

**The Sacred Paschal Triduum
(Part I)
Holy Thursday**



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
April 2, 2026**

Welcome To All Who Worship

We are **broken** and **blessed** followers of Christ providing a **home** for all who wander the weary road.

We invite you to sign a guest card in the pew rack, noting your attendance and place it in the offering plate as the offering is taken or you may sign the attendance book in the Fellowship Hall.

Holy Communion

To Our Guests: We're glad you're here! Lutherans believe this sacrament is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine. Here he gives himself and all that he promises. Receiving the sacrament is also an expression of full unity in faith with those with whom you are communing. Based on this theological principle, if you are a member of a congregation that shares the confession of faith of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have been instructed concerning the Lord's Supper, you are welcome to commune with us today. We continue to pray for the day when all divisions in the body of Christ will cease. Anyone who wishes may receive a pastoral blessing by kneeling at the altar rail with your arms folded across your chest. If you desire to commune at St. Paul and would like to learn more about the Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor.

To Those Communing Today: God's Word instructs those who come to the Lord's Table to first examine themselves. You may use the meditation material in this bulletin to prepare yourself to receive the Sacrament.

The pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by an usher with a tray of individual cups. The pastor will then follow with the Chalice.

Gluten free bread is available. Please ask the pastor or an usher before the service.

Lent 2026: In the Hands of the Artist

In our Lenten and Easter series this year, we will place ourselves in the hands of some of history's great painters as they guide us into the Scriptures. Today, we are invited to contemplate the story of our salvation through: The Last Supper , Pascal Dagnan-Bouveret (1852-1929, French Naturalist), 1896, oil on canvas, dimensions and location unknown.

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three (page 184)

ENTRANCE HYMN

“Now, My Tongue,
the Mystery Telling”

LSB 630



1 Now, my tongue, the mys - t'ry tell - ing Of the glo - rious
2 Giv'n for us, and con - de - scend - ing To be born for
3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing Mid the Twelve, His
4 Word made flesh, the bread He tak - eth, By His word His
△ 5 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing To the Fa - ther



bod - y sing, And the blood, all price ex - cel - ling,
us be - low, He with us in con - verse blend - ing
cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,
flesh to be; Wine His sa - cred blood He mak - eth,
and the Son, Hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



Which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, Once on earth a -
Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, Till He closed with
Keeps the feast its rites de - mand; Then, more pre - cious
Though the sens - es fail to see; Faith a - lone the
While e - ter - nal a - ges run; Ev - er too His



mong us dwell - ing, Shed for this world's ran - som - ing.
won - drous end - ing His most pa - tient life of woe.
food sup - ply - ing Gives Him - self with His own hand.
true heart wak - eth To be - hold the mys - ter - y.
love con - fess - ing Who from both with both is One.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225–1274; tr. The Hymnal 1940

Tune: Chants ordinaires de l'Office Divin, Paris, 1881

Text: © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001849

SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand as you are able

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

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. 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

Penitents come to the baptismal font to receive the absolution individually.

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.

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.

When all have been absolved, they greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you."

KYRIE



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 also with you.

P Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer

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 Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:3-11

³Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, “All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do.” ⁴And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. ⁶And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. ⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” ⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.” ⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.





After the reading





A This is the Word of the Lord.





C Thanks be to God





Psalm 116:12-19



A What shall I render  to the LORD
for all his bene-  fits to me?
I will lift up the cup of sal-  vation
and call on the name  of the LORD,

C 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.

A 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 thanks-  giving
and call on the name  of the LORD.

C 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!

EPISTLE

Hebrews 9:11-22

¹¹When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹²he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. ¹³For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. ¹⁵Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. ¹⁶For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. ¹⁷For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. ¹⁸Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. ¹⁹For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.” ²¹And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. ²²Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

After the reading

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

VERSE John 13:1b

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:17-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the twenty-sixth chapter.



C Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” ¹⁸He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, “The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.” ¹⁹And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. ²⁰When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. ²¹And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” ²²And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” ²³He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.” ²⁵Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.” ²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” ³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

After the reading

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” LSB 624



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con -
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
 As at the rail on bended knee
 Our hungry mouths from Him receive
 The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And “Holy, holy, holy” sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970

Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001849

SERMON

CHORAL OFFERTORY

“Ubi Caritas”

by Maurice Duruflé

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur,
timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum
et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Amen.*

(translation)

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
The love of Christ has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice in Him and be glad.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God
and, from a sincere heart, let us love one another.
Where charity and love are, God is there. Amen.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

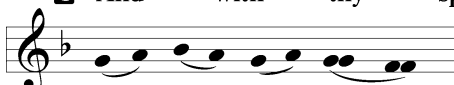
PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



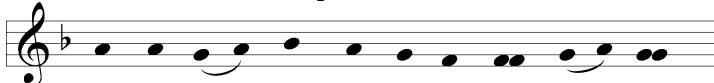
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



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



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly right and just...evermore praising You and saying:
Note: Meet means fitting, proper. Paschal means relating to Easter or Passover.

