St. Paul Lutheran Church
Serbin, Texas

Maundy Thursday
April 9, 2020

EYES ON JESUS
For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.  

1 Corinthians 11:26

Welcome - Let Us Love One Another, as Christ Jesus Has Loved Us and Loves Us to the End.  The Lord’s Passover” (Ex. 12:11) and “the blood of the covenant” at Mt. Sinai (Ex. 24:8) foreshow the Lord’s Supper. The blood of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, now covers us, and we keep His Supper “as a feast to the Lord” (Ex. 12:13–14). In Him we see “the God of Israel” (Ex. 24:9), and yet He does not lay His hand on us to punish us, but from His hand we eat and drink in peace. As our High Priest, He “entered once for all into the holy places...by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption” (Heb. 9:11–12). He shed His own blood in order to “purify our conscience” and bring us before His God and Father “without blemish” (Heb. 9:14). The holy Apostles received this New Testament in His Blood from the Lord Jesus “on the night when He was betrayed,” and they delivered the same to His Church, which we also now receive in the name and remembrance of Christ (1 Cor. 11:23–26; Matt. 26:26–28). Since He has “loved His own who were in the world” and He loves us “to the end” (John 13:1), therefore, let us also “love one another” (John 13:34).

More Than Meets

O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.  

(Gradual for Lent, based on Hebrews 12:2)

When the characters in the Passion narrative look at Jesus, what do they see? In most cases, people misunderstood who He is and what He was doing. In some cases, by faith, people recognized Him aright. Our Lenten series this year, based on the Gospel according to St. Mark, will examine how the various people around Jesus viewed Him—and how we should view Him. We will “fix our eyes” on what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death, and celebrate what God sees on account of His work: our justification for His sake.

On Maundy Thursday, there is “More Than Meets the Eye” to the Lord’s Supper. We will look into the Old Testament background of the Last Supper and rejoice in the mystery that Jesus, in and with, bread and wine, gives us His body and blood in order to deliver to us the benefits of His Passion.
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: ♫ “OUR EYES BEHOLD THE SAVIOR’S FACE”

1 Our eyes behold the Savior’s face
And yet cannot perceive
That His perspective held our grace
Before we could believe.

2 Our focus flits and fails to see
The One whose steadfast gaze
Propelled Him to the darkened tree
Enveloped in death’s haze.

3 Our sights train on the dreadful cross.
Beneath His knowing eyes,
Our sins are bare and set for loss;
He sees us as His prize.

4 Our vision blurs with anxious tears
As Jesus’ eyelids fall
To conquer sin and all our fears
And tear in two our pall.

5 Our view scans for the coming Day
That evermore grows near,
When Jesus wipes our tears away
And all is crystal clear.


P In the name of the Father and of the •• Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

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.

P 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 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, 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.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C 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.

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.
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.

Amen.

PSALM

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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, “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.

EPISODE

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.

HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 14:22–25
And 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.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all
drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY:“O LORD, WE PRAISE THEE”

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!
2 Thy holy body into death was given,
   Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
   O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made:
   O Lord, have mercy!

3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blest Communion!
   O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav’ly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity:
   O Lord, have mercy!

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005097

SERMON: “MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE”
MARK 14:22–25
BY PASTOR JOHN SCHMIDT

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED
C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the
virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into
hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right
hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of
sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
P Lord Jesus Christ, on the solemn night of Your betrayal, You instituted the Sacrament in which You feed
us Your body offered on the cross and Your blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins. Help us to look
beyond the humble elements of bread and wine and find in, with, and under them our dearest treasure so
that we may fix our eyes upon You, the author and perfecter of our faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P Make us truly worthy and well-prepared to receive Your Holy Supper by giving us faith in Your words,
“Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Help us never to disbelieve these words or doubt
them. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.  
P As You preserved Your holy people Israel during the Passover through the blood of lambs and led them out of bondage in Egypt, so also preserve us by Your precious blood and lead us out of bondage to sin and the devil. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.  
P May Your Church frequently eat the bread and drink the cup of the Lord’s Supper so that Your death may be proclaimed until You come again in glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.  
P May the true food of Your body and blood give us confidence that we will forever abide in You and that You will abide in us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.  
P As we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, grant that we fear no evil, knowing that You have promised to those who eat of Your body and drink Your blood eternal life and that they will be raised up on the last day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.  
P As You loved Your own in the world to the end, so also may we love our neighbors as ourselves and show to the world that we are Your disciples. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.  
P Through the saving bath of Holy Baptism, You have washed us clean and made us acceptable to the Father. May we likewise wash the feet of our neighbors through the forgiveness of their sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.  
P Into Your nail-scarred hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all that we have, trusting that You will grant all of our needs of body and soul; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OFFERING

I would like to remind those listening that you can mail in your offerings or drop them by the church office. We will have a box available inside the front door.

HYMN: ♫“COME TO CALVARY’S HOLY MOUNTAIN”  

1 Come to Calv’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.

2 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.
3 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.

4 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.

Text: Public domain

PSALM 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!” Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother’s breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother’s womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet — I can count all my bones — they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even
the one who could not keep himself alive. Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it

Acknowledgments
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.