

# St Paul's Lutheran Church



Maundy Thursday  
April 17, 2025

## **A New Covenant—For You!**

### **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.

### **Today Your Mercy Calls Us**

LSB 915

- 1 Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.  
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,  
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- 2 Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in  
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.  
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,  
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.
- 3 Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;  
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.  
No question will be asked us How often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.
- 4 O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,  
What should we do without You When heart and eye run o'er?  
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt. Text: Public domain

### **Invocation**

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

## Opening Sentences

Psalm 32:1, 5

- 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 Let us 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. Sprinkle 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 Blessed people of God, you have confessed your transgressions to the Lord. He forgives your iniquity and will remember your sin 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

## Introit

Psalm 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

- P Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.
- C **I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.**
- P Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.
- C **The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;**
- P I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the LORD:
- C **"O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"**
- P Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

## Kyrie

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our hearts and with all our minds, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

## Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

P Let us 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.**

## Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31–34

<sup>31</sup>“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, <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor 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.**

### Psalm

Psalm 116:12–19; antiphon: v. 17

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

C **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.**

P 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.

C **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!**

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

### Epistle

Hebrews 10:15–25

<sup>15</sup>The Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, <sup>16</sup>"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," <sup>17</sup>then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." <sup>18</sup>Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup>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

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" <sup>10</sup>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 <sup>11</sup>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?' <sup>12</sup>And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." <sup>13</sup>And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>14</sup>And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup>For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup>For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." <sup>19</sup>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." <sup>20</sup>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.**

### **My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

LSB 575

1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain

ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

3 His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Text: Public domain

**Sermon** Hebrews 10:15–25 “Through His Flesh”

### **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.**

## 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.

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.**



## **Preface**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## **Proper Preface**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our God, King of the universe, for You made a covenant with Your people, Israel, when You rescued them from Egypt. In these last days, You sent Your Son to be the mediator of a new covenant, sealing it with His precious blood, which is given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You.

C **Amen.**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of creation, for You made a new covenant with Your people in these last days wherein You promise to remember our sins and lawless deeds no more because of the blood of Jesus, our great priest.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us the ability to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

C **Amen.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

### **Proclamation of Christ**

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

### Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

### Distribution

#### Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 637

- 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.
- 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
- 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

## **I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table**

LSB 618

- 1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain
- ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!
- 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain
- 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain
- 4 Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain
- 5 What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001500

## **The Lamb**

LSB 547

- 1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain
- ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!
- 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. Refrain
- 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain
- 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain

5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953–2023

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## **Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

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**

## **Reading of Psalm 22**

***All exit silently.***

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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