SANCTUS

Holy Holy Holy

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the
name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Note: Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts. Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now"

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 957

Our Fa - ther 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 for-give us our tres-pass - es as we for-give
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -



Text: Traditional Tune: Plainsong, mode VII

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.”

Pax Domini

The Peace of the Lord



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



C A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to His Supper. *John 1:29; Revelation 19:9*

C Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed. *Matthew 8:8*

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P We give thanks...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Stripping of the Altar

Refrain (congregation)



Text: Psalm 22:1; © 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
 Music: Frank Schoen, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.



¹My God, my God, why have you for- saken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my
 groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
 and by night, but I find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,
 enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our fathers trusted;
 they trusted, and you de- livered them.

⁵To you they cried and were rescued;
 in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man,
 scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock me;
 they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

⁸“He trusts in the Lord; let him de- liver him;
 let him rescue him, for he de- lights in him!”

⁹Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
 you made me trust you at my mother’s breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast from my birth,
 and from my mother’s womb you have been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me,
for trouble ♪ is near,
and there is ♪ none to help.

Refrain (congregation)



Text: Psalm 22:1; © 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
Music: Frank Schoen, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

¹²Many bulls en- ♪ compass me;
strong bulls of Bashan sur- ♪ round me;

¹³they open wide their ♪ mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring ♪ lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are ♪ out of joint;
my heart is like wax;

it is melted with- ♪ in my breast;
¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks ♪ to my jaws;
you lay me in the ♪ dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs en- ♪ compass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my ♪ hands and feet—

¹⁷I can count ♪ all my bones—
they stare and gloat ♪ over me;

¹⁸they divide my garments a- ♪ mong them,
and for my clothing they ♪ cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O Lord, do not be ♪ far off!
O you my help, come quickly ♪ to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul ♪ from the sword,
my precious life from the power ♪ of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the ♪ lion!

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild ♪ oxen!

²²I will tell of your name to my ♪ brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will ♪ praise you:

²³You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glo-
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For 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.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord!
May your hearts live forever!

Refrain (congregation)



Text: Psalm 22:1; © 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
Music: Frank Schoen, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.

²⁸For kingship belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹All 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.

³⁰Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

Refrain (congregation)



Text: Psalm 22:1; © 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
Music: Frank Schoen, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

Symbolically, Christ, stripped of His power and glory, is now in the hands of His captors.

PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE AND REFRAIN FROM CONVERSATION

- **Silence amplifies the words and deeds of Christ in our hearts**
- **Silence shows respect for our fellow worshippers**
“When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. -Revelation 8:1”

Triduum

Because the Triduum (“three days” - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and The Vigil of Easter) is one service in three parts, no Benediction is given at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday or Good Friday service. The benediction spoken at the Easter Vigil concludes the service of the Three Days.

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Friday, April 3, 2026

Good Friday Service - 7:00pm Tenebrae Service

Saturday, April 4, 2026

Easter Vigil – 7:45pm Holy Communion

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Easter Sunrise at the Arboretum - 6:30am

Easter Festival Service at St. Paul - 10:00am w/ Holy Comm.

Those Assisting in Maundy Thursday Service

Head Usher: Dennis Fry Organist: David Pitt

Cantor: Jon Barz

Holy Thursday from Lutheran Service Book 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 © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. Cover art: © 2025 Full of Eyes All Rights Reserved. The Last Supper , Pascal Dagnan-Bouveret (1852-1929, French Naturalist), 1896, oil on canvas, dimensions and location unknown

“I Am the Bread of Life”

cantor: *I am the Bread of Life. You who
come to me shall not hunger; and who believe
in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
me unless the Father beckons.*

**refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.**

cantor: *The bread that I will give is my
flesh for the life of the world, and if you
eat of this bread, you shall live forever,
you shall live forever.*

**refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.**

cantor: *Unless you eat of the flesh
of the Son of Man and
drink of his blood and of his
blood, you shall not have life within you.*

**refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.**

cantor: *I am the Resurrection,
I am the Life. If you believe
in me, even though you
come into the world.*

**refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.**

**congregation: Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
Who has come
in-to the world.**

**refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.**

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97 Tune: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–96

Text and tune: © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, admin. International Liturgy Publications. Used
by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001849