

Compelled by the love of Christ, St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School seek to reach out to our families, community and world, using Law and Gospel to make disciples, growing and nurturing them in their Christian faith and life.

*Maundy Thursday*  
*April 1, 2010*

**The Prayer before Worship: 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. Amen.**

**We Welcome You!** — To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome. To first time visitors, we extend our sincere greeting and to those who seek a church home, we offer fellowship with the living Savior. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Schultz, Pastor Schmidt and to others. We ask that everyone here today would sign our attendance record found in each pew during the offering. Please take a moment to greet one another and worship with us again soon.



**We celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper today.** In his Word, God makes it clear that Holy Communion is to be shared by people of a common proclamation of faith (1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). So without judging anyone's hearts, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our congregation or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)

and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11:27-29) to receive the Sacrament.

Guests, we would love to have you attend. Please speak with one of the Pastors about instruction in our Christian faith and this Sacrament so you will be ready to partake of this wonderful meal in full unity with us after that instruction. Thank you for respecting the way we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our congregations.

Communicants, please hold out your hand to receive the bread as it is distributed. Non-alcoholic wine, light in color, is in the center of the tray. Please reserve it for those who will be using it for health reasons.

**Prayers Before Worship** — Hymnal pages 10-11, 134-139

**Preparation for Holy Communion** — Hymnal page 156

**Our Maundy Thursday Worship**

P: We begin in the name of the Triune God: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: (spoken) Amen.**

P: Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world,

**C: The light no darkness can overcome.**

P: Stay with us, for it is evening,

**C: And the day is almost over.**

P: Let your light scatter the darkness.

**C: Let it shine in our hearts and lives. Amen.**

P: Lord God, we thank you for this day now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C: (sung) Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

P: 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. I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. In what I have done and left undone, 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.**

P: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

**C: (sung) Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

P: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake he forgives us 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. Amen.

**C: (sung) Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Your peace be with us, O Jesus!**

P: 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: (sung) Amen.**

### The Scripture Lessons

#### The First Lesson:

**Exodus 12:1-14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same

night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire—head, legs and inner parts. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover. "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD - a lasting ordinance. NIV

**The Psalm of the Day:** Psalm 116 (Front of Hymnal, page 107)

#### The Second Lesson:

**Hebrews 10:15-25**

The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more." And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin. Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. NIV

#### The Gospel:

**Luke 22:7-20**

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked. He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there." They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took

bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. NIV

Seasonal Response:

**C: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.**

**Anthem (7:00 PM) "The Power of the Cross"** (sung by Rejoice!)

**Hymn of the Day #136 "Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night"**

**Sermon Text:** 1 Corinthians 11:23 – 26

*<sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup>For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**Sermon Theme:** **We Preach Christ Crucified in His Holy Supper!**

**We Confess Our Faith** The Nicene Creed (Front of Hymnal, page 18)

**The Offering & Friendship Registers**

**Responsive Prayer of the Church for Maundy Thursday**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

P: 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.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

P and C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**The Words of Institution**

**The Distribution of the Lord's Supper**

Distribution Hymns: #135 and #312



**Prayer for Peace**

P: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **(spoken) Amen.**

**Blessing**

C: **(sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn #316 "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"**

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**Good Friday Worship**

Set aside this special time, in view of your Savior's love for you, to hear His Word, to see the full extent of His love by which he saved you from your sins and opened heaven for you, and to worship Him!

Our Good Friday service is a tenebrae service. Tenebrae means "darkness." We extinguish our candles as the service progresses, signifying the death of Jesus. One candle remains lit at the end, reminding us that Jesus died in the certainty of the resurrection on the third day! Good Friday Worship, Friday, April 2, 1:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. The 7:00 p.m. service includes the Lord's Supper.

**Easter Morning Worship – Sunday, April 4th**

Son-rise service 6:00 a.m.

Breakfast, 7:15 -10:15 a.m.

Festival Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

As the women came to Jesus' tomb at dawn on the first Easter, we offer our Son-rise service at 6:00 a.m. to enable our members and guests to celebrate Jesus' resurrection the first thing on Easter morning.

Our Festival services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. will offer another opportunity to worship the Savior, hear another set of lessons and another message, and invite others to learn the meaning of Jesus' resurrection with you.

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in the 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Easter morning services. The living and reigning Christ comes to us personally, giving us His real body and blood in this miracle, to forgive our sins, to increase our love for one another, and to enable us to live our lives anew to His glory.



*Worship Folder  
April 1, 2010*



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**St. Matthew's is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

