

Prelude & Confession

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Most holy and merciful God,

C: we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

A: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.

C: We diminish our respect and awe of You by not putting our relationship with you on the top of our priority list. We relegate You to being our god of convenience and comfort rather than Creator of the Cosmos, and, in this way, we limit the power you have in our lives. Have mercy on us, O God.

P: We let other voices speak to us of fulfillment, hope and peace.

C: We have been tempted to turn away from the truth you offer us. We have doubted your presence, your power and your promise. Have mercy on us, O God.

A: We have shut our ears to your call to love and serve others with the same compassionate love and service Christ offers us.

C: We have not been diligent in staying keenly aware of how we can be a source of comfort, hope and sustenance to those who suffer, or are in despair, or deprived of what they need to live. We have found security in protecting and preserving our abundant blessings. Have mercy on us, O God.

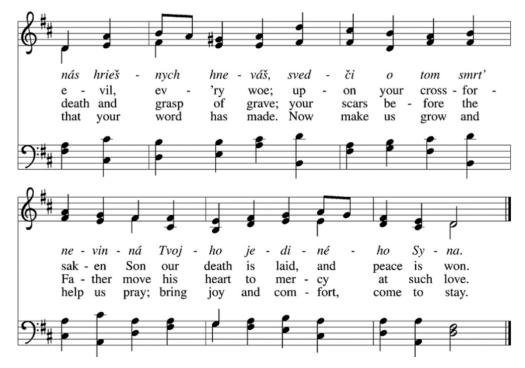
P: We misuse and abuse the role you have given us in and over creation.

C: We exploit and squander the earth's resources without inconveniencing ourselves with consideration for the sustainability of life in the future. We assume the power of gods but fail to seek the wisdom of God in the use of our power, focusing too much on our satisfaction in this moment rather than comprehending the full scope of our actions. We privilege our lives over the lives of other creatures without respect for the depth of the interconnectedness of all life. Have mercy on us, O God.

A: We do not always own our own problems, nor do we take enough responsibility for working to solve them.

C: We scapegoat, we make excuses, we get distracted. We do not bring them to you and open ourselves to the Spirit's guidance through unexpected voices and resources. We become discontented because we resign to empty contentment. We default to following the norm rather than clinging to the distinction of being a Child of God. Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.





P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



1 As the sun with long-er jour-ney melts the win-ter's snow and ice,

2 Through the days of wait-ing, watch-ing, in the des-ert of our sin, 3 Praise be giv-en to the mak-er of the sea-sons' year-ly round:



with its slow-ly grow-ing ra-diance warms the seed be-neath the earth, search-ing on the far ho - ri - zon for a sign of cloud or wind, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it—Source, Sus - tain-er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up - ris - ing gent-ly bring our hearts to life.

we a - wait the heal - ing wa-ters of our Sav-ior's vic - to - ry.

as the ev - er turn - ing a - ges roll to their e - ter - nal rest.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Heavenly Father as you provided manna to sustain your people on their pilgrimage through the wilderness, Your Son has given us the bread and wine of his table, the gifts of his gracious presence, to sustain us on our own pilgrimage through life. Send us the Spirit, that our hearts will be open to His invitation and welcoming of all whom He calls to His feast, that we may know His blessing now, and find we have a place at Your Heavenly Banquet yet to come. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

First Lesson Exodus 12

On the day before Yahweh released Israel from their enslavement in Egypt, the Lord to Moses (*God's appointed leader of God's people*) and Aaron (*Moses' assistant*):

This month will mark the beginning of months for you - it is to be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family - a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, they are to join with their closest neighbor in obtaining one. The lamb is to be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb must be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You are to keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel is to slaughter it at twilight. They must take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

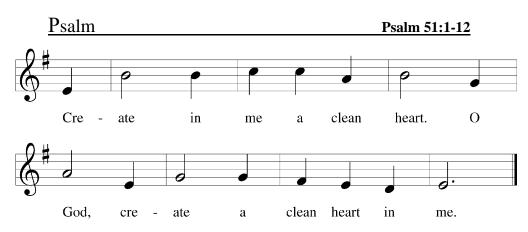
They must eat the lamb that same night; they must eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You must not let any of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you must burn. This is how you must eat it: with your travelling clothes on, with your sandals on your feet, and with your walking stick in your hand; and you must eat it hurriedly. It is the "Passover of Yahweh." For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments - I am Yahweh!! The blood on the lintels of your doorways will serve as a sign that these are the houses where you

live. When I, Yahweh, see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin. None of you is to go outside the door of your house until morning, for Yahweh will proceed to deal blows to Egypt. When Yahweh sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, Yahweh will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down. You are to keep this word as a law for you and your children, into the ages. When you come to the land that Yahweh will give you - as Yahweh has spoken - you must keep this observance. And when your children ask you, "What do you mean by this observance?" you are to say, 'It is the slaughter-meal of 'Passover to Yahweh,' who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt - when Yahweh struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.""

And the people bowed down and worshiped. The Israelites went and did just as Yahweh had commanded Moses and Aaron.

R: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!



Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

So that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. R

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. R

Second Lesson

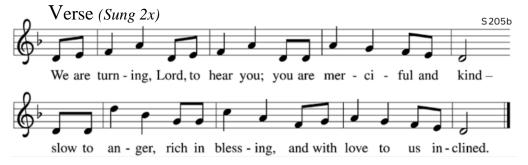
1 Corinthians 11

R

Now in the following instructions I, Paul, do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you - and to some extent I believe it! Indeed, there must be factions among you, for only through the expression of your differences will it become clear who among you are genuine! Now, when you come together it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper! And one goes hungry, and another becomes drunk - What?! Don't you have homes to eat and drink in?! Or are you just trying to show contempt for the Church of God and humiliate those who

have nothing?! What should I say to you??? Should I commend you??? In this matter I do not commend you! For I received from the Lord what I have then handed over to you - that the Lord Jesus, in the night which he was handed over, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body given for you. Do this for my remembrance." And in the same way, he took up the cup after the meal, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, for my remembrance." For as often as you are eating *this* bread and drinking *this* cup, you are proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes!! . . . So then, my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. If you are hungry, eat at home, so that you may not come together into the Lord's judgment.

R: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!



Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the fourteenth chapter. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Mark 14

And on the first day of the festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover Lamb is sacrificed, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

And Jesus sent out two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher says, 'Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my

disciples?' and he will show you a great room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

And the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything just as Jesus had told them - and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, Jesus came to the room with The Twelve. And as they are reclining and eating Jesus said, "Amen I say to you, one of you will hand me over - one who is eating with me."

They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Not I?"

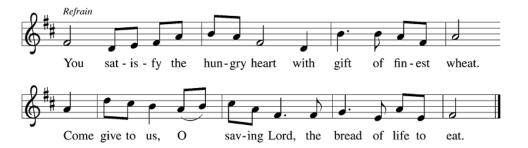
But Jesus said to them, "One of The Twelve – the one dipping with me into the bowl. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but I feel great sadness for the man through whom the Son of Man is handed over. It would have been good for him if he had never been born."

And while they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take! This is my body." And taking the cup, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant - which is being poured out for many. Amen I say to you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

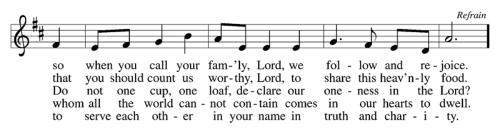
Sermon

Hymn of the Day You Satisfy the Hungry Heart 484





- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat i tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys-t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self-less let us be,



Apostles Creed

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C: We do with the help of God.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived of the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the Church & Passing of the Peace

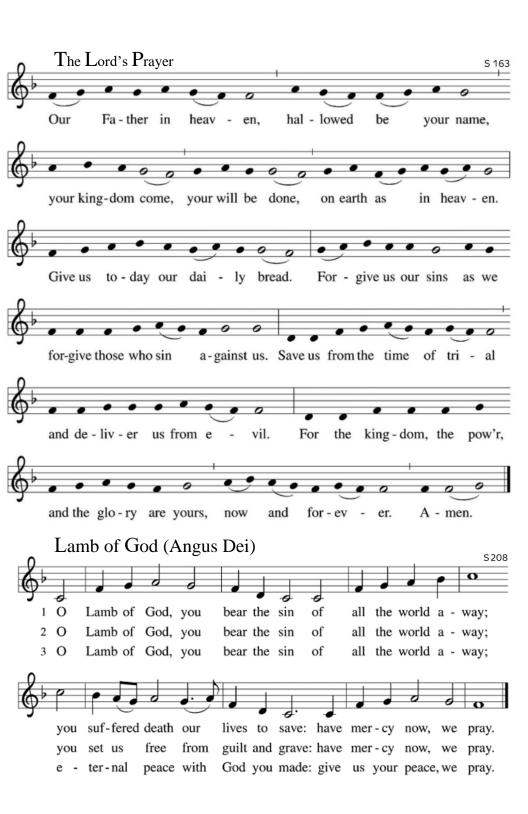


A: Let us pray:

C: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you

open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen









Post Communion Blessing & Prayer Benediction

Recessional

As We Gather At Your Table

1. As we gather at your table, As we listen to your word, Help us know, O God, your presence; May we still behold your image Let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story Till we claim it as our own: Teach us through this holy banquet How to make Love's victory known.

2. Turn our worship into witness In the sacrament of life; Send us forth to love and serve you, Bringing peace where there is strife.

Give us, Christ, your great compassion To forgive as you forgave; In the world you died to save.

[tune: 712]

3. Gracious Spirit, help us summon Other guests to share that feast Where triumphant Love will welcome Those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us Nor will pride our peace destroy, As we join with saints and angels To repeat the sounding joy.

Dismissal



Sunday, March 17

Last day to donate to Easter food drive 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Classes

10:10 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

Monday, March 18

3:00 p.m. Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. Social Ministry/Green Team Meeting

Tuesday, March 19

6:30 a.m. Early Birds Bible Study & Breakfast

7:30 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting

11:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris – hybrid

4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

7:00 p.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris - online

Wednesday, March 20

9:00 a.m. Peacemakers Quilting Group Meeting – in person only

6:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner Soup & Sandwiches – in the narthex

7:00 p.m. Lenten Evening Prayer

8:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 21

7:30 p.m. Digital Committee Meeting

Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. Choir warm-up 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Confirmation Classes





Grace Lutheran Church

Christopher Chantelau, *Pastor* • Becki Advocate, *Dir. of Music* Kristen Halderman, *Parish Administrator* • Vinnie Tipa, *Sexton* Doug Jenkins, *Digital Media Coordinator* • Rev. Dr. Timothy Kennedy, *Pastor Emeritus*