

# *The New Covenant of Christ's Passion*

*Maundy Thursday*

*March 28, 2013*

**6:00 Pre-Service Bells** “Beautiful Savior / Were You There”

## **Introduction to the Service**

This Lenten season we have been focusing on the holy passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have pondered together His struggle in prayer in the Garden, seen His arrest and unjust conviction, pondered the sin of disciples who betrayed, denied, and fled, and seen Him suffer “under Pontius Pilate” and led out to be crucified at the hands of sinful men. Tonight we celebrate that Jesus Christ embodied His holy passion in a New Covenant of love and grace. Even though we have not always loved Him as we should, He continues to love us, forgive us, and remember our sins no more.

We gather together tonight on the anniversary of the institution of the new covenant that Christ had come to make with mankind. It is a covenant of grace, a covenant of mercy, a covenant of forgiveness. It is a covenant that is embodied in the meal we call the Lord's Supper. It is a covenant that not only forgives us all our sins, but a covenant that calls us to live a life of love in the name of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we gather at His table tonight, may we be mindful of the bond we have with Him . . . and with one another . . . and all those who belong to Him.

## **Prayer of Preparation**

Lord Jesus Christ, on this very night so long ago you instituted your holy supper of grace and forgiveness. Grant that I may prepare to eat in a worthy manner, repenting of all my sins. Grant that I may find comfort, knowing how great is your love for me and all sinners. Grant that I may be strengthened to bear the fruit of your love in my life. In your name, Jesus, I ask these things. Amen.

## **Welcome**

### **Opening Hymn #433 “Glory Be to Jesus”**

Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the life-blood From His sacred veins!

Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!

Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment Did the world redeem!

Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.

Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!

(Rise)

## **Invocation**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## **Responsive Psalm**

Pastor: How can I repay the Lord

**People: for all His goodness to me?**

Pastor: I will lift up the cup of salvation

**People: and call on the name of the Lord.**

Pastor: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

**People: in the presence of all His people.**

Pastor: Precious in the sight of the Lord

**People: is the death of His saints.**

Pastor: O Lord, truly I am your servant;

**People: I am your servant, the son of your maidservant; you have freed me from my chains.**

Pastor: I will sacrifice a thank offering to you

**People: and call on the name of the Lord.**

Pastor: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord

**People: in the presence of all His people:**

Pastor: In the courts of the house of the Lord –

**People: in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

**All: Praise the Lord.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father:

**All: Almighty God, merciful Father, we admit to you that we have sinned against your Holy will and your Holy ways. We have had thoughts that just aren't right. We have spoken words that are evil, words that aren't true, words that can hurt another's soul. We have done things in disobedience against your Holy law. We are sorry for all our sins. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ and the New Covenant found in the blood He shed for us. Renew us by your Spirit to live in grace and share it with others.**

Pastor: Upon this, your sincere confession, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus 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.

**People: Amen.**

## Song of Praise #806

### “Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,”

Because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say “I am strong.”

Let the poor say “I am rich.” Because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks, give thanks.

Pastor: Let us pray:

**All: O Lord Jesus, since you have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant, we pray, that this sacrament of your body and blood may confirm us in true faith, work in us the fruit of love and forgiveness, and strengthen us to walk daily with you; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(Be seated)

### Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

### Gradual

Pastor: Christ entered the Most Holy Place once for all

**People: by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.**

Pastor: He is the mediator of a new covenant,

**People: that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

Pastor: He provided redemption for His people;

**People: He ordained His covenant forever.**

### New Testament Reading: Hebrews 10:15-25

The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: “This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.” And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary. Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith

brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### Verse

Pastor: For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,

**People: you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.**

(Rise)

### Reading of the Holy Gospel: Matthew 26:17-30

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He replied, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. And while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”

They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely you don’t mean me, Lord?” Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.” Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me, Rabbi?” Jesus answered, “You have said so.” While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

(Be seated)

### Sermon Hymn #435 “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

Come to Cal-v’ry’s holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.

Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;  
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.

Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent, and blind;  
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore; They that drink shall thirst no more.

They that drink shall live forever; ‘Tis a soul renewing flood.  
God is faithful; God will never Break His covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when He was glorified.

**Sermon** "The Passion of Christ in His Holy Supper"

Text: Matthew 26:17-30

**Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (inside back cover of hymnal)**

**Offerings** As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

**Bell Song During Offering** "The Lamb"

(Rise)

**Prayers**

*After each petition:*

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Pastor: . . . all glory and honor is Yours, almighty Father, forever and ever!

**People: Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Words of Institution**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**Agnus Dei** "Lamb of God"

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

**Distribution** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**10:00 Solo** "He Shall Feed His Flock / Come Unto Him"

**6:00 Bell Anthem** "Thy Table I Approach"

**Hymn #625 "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread"**

Lord Jesus Christ, life giving bread, May I in grace possess You.

Let me with holy food be fed, In hunger I address You.

Prepare me well for You, O Lord, And, humbly by my prayer implored,

Give me Your grace and mercy.

To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me;  
Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me.  
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek,  
To share Your cup of healing.

O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, For full and free remission  
I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition.  
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily,  
Assured of Your full pardon.

I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me;  
In all my guilty heart's discord, O Lord, do not forsake me.  
In my distress this comforts me That You receive me graciously,  
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

**Hymn #623 "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"**

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feast on You today;  
Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Your grace divine.

Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,  
The graceful peace of sins forgiv'n, The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the gift of love retold;  
All that You are we here receive, And all we are to You we give.

One bread, one cup, one body, we, Rejoicing in our unity,  
Proclaim Your love until You come To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray: O keep us steadfast till that day  
When each will be Your welcomed guest In heav-en's high and holy feast.

**Hymn #628 "Your Table I Approach"**

Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer.  
Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands;  
A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery;  
God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined  
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night  
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

## **Common Dismissal**

(Rise)

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, through the new covenant in Christ's blood we have been delivered from sin and death. Free our hearts from the fears and doubts that so often beset us. And having been freed from Satan, sin and death, grant us to live our lives in the love of Christ, loving and serving you and others with hearts devoted to Jesus; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **Benediction**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

### **Hymn #537 "Beautiful Savior"**

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forever more be Thine!

**Preacher**

**Pastor Harold Bender**

**Liturgist**

**Pastor Gregg Stanton**

**Lectors**

**John Ficken, Marc Stefanic**

**Acolytes**

**Ana Gonzalez-Clark**

**Soloist**

**Bev Baumgart**

**Bell Choir Director**

**Jan Schneider**

**Organist**

**Roger Gottschalk**

**Music Coordinator**

**Kim Woller**