

Maundy Thursday

The Eternal Gift of Christ

April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday, the Day of the Mandate, is the day on which our Lord Jesus Christ gave to us the gift of Himself in His Most Holy Supper. He has commanded us ever to receive Him in, under, through, the Bread and Wine, because He has remembered us, and tells us to remember Him.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

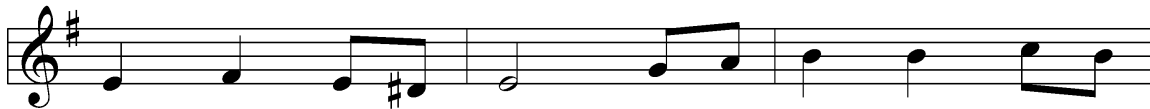
451



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Volkslieder, 1850, Paderborn

Text and tune: Public domain

Call to Worship

Invocation

P: In the Name of the Father, and of \oplus the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: O God, we know of our transgressions, and our sin is always before us.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: Against You, and You alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are as filthy rags.

C: **Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

P: We know that we were ransomed from our vanity not with gold or silver, or other perishable filth, but with the Holy, Sacred, Innocent Blood of Christ.

C: **In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of His grace which He has lavished upon us.**

Hymn

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we gather on this night of nights on which the Lord gave to us His Most Holy Supper. Let us humbly draw near to the Lord to remember what He has done for us, and to receive what He gives to us by His Word, both written, and in and under the Bread and Wine. +++ Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P: With humble hearts, let us pray to our Father:

C: **We confess that we have sinned against You, in our thoughts, in our deeds. Some of our sins we know – of which we are ashamed – but most of our transgressions are known only to You. Surely we were sinful from birth. In the Name of Jesus Christ, we beg Your forgiveness. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest securely in You. Amen.**

P Our Heavenly Father has had mercy upon us children of men, and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all of our sins. I, therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, at the command, and in the stead of my Lord Jesus Christ, forgive you all of your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

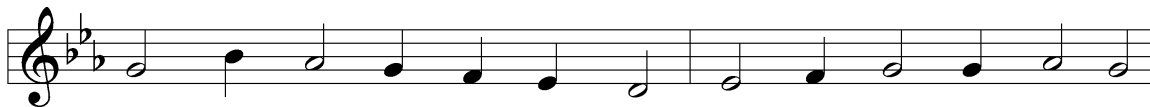
Hymn

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

#440 *sts. 1–3*



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

Text and tune: Public domain

Responsive Verses

P: Life is in the Blood. So has it been since the beginning. Innocent blood spilled calls forth to God for vengeance. Cain slew his brother Abel.

C: **“What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground!”**

P: Of the flesh of beasts, God has forbidden that we should eat the blood.

C: **“You shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.”**

P: So important is this that God teaches this many times in His Word.

C: **“Whoever eats the blood, that person shall be cut off from my people.”**

P: When the children of Israel were being led out from the land of Egypt, they were protected from the death of the first-born by the blood of an unblemished male lamb washed upon the doors and windows of their homes.

C: **“The blood shall be sign to you, upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall fall upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”**

P: Blood was used in the sacrifices to the Lord in the Wilderness.

C: **The blood of the bull was sprinkled on the mercy seat, and on the horns of the Altar, to make payment for the sins of the people. Its blood, that is, its life, was a substitute for the death due to the one who brought the sacrifice.**

P: In the letter to the Hebrews we are taught of the use of blood for reconciliation of God with Man.

C: **“Indeed, under the Law, almost all is purified by blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.”**

P: Blood is still the essence of life. As it was, is now, and it always shall be so. The flesh without blood is only meat.

C: **We do not have the history of the Hebrew people who understood that life is in the blood. Yet, our Lord Jesus, the Christ, makes it tantamount for us to trust in this truth.**

P The guilt of sin demands payment in blood. Jesus had no sin, yet gave His blood. The sinless died in place of the sinful.

C: **His life, His blood, was a substitute for the death due to us.**

P Even Judas Iscariot knew what he had done.

C: **“I have sinned in betraying innocent blood!”**

P Pilate did not want to give Jesus up to be crucified.

