

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
April 2, 2015

MAUNDY THURSDAY

PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH

Lord Jesus Christ, You gave Yourself into death for me and for all by taking our sins to the cross. On the very night You were betrayed You gave a special meal that gives forgiveness of sins and eternal life in the Sacrament of the Altar. Grant me to receive Your gifts in true faith and humble thanksgiving. Further grant me to share the love that You have freely showered upon me with my neighbor, loving them as You have loved me. I pray this in Your holy name. Amen

WELCOME

It is a blessing to have you here for this Maundy Thursday Divine Service. May this Service bless you, strengthening your faith through God's promise of eternal life through the forgiveness of sins.

Maundy Thursday takes its name from the new command (mandate) Jesus gave on this night, "just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35) Our Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, showed the full extent of His love for His disciples and for us, stooping to serve them by washing their feet and then instituting a "new covenant / testament in His blood" thereby giving His Church the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sins. This evening The Parable of the Great Banquet serves as the basis for the Maundy Thursday message. In this parable, those in low positions are invited to a place of honor by the host. We who are humbled by our sins and outcast by the world are welcomed by Christ to dine at His Holy Supper. There we receive His precious body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

HOLY COMMUNION

This evening we celebrate Holy Communion with the confidence that we receive from the Lord what He has most assuredly promised, forgiveness of sins and strength for our faith unto eternal life. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to receive this Sacrament of Christ's body and blood, we ask that you first speak with our Pastor so that the unity of faith might be established. Thank you for honoring this request. In preparation to receive this Sacrament you may review "Christian Questions and Their Answers" on pages 329 and 330 in *Lutheran Service Book*.

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

Pre-Service Music

O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing – Jeffrey Blersch

Prelude

When You Woke That Thursday Morning – Bernard Wayne Sanders

Ringing of the Church Bell

Please rise and face the processional cross

Processional Hymn: When You Woke That Thursday Morning

LSB 445

Corporate Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen

P The cup of blessing that we bless,

C **Is it not a participation in the blood of Christ?**

P The bread that we break,

C **Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?**

P Because there is one bread,

C **We who are many are one body, for we all partake of that one bread.**

P So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

C **For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.**

Instructions Announcing the End of Lent

P In this Lenten Season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death and the devil — all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of His

Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of His love for us in Jesus, our Savior. Within the community of His Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of Absolution we receive forgiveness as from God Himself.

This Absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in His love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with His disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of Himself, His body and blood, and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in Him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

Exhortation

Psalm 43:4; Psalm 124:8

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

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

Confessional Address

P Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which he strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for 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. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made 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.

C Amen

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Confession of Sins

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

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

Absolution

- P** 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.
- C** Amen

Blessing

- P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen

Service of the Word

Psalm


Psalm 116:12–19 (antiphon: v. 17)

- P** I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
C and call on the name of the LORD.
- P** What shall I render to the LORD
C for all his benefits to me?
- P** I will lift up the cup of salvation
C and call on the name of the LORD,
- P** I will pay my vows to the LORD
C in the presence of all his people.
- P** Precious in the sight of the LORD
C is the death of his saints.
- P** O LORD, I am your servant;
C I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.
- P** I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
C and call on the name of the LORD.
- P** I will pay my vows to the LORD
C in the presence of all his people,
- P** in the courts of the house of the LORD,
C in your midst, O Jerusalem.
- P** I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
C and call on the name of the LORD.



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

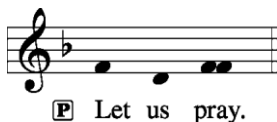
Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P 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 A - men.

Sit

Anthem

Thy Will Be Done - Craig Courtney

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell 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. And 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. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and 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.

“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. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 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. 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. 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.

“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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Heb. 9:12a, c, 15a; Ps. 111:9a



[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places by means of | his own blood,*
 thus securing an eternal re- | demption.
 Therefore he is the mediator of a new | covenant,*
 so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal in- | heritance.
 He sent redemption to his | people,*
 he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

Epistle

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, 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.” 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.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Whoever, 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. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse of the Day

John 13:1b



- P** Having loved his own who were | in the world,*
he loved them | to the end.

Holy Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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



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. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot,

Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus 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." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

When 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? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen

Sit

Sermon Hymn: O Lord, We Praise Thee

LSB 617

Sermon

Luke 14:12-24

“Receive the Meal: The Parable of the Great Banquet”

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

O Lord, We Praise Thee – Jeffrey Blersch

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends with the following:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with the following:

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1 Psalm 136



P The Lord be with you.



