”⁵And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the

people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 5:5–12

P The Epistle is from First John, the fifth chapter.

⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that He has borne concerning His Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning His Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A HYMN:

“He will Hold Me Fast” (Getty)

Verse 1

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 2

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Verse 3

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last

CCLI Song # 7016161

Ada Ruth Habershon | Matthew Merker

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THE VERSE *(Spoken by all)*

Joel 2:13b

Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 14:12–26

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹²On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus'] disciples said to Him, "Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?" ¹³And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, ¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is My guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?' ¹⁵And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." ¹⁶And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁷And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. ¹⁸And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me." ¹⁹They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, "Is it I?" ²⁰He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if He had not been born." ²²And as they were eating, He took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is My body." ²³And He took a cup, and when He had given

thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." ²⁶And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

THE SERMON HYMN:

"In Christ Alone" (Getty)

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day

Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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SERMON

OFFERING A Song (“If I Were There” – Christina

Shourds) (Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)

A HYMN: “When You Woke That Thursday Morning”
(LSB 445)

PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

- P** Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You that You have gathered us together on this night when Your Son instituted the Supper we are privileged to receive.
- G** Grant that the promised treasures of Your Word remind us of the mercy You give to us by the water and the blood.

- P** Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,
- C** **that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**
- P** Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.
- C** **Encourage our hearts and minds as we hold fast to Your Word, knowing that all You accomplished during Holy Week was done for our salvation.**
- P** Holy Spirit, make us one through this sacred Meal we now prepare our hearts to receive, that in the communion of saints we may be strengthened in our fellowship with Christ Jesus and with one another.
- C** **All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

A HYMN: "Jesus, Greatest at the Table"
(LSB 446, TUNE: Grafton, LSB 660)

- 1 Jesus, greatest at the table,
The almighty Son of Man,
Laid aside His outer clothing,
Poured some water in a pan;
As the Twelve lay, hushed in silence,
He the servant's task began.
- 2 Marvel how their Lord and teacher
Gently taught them not to vie
As He humbly knelt before them,
Dusty feet to wash and dry,
By His tender touch expressing
True compassion from on high.

- 3 Jesus took the role of servant
 When upon that gruesome span,
 For all human sin He suffered
 As a vile and loathsome man;
 On the cross poured out like water
 To fulfill the Father's plan.
- 4 Can we fathom such deep mercy?
 Do we see what God has done?
 Who can grasp this great reversal:
 Love that gives His only Son?
 Christ, the sinless for the sinners,
 For the many dies the One.
- 5 Jesus gave to His disciples
 A commandment that was new:
 "Show My love to one another,
 Do as I have done for you;
 All the world will know you love Me
 As you love each other too."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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THE ANNOUNCEMENTS/BLESSING

CHOIR ANTHEM "The Upper Room"

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.**

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 singing:

SANCTUS

LSB, p. 161

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

A HYMN

“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy” (*LSB* 434)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” (*LSB* 637)

THE POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray. O God the Father, in love and mercy You sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh. We thank You that You have given us pardon and peace in this Supper. Grant us faith always to trust that by the water and blood that flowed from Your pierced side
- C** **You have fully and freely poured out Your forgiveness upon us all;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

THE 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 T give you peace.
- C** Amen.

A HYMN “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (LSB 436:1–3)

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

As the chancel items are removed, we reflect on the sacrifice of Christ for our salvation.

PSALM *Psalm 22:1–10*

- P** My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?
- C** **O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.**
- P** Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- C** **In You our fathers trusted; they trusted, and You delivered them.**
- P** To You they cried and were rescued; in You they trusted and were not put to shame.
- C** **But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.**
- P** All who see Me mock Me; they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;
- C** **“He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”**
- P** Yet You are He who took Me from the womb; You made Me trust You at My mother’s breasts.
- C** **On You was I cast from My birth, and from My mother’s womb You have been My God.**

The congregation departs in peace and silence.

St. James Holy Week Services: Please join us this week to prepare for the death and resurrection of our Lord. Good Friday at 7:00pm, Easter Breakfast at 8:00, and Worship at 9:30. If you are planning to attend Easter breakfast, please sign up on the sheet on the table near the church office in the lobby.

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

NOTE: We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcohol grape juice. Just let Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.