



**A BRIEF SELF-EXAMINATION
BEFORE THE CELEBRATION OF
THE LORD'S SUPPER**

- ~ I recognize that I fall short of God's expectations of me, and I humbly confess to Him all my sins, and sincerely repent of them.
- ~ I believe and confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord and He died for the forgiveness of all my sins. Jesus is the only Saviour from sin, death and the power of the devil.
- ~ I am reconciled to anyone who would have anything against me to the best of my abilities.
- ~ I believe that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ my Saviour are REALLY present in, with, and under the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, and to strengthen my union with Him and fellow believers.
- ~ With God's help, I intend to amend my sinful life and live a life of service to Him through regular worship, sacrificial giving and thankful living.

Lutheran Church-Canada (LC-C) congregations practice close(d) communion, (*current communicant members of this congregation and those sister congregations in altar fellowship with us*), believing that the Bible encourages unity in belief for those receiving the sacrament together.

Other guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament or to inquire about our beliefs further are asked to meet with the pastor prior to communing for the first time.

For those NOT communing, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you want a blessing only by placing your arms across your chest.



For as often as you eat this bread and
drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's
death until He comes.
1 Corinthians 11:26

Maundy Thursday ~ April 17, 2025

As We Gather

Unless you live in a homeowners' association (HOA), you may go through life without hearing much about covenants. The covenants in an HOA are mutually agreed upon standards for those who live in that community. God offers a new and better covenant to us. The validity of this new covenant does not rest on us and what we do. God's covenant fully rests on Jesus, who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving up His life for the sins of the world. Because of Jesus, God forgives us, and He gives us confidence, comfort, and hope. We experience God's forgiveness tonight as we gather at our Lord's Table.

Opening Hymn 445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning

**1 When You woke that Thursday morning,
Saviour, teacher, faithful friend,
Thoughts of self and safety scorning,
Knowing how the day would end;
Lamb of God, foretold for ages,
Now at last the hour had come
When but One could pay sin's wages:
You assumed their dreadful sum.**

**2 Never so alone and lonely,
Longing with tormented heart
To be with Your dear ones only
For a quiet hour apart:
Sinless Lamb and fallen creature,
One last paschal meal to eat,
One last lesson as their teacher,
Washing Your disciples' feet.**

**3 What was there that You could give them
That would never be outspent,
What great gift that would outlive them,
What last will and testament?
"Show Me and the world you love Me,
Know Me as the Lamb of God:
Do this in remembrance of Me,
Eat this body, drink this blood."**

**4 One in faith, in love united,
All one body, You the head,
When we meet, by You invited,
You are with us, as You said.
One with You and one another
In a unity sublime,
See in us Your sister, brother,
One in ev'ry place and time.**

**5 One day all the Church will capture
That bright vision glorious,
And Your saints will know the rapture
That Your heart desired for us,
When the longed-for peace and union
Of the Greatest and the least
Meet in joyous, blest communion
In Your never-ending feast.**

Invocation and Opening Sentences Psalm 32:1, 5

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;

P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

C: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Confession and Absolution

P: We confess our transgressions and sins to the Lord, our God, in the presence of one another.

C: When we look into the mirror of Your perfect law, we are reminded that we are no better than our ancestors. We rebel against You like the Israelites on the way to the Promised Land. We are like King David, committing sins we think no one will know about. You know us. You know our transgressions and sins against You and one another. We humbly come to You seeking forgiveness. Cleanse our hearts and make them clean. Forgive our sins by the blood of Jesus that was given and shed for us. Renew a right spirit within us for Jesus' sake.

P: Children of God, you have confessed your transgressions to the Lord. He forgives your iniquity and will remember your sins no more. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *We pray*, O Lord, on this night You poured out the new covenant in Your blood. Grant that we may so receive the 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: AMEN

+ WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

(God promises He will make a new covenant with His people.)

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbour and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 10:15-25

(The new covenant gives us confidence, comfort, and hope because of Jesus.)

Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 22:7-20

(Jesus pours out His blood of the new covenant for us at His Table.)

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” They said to him, “Where will you have us prepare it?” He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.” And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed

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 worshipped 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

Hymn of the Day 435 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 Saviour 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.*

Sermon

The Offerings Are Gathered

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord God, on this night we remember how You rescued Your people from slavery in Egypt and brought them to the Promised Land. We are reminded of how You have rescued us from slavery to sin and are bringing us to Your heavenly kingdom. Nourish our faith and lead us to walk in Your ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, You made covenants with Your people throughout the centuries. Yet, in these last days, You have made a new covenant with us through Your Son. Make this covenant known among us and all peoples of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord Jesus, You humbled Yourself and took on the role of a servant when You washed Your disciples' feet. You commanded them to love one another just as You loved them. Lead us to love others as You have first loved us. Stir us up to love and good works. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Holy Lord, as we come to Your Table, forgive our sins through Your body and blood and wrap us in the robe of Your righteousness that covers all our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls, and all things; redeem us, O Lord, faithful God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

+ CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER +

(The communion candles are lit at this time)

Luther's Admonition to the Communicants

P: I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness; that you take note and give thanks for the boundless love that He showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the

bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own words administer and receive the Testament.

LW p. 197-198

Sanctus

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Day and night we join to praise Your love and majesty.
You alone are holy, worthy and righteous.
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
We rejoice to join the hymns Of earth and sky and sea.
Generations praise you, with the saints and angels
Holy, blessed through all eternity.***

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN

Words of Institution

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24;

Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He 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. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Peace of the Lord

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

C: AMEN

Agnus Dei

***O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away --
Our faith increase.
Have mercy on us all, Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.***

Distribution of Communion

Distribution Hymn

446 Jesus, Greatest at the Table

***1 Jesus, greatest at the table, The almighty Son of Man,
Laid aside His outer clothing, Poured some water in a pan;
As the Twelve lay, hushed in silence, He the servant's task
began.***

***2 Marvel how their Lord and teacher Gently taught them not to
vie***

***As He humbly knelt before them, Dusty feet to wash and dry,
By His tender touch expressing True compassion from on high.***

***3 Jesus took the role of servant When upon that gruesome span,
For all human sin He suffered As a vile and loathsome man;
On the cross poured out like water To fulfill the Father's plan.***

4 Can we fathom such deep mercy? Do we see what God has done?

*Who can grasp this great reversal: Love that gives His only Son?
Christ, the sinless for the sinners, For the many dies the One.*

*5 Jesus gave to His disciples A commandment that was new:
"Show My love to one another, Do as I have done for you;
All the world will know you love Me As you love each other too."*

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Post-Communion Prayer

P: *Let us pray.* We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

(portions of readings taken from Psalm 22)

P: The altar is a symbol of our Lord, vested in fine linens, holding the vessels for bread and wine and the stand for Readings from Scripture and for the liturgy, and having candles to proclaim Him as the light of the world. As those adornments are removed, symbolic of the abuse our Lord experienced today and tomorrow, we will read Psalm 22, for the evangelists Matthew and Mark tell us that our Lord prayed, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me," as He took our place on the cross.

**C: 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.

P: 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.

C: 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!

P: 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.

C: 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.

*We leave the sanctuary in silence, praying,
"O Lord, not my will, but Yours be done. AMEN."*

This is only SCENE 1. The story isn't over.
Join us tomorrow for SCENE 2 ~ Good Friday

ZION 10:30 am BEREA 3 pm

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***Serving Christ 53 years in Goderich & 152 years in
Dashwood***

A Member of
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