R And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



R We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



R It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly meet, 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 saying:

Sanctus

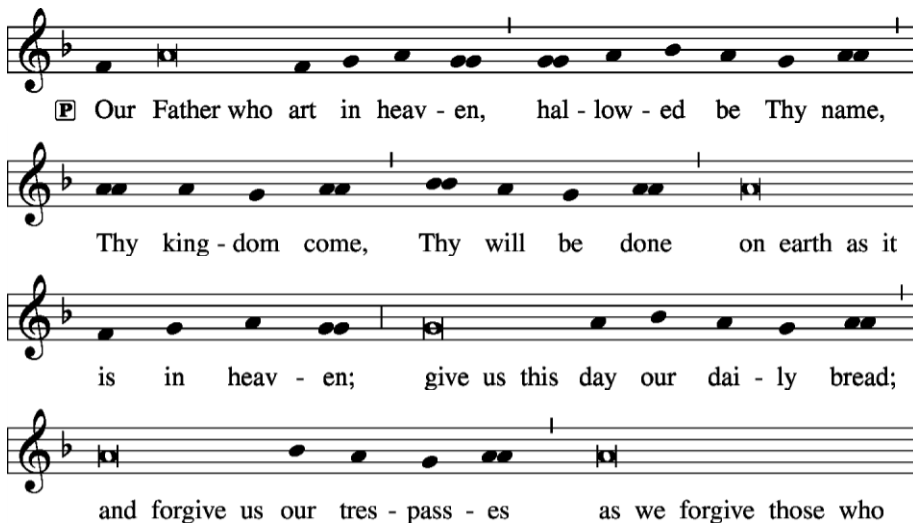
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13



Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;
and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who

tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to
temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

■ For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis - ci - ples and said: “Take, eat; this is My [†] bod - y, which is giv - en for you.
This do in re - mem - brance of Me.” In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it

to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
 My blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
 This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
G A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



Sit

Distribution

Communion Instructions: The Pastor invites the communicants, those who are able, to kneel and then distributes the host which may be received into the hand or the mouth. The Elder distributes the individual cups. The communicants are asked to hold their cups until the Pastor says, “Take and drink.”

Anthem

The Upper Room - Don Besig

Hymn: Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

LSB 631

Hymn: O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing

LSB 635

Hymn: What Is This Bread

LSB 629

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
G and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

- P** Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1



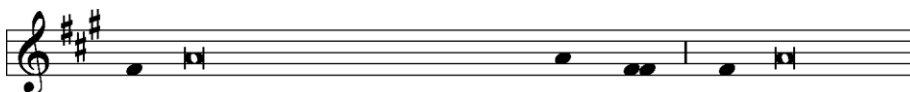
A Bless we the Lord.



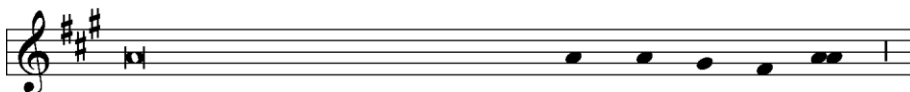
G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

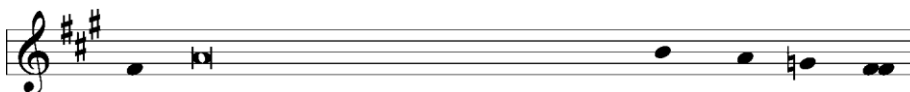
Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



G A-men, a-men, a - men.

Recessional Hymn: The Tree of Life



All 1. There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 Women 2. Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 Men 3. Thorns not His own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 Choir 4. *See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;*
 All 5. This is my end - ing, this my res - ur - rec - tion:



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the
 There on its branch - es see the scars of
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye
 in - to Your hands, Lord, I com - mit my



na - tions: Tree of all know - ledge, Tree of all com -
 suf - fring: see where the ten - drils of our hu - man
 choked it. Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
wea - ry! Give me your sick - ness, give me all your
 spir - it. This have I searched for; now I can pos -



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
sor - row. I will give bless - ing."
 sess it. this ground is ho - ly.

All - 6 All heav'n is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose Passion
 Offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

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Acknowledgments

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THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor:	Rev. James C. Walter
Director of Parish Music:	Nathan Beethe
Communion Assistant:	Robert Nichols
Acolyte:	Mason Andrews
Crucifer:	Ethan Andrews
Choir:	Adult Choir
Organ:	Gina Junkans
Ushers:	Paul Krueger, Gervais LeBlanc, Jeff Ralston, Rich Sanders
Greeters:	Robert and Sheila Wilimzig
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Raddle and Wilma Richter
Nursery Attendant:	Mary Ann Dyer

Our thanks to the ACTS group for serving our meal this evening.

GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 p.m. **Tenebrae Service** with Holy Communion

EASTER SUNDAY

6:30 a.m. **Sunrise Easter Matins Service**

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** in Parker Hall

8:15 a.m. **Easter Festival Divine Service** with Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. **Breakfast** in Parker Hall

10:00 a.m. **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

The Easter Egg Hunt will start **promptly at 10:00 a.m.**
right outside Parker Hall for all ages up to 8 years old.
Our thanks to Bette Bogart for hosting the Easter Egg Hunt!!

10:45 a.m. **Easter Festival Divine Service** with Holy Communion