C: **“I am innocent of this man’s blood. See to it yourselves!”**

P And yet, Jesus was crucified. The sacred blood of Jesus, the life of God, poured from His pierced side to the earth from the lance of the Roman soldier, and made clean what we had made unclean.

C: **“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of all of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.” “In Christ Jesus, you who were once far off have been brought near to the throne of grace in the blood of Christ.”**

P Jesus, knowing of what was to come, at the Passover Supper He celebrated with His Disciples, gave to them the Cup of His Testament.

C: **“Drink of it, all of you. This is my blood of the New Covenant, poured out for the Many for the forgiveness of sins.”**

P Because the life is in the blood, Jesus bids us to drink of His blood, that His life would be ours.

C: **We are given the very blood of God to satisfy the thirst of our souls.**

P This gift from God brings new life and revived faith to all who trust in the Word of the Lord Jesus. It truly is the blood of Christ for strength to live.

C: **“Those who eat My flesh and drink My blood abide in Me, and I in them.”**

The First Reading is from the letter to the Romans, the 12th chapter: Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Psalmody – from Psalm 50

P The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. Before Him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around Him.

C: **The Lord who rules over everything shines forth throughout all the earth.**

P He calls heaven and earth as witnesses to see Him judge His people: “Gather to Me My faithful ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

C: **Bring to God’s Throne an offering that shows forth your love for Him.**

P “I do not need bulls from your farms or goats from your flocks; all the animals in the forest are Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. All the wild birds are Mine, and all things in the fields.”

C: **The Lord who rules over everything shines forth throughout all the earth.**

P “Offer to God a sacrifice of, and pay your vows to the Most High. Call on Me in the Day of Trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

C: **Bring to God’s Throne an offering that shows forth your love for Him.**

All: **Amen.**

The Second Reading is from First Corinthians, the 11th chapter: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in My remembrance.” In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in My remembrance.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-26

P As you are able, please stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

P Since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the Blood of Jesus, let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful in all His Word.

C: Bring to God's Throne an offering that shows forth your love for Him.

P The Holy Gospel is from Saint Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Hymn

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

440 sts. 4-6



4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.
5 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science grieve me,
6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!
That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615

Text and tune: Public domain

Homily

Confession of our Common Faith in the words of the 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.

Prayers of the Church

P Let us pray for all of our brothers and sisters of Our Redeemer, for all Christians in every congregation throughout the world, and for all people who are in need of the Lord's Mercy through His Son.

[a moment of silence for personal reflection]

P Blessed Lord, give us zeal for Your house, Your Word and Your table, that we may ever rejoice in the privilege of Your grace whereby we have been called to faith, sustained in hope and kept in true faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give us a heart of mercy to love all people and serve them as Christ has loved and served us. Bless Your Church and provide for her faithful pastors and church workers, that we may keep the faith and not be led astray by every wind of change. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give us the desire to know You through Your Word, and grant Your blessing upon the schools of our Church, wherever Your people teach and learn Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Inspire us to all that is good, right, noble and true, to love virtue and to the true humility of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give our leaders wisdom and courage, that they may serve Your Word in the punishment of wrong, the promotion of goodness and the protection of the weak. Bless especially our care for the mothers with child and the children in their wombs, that we may not dishonor Your sacred gift of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give those who commune this night a renewed appreciation for this Holy Supper, that they may come in repentance and receive in faith the testament of Christ in which He gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give to the sick healing according to Your will, give to the suffering relief by Your grace, give to the grieving comfort and to the dying peace. We lift before You those who have requested our prayers, and those we name in our hearts... Bring all things to their perfect healing and fulfillment in Christ, that kept through the afflictions of this day we may know the joy that knows no end in the resurrection of the dead. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give us grace to complete our Lenten journey to the cross and empty tomb, and thereby be strengthened in faith and renewed in hope by this annual remembrance of our Lord's Passion, death and resurrection. Equip us by Your Spirit to bring this good news to all who do not yet know what Your Son has accomplished to save us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Holy Supper

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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The Blessing

P Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament.

Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.**

The Word 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.”

The Pax ~ Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

The Agnus Dei

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s Body and Blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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

Psalm 22

The Pastor and the Congregation Depart in Silence

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