

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.

- 2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.

- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest
In heaven's high and holy feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.
Text: Public domain

Invocation

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

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

Prayer

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.

Choir

Reading

Psalms 145:15–17

- ¹⁵The eyes of all | look to you,*
and you give them their food in due | season.
¹⁶You open | your hand; *
you satisfy the desire of every | living thing.
¹⁷The LORD is righteous in | all his ways*
and kind in | all his works.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

John 13:3–16

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then 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. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus 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." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When 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?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

543 What Wondrous Love Is This

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

- 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing His love for me,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning

- 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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Offering

Prayer of the Church

Confessional 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 the 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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 291

C O almighty God, merciful Father, 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.

Absolution

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.

Blessing

- 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 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 197

- 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."

Pax Domini

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

Distribution

436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

- 1 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.
- 2 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.

- 3 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.
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb
 Where they laid His breathless clay;
 All is solitude and gloom.
 Who has taken Him away?
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.
 Savior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
 Text: Public domain

435 Come to Calv'ry's Holy Mountain

- 1 Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain,
 Sinners, ruined by the fall;
 Here a pure and healing fountain
 Flows for you, for me, for all,
 In a full, perpetual tide,
 Opened when our Savior died.
- 2 Come in poverty and meanness,
 Come defiled, without, within;
 From infection and uncleanness,
 From the leprosy of sin,
 Wash your robes and make them white;
 Ye shall walk with God in light.
- 3 Come in sorrow and contrition,
 Wounded, impotent, and blind;
 Here the guilty, free remission,
 Here the troubled, peace may find.
 Health this fountain will restore;
 They that drink shall thirst no more.
- 4 They that drink shall live forever;
 'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
 God is faithful; God will never
 Break His covenant of blood,
 Signed when our Redeemer died,
 Sealed when He was glorified.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Reading

Psalm 22

- ¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*
- Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?
- ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,*
 and by night, but I | find no rest.

³Yet you are | holy,*
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

⁴In you our fathers | trusted,*
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

⁵To you they cried and were | rescued,*
in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and | not a man,*
scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.

⁷All who see me | mock me,*
they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

⁸“He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;*
let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”

⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;*
you made me trust you at my | mother’s breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast | from my birth,*
and from my mother’s womb you have | been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me,
for trouble | is near,*
and there is | none to help.

¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;*
strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;

¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,*
like a ravening and roaring | lion.

¹⁴I 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;

¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;*
you lay me in the | dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me,*
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my | hands and feet—

¹⁷I can count | all my bones—*
they stare and gloat | over me;

¹⁸they divide my garments a- | mong them,*
and for my clothing they | cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!*
O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,*
my precious life from the power | of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!*
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!

²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers,*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:

²³You 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!

²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,

and he has not hidden his | face from him,*
but he | cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation,*
my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.

²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!*

May your hearts live for- | ever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations
shall worship be- | fore you.

²⁸For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.

²⁹All 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.

³⁰Posterity shall | serve him;*

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;

³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,*
that he has | done it.

Stripping of the Altar

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