

## MAUNDY (HOLY) THURSDAY

### MY CLOSE FRIEND

Have you ever been betrayed by someone close to you? You are not alone. King David prayed in Psalm 41:9, “Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.” To have a heel lifted against you is to receive a tremendous kick. It is a kick that sends you reeling and knocks the breath out of you—much like the feeling of being betrayed by a trusted friend. When trust has been broken, you can pray David’s words as your own and put your trust in the One whose betrayal they prophesy. For your Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took the pain and shame for you.

#### HYMN

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (*LSB* 440)

- 1 Jesus, I will ponder now  
On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow  
For such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith  
May the image cherish  
Of Your suffering, pain, and death  
That I may not perish.
- 2 Make me see Your great distress,  
Anguish, and affliction,  
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness  
And Your crucifixion;  
Make me see how scourge and rod,  
Spear and nails did wound You,  
How for them You died, O God,  
Who with thorns had crowned You.
- 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus alone  
Make me see Your passion,  
But its cause to me make known  
And its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin  
Wrought Your deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause has been  
Of Your crucifixion.
- 4 Grant that I Your passion view  
With repentant grieving.  
Let me not bring shame to You  
By unholy living.  
How could I refuse to shun  
Ev’ry sinful pleasure  
Since for me God’s only Son  
Suffered without measure?

5 If my sins give me alarm  
And my conscience grieve me,  
Let Your cross my fear disarm;  
Peace of conscience give me.  
Help me see forgiveness won  
By Your holy passion.  
If for me He slays His Son,  
God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from You,  
Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give You love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heav'n above  
Sing Your praise forever.

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

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

SERIES PSALM

“Be Gracious to Me” (Psalm 41:9–10)

- A** May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make His face to shine upon us.  
**C** **May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make His face to shine upon us.**  
**A** Even my close friend in whom I trusted,  
who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.  
But You, O LORD, be gracious to me,  
and raise me up, that I may repay them!  
**C** **May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make His face to shine upon us.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.  
O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion.  
Grant that we may so receive the sacred 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.**

CHOIR

(6:30 service only)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Exodus 12:1–14*

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, the twelfth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. <sup>4</sup>And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, <sup>6</sup>and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

<sup>7</sup>“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. <sup>10</sup>And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 11:23–32*

**P** The Epistle is from First Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

<sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also He took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

<sup>27</sup>Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup>Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup>For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup>That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. <sup>31</sup>But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup>But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 13:1–30*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup>During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going back to God, <sup>4</sup>rose from supper. He laid aside His outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around His waist. <sup>5</sup>Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around Him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with Me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup>When He had washed their feet and put on His outer garments and resumed His place, He said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. <sup>14</sup>If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. <sup>18</sup>I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate My bread has lifted his heel against Me.' <sup>19</sup>I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am He. <sup>20</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives the one who sent Me."

<sup>21</sup>After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in His spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." <sup>22</sup>The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom He spoke. <sup>23</sup>One of His disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining

at table close to Jesus, <sup>24</sup>so Simon Peter motioned to Him to ask Jesus of whom He was speaking. <sup>25</sup>So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to Him, “Lord, who is it?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered, “It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it.” So when He had dipped the morsel, He gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. <sup>27</sup>Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, “What you are going to do, do quickly.” <sup>28</sup>Now no one at the table knew why He said this to him. <sup>29</sup>Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor. <sup>30</sup>So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

“When You Woke That Thursday Morning” (*LSB* 445)

- 1 When You woke that Thursday morning,  
Savior, teacher, faithful friend,  
Thoughts of self and safety scorning,  
Knowing how the day would end;  
Lamb of God, foretold for ages,  
Now at last the hour had come  
When but One could pay sin’s wages:  
You assumed their dreadful sum.
  
- 2 Never so alone and lonely,  
Longing with tormented heart  
To be with Your dear ones only  
For a quiet hour apart:  
Sinless Lamb and fallen creature,  
One last paschal meal to eat,  
One last lesson as their teacher,  
Washing Your disciples’ feet.
  
- 3 What was there that You could give them  
That would never be outspent,  
What great gift that would outlive them,  
What last will and testament?  
“Show Me and the world you love Me,  
Know Me as the Lamb of God:  
Do this in remembrance of Me,  
Eat this body, drink this blood.”
  
- 4 One in faith, in love united,  
All one body, You the head,  
When we meet, by You invited,  
You are with us, as You said.  
One with You and one another  
In a unity sublime,  
See in us Your sister, brother,  
One in ev’ry place and time.

- 5 One day all the Church will capture  
 That bright vision glorious,  
 And Your saints will know the rapture  
 That Your heart desired for us,  
 When the longed-for peace and union  
 Of the Greatest and the least  
 Meet in joyous, blest communion  
 In Your never-ending feast.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008  
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SERMON

*Psalm 41:9*

HYMN

“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

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953  
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OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, which is our spiritual home, and for the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's people would be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for the educational institutions of our nation, from preschools and elementary schools through universities and graduate schools, that there would be an atmosphere of growth and godliness and that those who teach and those who learn in them would be transformed by the wisdom of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood at this blessed Table, that in their eating and drinking they receive the benefits of the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life, and truly have a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us or others to call them home to the Father with words of welcome and actions that express our care in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they would use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people and for all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and sciences, that God would grant them skill and integrity in the performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their vocations. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them. We also pray for all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful, generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the Church and to help those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for those who are sick, [*especially . . .*], that God would grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace and for those who mourn, [*especially . . .*], that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will never leave them nor forsake them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### CONFSSIONAL ADDRESS

**P** During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For



we are all one bread and one Body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one Body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C** Amen.

