



the truth opposed

"IT IS THE LORD'S TABLE"

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020

Sermon1 Corinthians 11:26-28

'It Is the Lord's Table

- I. The Lord holds guilty the unworthy.
- II. The Lord pardons the examined.

INSTRUCTION FOR THE END OF LENT

P: In this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also 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 family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that our sins are thus 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.

In Holy Communion 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 drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father,

I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.

I am truly sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy, O Lord.

Silence for meditation

L: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

C: Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

L: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this Sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

LessonExodus 12:1-14

Verse of the Day: As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26)

GospelJohn 13:1-15, 34

HYMN: O LORD, WE PRAISE YOU (HYMN #317)

1. **O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a-dore you,
In thanks-giv-ing bow be-fore you.
Here with your bod-y and your blood you nour-ish
Our weak souls that they may flour-ish. O Lord, have mer-cy!
May your bod-y, Lord, born of Mar-y
That our sins and sor-rows did car-ry,
And your blood for us plead
In all tri-a, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer-cy!**

2. **Your ho-ly bod-y in-to death was giv-en,
Life to win for us in heav-en.
No great-er love than this to you could bind us;
May this feast of that re-mind us! O Lord, have mer-cy!
Lord, your love and kind-ness did move you;
Let your sup-per move us to love you.
All our debt you have paid;
Peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mer-cy!**

3. **May God be-stow on us his grace and fa-vor
To please him with our be-hav-ior
And live to-geth-er here in love and u-nion,
Cher-ish-ing our blest com-mu-nion. O Lord, have mer-cy!
Let not your good Spir-it for-sake us;
Grant that heav'n-ly-mind-ed he make us.
Give your Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and u-ni-ty. O Lord, have mer-cy!**

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- L: Lord God, heavenly Father, author of the everlasting covenant and giver of the cup of salvation,
- C: We gather in your courts to offer you our sacrifice of thanksgiving.**
- L: For fulfilling your promise to establish a new covenant through the blood of your Son, Jesus Christ,

C: We give you humble and hearty thanks.

L: As our Lord Jesus Christ gave thanks to you when he broke the bread, as he gave thanks to you when he took the cup,

C: We also give you thanks.

L: Precious Savior, both Priest and offering, awe and wonder fill our hearts as we partake of your body, broken for us, and your blood, shed for us.

C: We praise you, bless you, and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ.

L: In our poverty of righteousness, we have nothing to offer. Without your tremendous sacrifice, we would still be in our sins,

C: But through your sacrament of the New Testament, we are assured that our iniquities are forgiven and our sins are no longer remembered.

L: O Holy Spirit, dwell within us as we remember our Lord's death in this sacrament. Enter our hearts to strengthen our faith and fill us with gratitude for your great mercy.

C: Move us to encourage one another to love and to do good works.

L: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

L: As our Lord served his disciples by washing their feet, so may we also humbly serve one another.

C: Help us live our lives as sacrifices of thanksgiving to him who first loved us. Amen.

All: 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.

(silent meditation before dispersing quietly)

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