

Historic Scripture Lessons for ✠ Maundy Thursday (Lord's Supper)
Old Testament

Exodus 12:1-14 NIV The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, 2 "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. 3 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. 4 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. 5 The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. 6 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. 7 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. 8 That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. 9 Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire - head, legs and inner parts. 10 Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. 11 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. 12 "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. 13 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. 14 "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.

Epistle (Sermon Text)

I Corinthians 11:23-32 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, 24 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." 25 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." 26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 27 Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the Body and Blood of the Lord. 28 A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. 29 For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 30 That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. 31 But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. 32 When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

Gospel

Luke 22:14-20 When the hour came, Jesus and His apostles reclined at the table. 15 And He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the Kingdom of God." 17 After taking the cup, He gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. 18 For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the Kingdom of God comes." 19 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." 20 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."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL 
Lent ~ Maundy Thursday ✠ (The Lord's Supper)
March 24th, 2016 ⌘ 7:00 pm



*Woodcut illustration from a 1695 Bible – Matthew 26
Jesus initiates the Eucharist at the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday evening.*

Image courtesy of the Digital Image Archive, Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University
<http://www.pitts.emory.edu/DIA/detail.cfm?ID=51887>

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✳ A.R. Burmeister 430-5859 ✳ Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

March 24th, 2016 ✳ Maundy Thursday (Lord's Supper)

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long time), we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! **God bless you.**

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. Lord's blessings.

ORDER OF WORSHIP On insert sheets or in red (TLH) Hymnal at **p.15**.

| Service | | |
|-------------------|----------|--|
| Opening Hymn | 145 (3v) | Jesus, Refuge of the Weary |
| Gloria Hymn | 309 (2v) | O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee |
| Hymn of the Day | 304 (6v) | An Awe-full Mystery Is Here |
| Offertory Verse | 314 (5v) | <i>Sing vv.1&5 Lord Jesus Christ, We--Pray</i> |
| Distribution Hymn | 163 (9v) | The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord |
| Closing Hymn | 313 (3v) | O Lord, We Praise Thee, Bless Thee... |

PROPERs for MAUNDY THURSDAY MARCH 24TH

INTROIT God forbid that I should glory except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Him is salvation, life, and Resurrection from the dead. By Him we are Redeemed and set at liberty. God be merciful to us and bless us and cause His face to shine on us. ...from Psalm 67

COLLECT O Lord God, You have left for us in a wonderful Sacrament a memorial of Your Passion, grant, we beseech You, that we may use this Sacrament of Your Body and Blood that the fruits of Your Redemption may continually be manifest in us; You, who live, and reign with... **C: ♪ A--men.**

GRADUAL C: Christ has humbled Himself and become obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. Wherefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him a Name which is above every name. ...from Psalm 22

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on outside back page of bulletin)

O.T. Exodus 12:1-14 Jehovah God institutes the Passover meal.

Epi. 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Examine yourselves before eating the Supper.

Gos. Luke 22:14-20 Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper.

SERMON Text (1Cor. 11:23-29) IRONY: "DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME"

Christian Questions with Their Answers

Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament

- 1. Do you believe that you are a sinner?** Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
- 2. How do you know this?** From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
- 3. Are you sorry for your sins?** Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
- 4. What have you deserved from God because of your sins?** His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See **Romans 6:21, 23.** Yes, that is my hope.
- 5. Do you hope to be saved?** Yes, that is my hope.
- 6. In Whom then do you trust?** In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7. Who is Christ?** The Son of God, True God and true man.
- 8. How many Gods are there?** There is only One God, but there are Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 9. What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?** He died for me and shed His Blood for me on the Cross for the forgiveness of my sins.
- 10. Did the Father also die for you?** He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both True God and true man. He died for me and shed His Blood for me.
- 11. How do you know this?** From the holy Gospel, from the Words instituting the Sacrament, and by His Body and Blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.
- 12. What are the Words of Institution?** 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. Do this as often as you drink It, in remembrance of Me."
- 13. Do you believe then that the true Body and Blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?** Yes, I believe it.
- 14. What convinces you to believe this?** The Word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My Body; drink of It, all of you, this is My Blood.
- 15. What should we do when we eat His Body and drink His Blood, and in this way receive His pledge?** We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His Blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink It, in remembrance of Me.
- 16. Why should we remember and proclaim His death?** First, so that we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.
- 17. What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?** His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in **John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; and Ephesians 5.**
- 18. Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?** That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.
- 19. What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?** First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.
- 20. But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?** To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in **Galatians 5** and **Romans 7.** Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in **John 15-16** and in **1 John 2** and **5.** Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in **John 8** and **16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.**