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**C** Amen.

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C** Yes.

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

**C** Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*LSB, p. 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

*LSB, p. 162*

**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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

*LSB, p. 163*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"The Death of Jesus Christ Our Lord" (*LSB* 634)

- 1 The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
We celebrate with one accord;  
It is our comfort in distress,  
Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.
- 2 He blotted out with His own blood  
The judgment that against us stood;  
For us He full atonement made,  
And all our debt He fully paid.
- 3 That this forever true shall be  
He gives a solemn guarantee:  
In this His holy Supper here  
We taste His love so sweet, so near.

- 4 His Word proclaims and we believe  
That in this Supper we receive  
His very body, as He said,  
His very blood for sinners shed.
- 5 We dare not ask how this can be,  
But simply hold the mystery  
And trust this word where life begins:  
“Given and shed for all your sins.”
- 6 They who this word do not believe  
This food unworthily receive,  
Salvation here will never find—  
May we this warning keep in mind!
- 7 But blest is each believing guest  
Who in these promises finds rest;  
For Jesus shall in love remain  
With all who here His grace obtain.
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe  
That we may worthily receive  
Your Supper and in You find rest.  
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1-4, 6-8): Haquin Spegel, 1645-1714; (sts. 1-4, 6-8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841-1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite  
Text: Public domain

“O Savior Precious Savior” (*LSB* 527)

- 1 O Savior, precious Savior,  
Whom yet unseen we love;  
O name of might and favor,  
All other names above,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our holy Lord and King.
- 2 O bringer of salvation,  
Who wondrously hast wrought  
Thyself the revelation  
Of love beyond our thought,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our gracious Lord and King.
- 3 In Thee all fullness dwelleth,  
All grace and pow’r divine;  
The glory that excelleth,  
O Son of God, is Thine.  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our glorious Lord and King.

4 O grant the consummation  
Of this our song above  
In endless adoration  
And everlasting love;  
Then shall we praise and bless Thee  
Where perfect praises ring,  
And evermore confess Thee,  
Our Savior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79  
Text: Public domain

PSALM

*Psalm 22 (Read Responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>My God, My God, why have You for- | saken Me?\*

Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My | groaning?

<sup>2</sup>**O My God, I cry by day, but You do not | answer,\*  
and by night, but I | find no rest.**

<sup>3</sup>Yet You are | holy,\*  
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

<sup>4</sup>**In You our fathers | trusted;\***  
**they trusted, and You de- | livered them.**

<sup>5</sup>To You they cried and were | rescued;\*

in You they trusted and were not | put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>**But I am a worm and | not a man,\*  
scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.**

<sup>7</sup>All who see Me | mock Me;\*

they make mouths at Me; they | wag their heads;

<sup>8</sup>**“He trusts in the LORD; let Him de- | liver Him;\***  
**let Him rescue Him, for He de- | lights in Him!”**

<sup>9</sup>Yet You are He who took Me | from the womb;\*

You made Me trust You at My | mother’s breasts.

<sup>10</sup>**On You was I cast | from My birth,\*  
and from My mother’s womb You have | been My God.**

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from Me,  
for trouble | is near,\*  
and there is | none to help.

<sup>12</sup>**Many bulls en- | compass Me;\***  
**strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round Me;**

<sup>13</sup>they open wide their | mouths at Me,\*  
like a ravening and roaring | lion.

<sup>14</sup>**I am poured out like water,  
and all My bones are | out of joint;\***  
**My heart is like wax;  
it is melted with- | in My breast;**

<sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and My tongue sticks | to My jaws;\*

You lay Me in the | dust of death.

<sup>16</sup>**For dogs en- | compass Me;\***

**a company of evildoers encircles Me;**  
**they have pierced My | hands and feet—**  
<sup>17</sup>I can count | all My bones—\*  
 they stare and gloat | over Me;  
<sup>18</sup>**they divide My garments a- | mong them,\***  
**and for My clothing they | cast lots.**  
<sup>19</sup>But You, O LORD, do not be | far off!\*  
 O You My help, come quickly | to My aid!  
<sup>20</sup>**Deliver My soul | from the sword,\***  
**My precious life from the power | of the dog!**  
<sup>21</sup>Save Me from the mouth of the | lion!\*  
 You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild | oxen!  
<sup>22</sup>**I will tell of Your name to My | brothers;\***   
**in the midst of the congregation I will | praise You:**  
<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise Him!  
 All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify Him,\*  
 and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of | Israel!  
<sup>24</sup>**For He has not despised or abhorred**  
**the affliction of the afflicted,**  
**and He has not hidden His | face from Him,\***  
**but has heard, when He | cried to Him.**  
<sup>25</sup>From You comes My praise in the great congre- | gation;\*  
 My vows I will perform before those who | fear Him.  
<sup>26</sup>**The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;**  
**those who seek Him shall | praise the LORD!\***  
**May your hearts live for- | ever!**  
<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
 and turn | to the LORD,\*  
 and all the families of the nations  
 shall worship be- | fore You.  
<sup>28</sup>**For kingship belongs | to the LORD,\***  
**and He rules over the | nations.**  
<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;\*  
 before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
 even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.  
<sup>30</sup>**Posterity shall | serve Him;\***   
**it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;**  
<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people | yet unborn,\*  
 that He has | done it.

+ STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR +

*6:30 Service Only: The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.*

*All leave the church in silence.*

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