



‘Taking bread [and] giving thanks, he gave to them, saying, “This is my body”’.

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

April 2, 2026

Maundy Thursday

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Maundy Thursday, occurring on the eve of our Lord's crucifixion, marks the night our Lord gave His body and blood for His disciples of all time to eat and to drink in the bread and the wine of His Holy Supper. Not merely the blood of animals, but in the blood of Jesus our salvation is secure. Look to learn more deeply this day of God's means of salvation in blood, Christ's blood, and humbly prepare to receive once more His true body and blood in the Lord's Supper on this night when He instituted the meal of grace.

At the conclusion of tonight's Maundy Thursday service, we observe the ancient custom of the stripping of the altar, symbolizing our Lord being stripped of His honor when handed over to the guards.



Opening Hymn 445 *When You Woke That Thursday Morning*

Invocation

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

Amen.

I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Exhortation

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. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread 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.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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.

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

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I 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.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

Amen.

Hymn **610** *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

1, 2, 5

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| 1. Lord Jesus, think on me
And purge away my sin;
From worldly passions set me free
And make me pure within. | 2. Lord Jesus, think on me,
By anxious thoughts oppressed;
Let me Your loving servant be
And taste Your promised rest. |
| 5. Lord Jesus, think on me
That, when this life is past,
I may the eternal brightness see
And share Your joy at last. | |

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Exodus 12:1–14

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. 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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem **6:00pm** *God So Loved the World*

Epistle Reading — 1 Corinthians 11:23–32

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, 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Tract — Psalm 111:4–5; John 6:55–56

He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;

the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him;

he remembers his covenant forever.

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.

The Holy Gospel

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

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

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. 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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed *inside back cover of hymnal*

Hymn **436** *Go to Dark Gethsemane* **1-2**

Sermon

Offering

Prayers

Confirmation **6:00pm** *Claire Okie*

The Service of the Sacrament **page 194**

For our guests desiring the Lord’s Supper...

Holy Communion is the eating and drinking of Christ’s crucified and risen body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, for strength for this life, and for the assurance of everlasting life with Him. It is a miraculous gift full of grace.

The Bible also teaches that anyone who receives the Lord’s Supper who does not believe or has not been taught our Lord’s teaching, or who is unrepentant, receives Christ’s body and blood to his or her harm. Out of love for you, we kindly ask you to speak to one of our pastors before communing if you are not a member of an LCMS congregation.

Distribution Hymns **774** **634** **618**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn **438** *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth* **1, 2**

*The 10:00am service ends here without a benediction and continues on Good Friday.
The 6:00pm service continues with the stripping of the altar.
All leave in silence.*

Stripping of the Altar

This ancient ceremony symbolizes our Lord being stripped of His honor. Unclothed He would hang on the cross. Psalm 22 is spoken. All leave in silence in anticipation both of Good Friday and of Easter Sunday.

Worship will continue on Good Friday — 1:30pm and 6:00pm

Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy	Rev. Ryan J. Fehrmann	Sermon	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup
Organist	Mrs. Lorraine Doell	Pianist	Mrs. Debbie Welch
Oboist	Mrs. Karon Bouwma	Choir	St. Paul Adult Choir

Acknowledgments

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