II. Service of Holy Communion ...continued, p.27
The WORDS of INSTITUTION (Pastor gives the Words of Institution)



P: ♪ Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His 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, 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 and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

The PAX DOMINI (Peace of the Lord)

P: ♪ The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: ♪ A- -men.

The AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God)

C: ♪ O- Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O- Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O- Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. A-men.

DISTRIBUTION. Communicant members of Our Savior please come forward.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord #163* (9 verses)

(After Distribution...) **NUNC DIMITTIS** (Lord, let us Now Depart)

C: ♪ Lord, now- lettest Thou Thy servant depart- in- peace, according to Thy Word. For mine- eyes have seen Thy Salvation, which Thou hast prepared- be-fore the face of all people, a Light- to light-en the Gentiles, and the Glo-ry of Thy people Is--rael. Glory- be to the Father and to- the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it- was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall- be, world without end. A-men.

COLLECT of THANKSGIVING *P: ♪ O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.*

C: ♪ And His mercy endureth for-ev-er.

P: We give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God now and forever. C: ♪ A- -men.

The SALUTATION *P: ♪ The Lord be with you. C: ♪ And with thy spir-it.*

The BENEDICAMUS *P: ♪ Let us bless the Lord. C: ♪ Thanks- be to God.*

The BENEDICTION

*P: ♪ The Lord bless you and keep you,
 The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you,
 The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give ✠ you peace.*

CLOSING HYMN *O Lord, We Praise Thee, Bless Thee & Adore Thee 313* (3v)

SILENT PRAYER. (CANDLES OUT) ✠ p.5 ✠ **ANNOUNCEMENTS; FELLOWSHIP.**



I. The Service of Preparation ✠ TLH p.15



WELCOME. *Maundy Thursday* **THEME: JESUS INSTITUTES THE SACRAMENT**

OPENING HYMN *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary ELH #145* (3 verses) *O DU LIEBE*



The INVOCATION (Congregation please rise.)

P: ♪ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Ghost.

C: ♪ A- -men.

The CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. ♪ 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 Thou forgavest the iniquity of- my- sin.

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

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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: ♪ A- -men.

The INTROIT (Entrance)

P: God forbid that I should glory except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Him is Salvation, Life, and Resurrection from the dead. By Him we are Redeemed and set at liberty. God be merciful to us and bless us and cause His face to shine on us. ...from Psalm 67

The GLORIA PATRI (Glory be to God)

C: ♪ Glory- be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning; is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON (Lord Have Mercy)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

✠ p.2 ✠

(The GLORIA in EXCELSIS: *Glory be to God is OMITTED during LENT*)

In place of Gloria a Hymn may be sung: #309 O Jesus, Blessed Lord (2v)

1. O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee - My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed - On me Thy Body and Thy Blood.

2. Break forth, my soul, for joy and say What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blest am I! How good Thou art! Amen.

SALUTATION (*Greeting*) P: ♪ The Lord be with you. C: ♪ And with thy spir-it.

COLLECT (*Prayer for This Sunday prayed by Pastor – words on page 1*)

C: (*sung after the Collect*) ♪ A- -men. The congregation may be seated.



II. Service of The Word TLH, p.20



OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 12:1-14 God institutes the Passover meal.

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Examine ourselves before Holy Communion.

GRADUAL C: Christ has humbled Himself and become obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. Wherefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him a Name which is above every name. ...from

Psalms 22

(*The Alleluias are OMITTED during the Season of Lent*)

The HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 22:14-20 The congregation please rise.

