



Complete Worship Folder
April 6, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road Saginaw, MI 48609 (989)781-2170

Email address: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net

Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

Maundy Thursday

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness (ELW page 258)

P: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to 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 called at baptism. Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, ... we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Hymn: "For the Bread Which You Have Broken" (ELW 494) (*video*)

For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.

By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.

With the saints who now adore you,
seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...**Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

First Reading: Psalm 118 (read responsively)

¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

²**Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."**

³Let the house of Aaron say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."

⁴**Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."**

⁵Out of my distress I called on the LORD;
the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.

⁶**With the LORD on my side I do not fear.
What can mortals do to me?**

⁷The LORD is on my side to help me;
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

⁸**It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in mortals.**

⁹It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in princes.

¹⁰**All nations surrounded me;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!**

¹¹They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!

¹²**They surrounded me like bees;
they blazed like a fire of thorns;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!**

¹³I was pushed hard, so that I was falling,
but the LORD helped me.

¹⁴**The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.**

¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

¹⁶**the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."**

¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸**The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.**

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰**This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

²¹I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

²³This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

**²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

²⁷The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

**²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.**

²⁹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: "Open Our Eyes Lord" (CCLI 1572) (*video*)

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him
Open our ears Lord
And help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 26:17-30

¹⁷On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations 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 near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. ²⁰When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; ²¹and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²²And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." ²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so." ²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from 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 never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "This is Christ's Body" (ACS 967) (*video*)

This is Christ's body, broken and blest.
Feed us with mercy and love. (with mercy and love.)
We are Christ's body, broken and blest.
Heal us and make us one. (*repeat once*)

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Merciful God,

Congregation responds...receive our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

C: Amen.

Thanksgiving at Table

P: Blessed are you, O living God,
sovereign of time and space.

You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

Your word leads us across the sea to freedom,
and you have carried us together to these holy Three Days.

Blessed be God forever!

C: Blessed be God forever!

P: Blessed are you, O living God,
for your glory revealed in Jesus Christ.

He is our Servant, who washes our feet with love.

He is our Lamb, whose blood takes away our sin.

He is our Host at this meal, offering us the cup of salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Blessed be God forever!

C: Blessed be God forever!

P: Blessed are you, O living God,
for the gift of your loving Spirit.

Fill this meal with the life of your Son.

Make us servants of one another and of everyone in need.

Bring us with all your people to the joy of the resurrection.

Blessed be God forever!

C: Blessed be God forever!

P: Amen, and amen.

C: Amen, and amen.

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.

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Communion Songs: "One Bread, One Body" (ELW 496) (*video*)

Refrain One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
 one cup of blessing which we bless,
 and we, though many throughout the earth,
 we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. **Refrain**

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. **Refrain**

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. **Refrain**

"Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup" (ELW 492) (*video*)

Refrain Eat this bread, drink this cup.
 Taste and see the goodness of God.
 Bread of life, cup of love,
 we rejoice in your presence.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
praise with heart and voice;
in my God I glory forever:
listen and rejoice! **Refrain**

Look upon the Lord, be radiant,
never turn away.
God will save in ev'ry affliction,
hear us when we pray. **Refrain**

Angels fold their wings around us,
guard through good and ill.
Those who seek the Lord will lack nothing;
taste, and have your fill. **Refrain**

Saints of God, bow down and worship,
bless the holy name.
Rise to tell God's greatness forever,
wondrous deeds proclaim! **Refrain**

“What Feast of Love” (ELW 487) (*video*)

What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here,
what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!

Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Tonight’s worship marks the beginning of the Three Holy Days of the church year, marking the final days of Jesus life. Tonight we remembered the dramatic and intense love that Jesus has for the other, and the giving of himself as we celebrate the Lord’s Supper this evening.

Tonight our worship ends as we move into the worship for Good Friday. As we sing our closing hymn, all items from the altar area will be removed. Like the disciples who go with Jesus to Gethsemane, we pray with Jesus on this fateful night.

Stripping of the Altar takes place while the following song is sung.

Closing Song: “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (ELW #347 verses 1-3) (video)

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

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The congregation leaves in silence.

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