C: (*Sung before the Holy Gospel is read*) ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O LORD.**

C: (*Sung after the Holy Gospel is read*) ♪ **Praise- be to Thee, O CHRIST.**

NICENE CREED (*Our Confession of Faith*) All say together:

C: I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

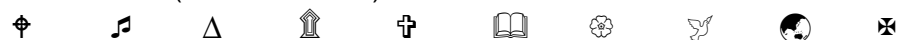
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost 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 sitteth at the Right Hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

✕ p.3 ✕ (The congregation may be seated for the next hymn.)

HYMN of the DAY “An Awe-full Mystery Is Here” TLH #304 (6 verses)

SERMON Text (1 Cor. 11:23-29) IRONY “Do THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME”



(...after Sermon) C: ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and- renew a right spirit within me, Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spir-it from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy- free Spirit. A-men.

The OFFERING

OFFERTORY VERSE Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray #314, verses 1, 5

1. Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feed on Thee today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Thy grace divine.

5. Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray To keep us steadfast to that day
That each may be Thy welcomed guest
When Thou shalt spread Thy Heav'nly Feast. A-men.



III. Service of Holy Communion TLH, p.24 PREFACE



P: ♪ The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And- with thy- spirit.

P: ♪ Lift up your hearts.

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: ♪ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: ♪ It is meet and right so to do.

The PROPER PREFACE and SANCTUS (Holy, Holy, Holy)

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto You O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, *Who on the tree of the Cross You gave salvation to all mankind that, since death arose by the fault of one man, then life also might also rise by the obedience of One Man; and that as Satan once overcame by a tree, likewise he was overcome by a tree through the death of Jesus Christ, our Lord.* Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of Heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

C: ♪ Ho- -ly, ho- -ly, ho-ly, Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the high-est.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the high-est.

The LORD'S PRAYER (*Pastor prays the petitions of the Lord's Prayer*)

P: 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;

C: ♪ For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Pow'r, and the Glory
forever and ever. A- -men.

✕ p.4 ✕

MAUNDY THU. 1 Corinthians 11:23-29 "DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE" 03.24.16

INTRODUCTION Can any of us ever forget the people we've treasured in our past? I hope not. But one of the ironies of life is the human capacity to put the past in the past. I suppose it's necessary. We can't spend our entire lives aching to see people we once knew and loved. Our brains are hardwired to move on. Yet sometimes we want to recall those people and their love, even if it hurts to miss them. The gifts they've given us help bring back all that we knew and treasured about those people. So that we might always treasure what Jesus has done for us, He gave us something to remember Him by - the **Lord's Supper**. Tonight, we stand with Jesus in the upper room, and we hear him tell us, (TONIGHT'S THEME & IRONY) "**Do this in remembrance of Me**"

I. How do we choose the tokens of affection we give to the people we love? Sometimes we choose things that have personal meaning. When someone close to us dies, we often receive possessions of theirs that we associate closely with him or her. Sometimes we choose things that just "fit." But sometimes you kind of scratch your head when you see the gift someone gives you. **Is that the case in the Lord's Supper?** Now, I'm sure you're saying, "**Of course not!**" We treasure this Gift Jesus gave us. But Jesus said, "**Do this in remembrance of Me.**" What is the "**this**"? **It's the eating bread and drinking wine.** Jesus called the bread His Body and the wine His Blood.

Now, if Jesus were looking for **merely a symbol** for His Body and Blood, He could've chosen something more obvious, but Jesus chose bread and wine. Sure, **they were on the table in front of Him** because He was **celebrating the Passover**. Two elements of that meal were unleavened bread and wine. And the **Passover meal commemorated that deliverance** for the next 1,500 years **until Jesus gave His own life and by His Blood delivered the entire world from sin and death**. So the meat of the Passover lamb would've made a great symbol for the body of Jesus, the Lamb of God, but that's not what He chose for Holy Communion. He chose the unleavened bread and the wine. Why? In the case of the bread it might be because in the Bible yeast often represents sin. Jesus came here as a Man without sin, represented by bread without yeast. The wine could perhaps recall the spilling of His Blood. God doesn't tell us **why** He chose bread and wine, but He does tell us **what they really are**.

Jesus said, "*This is My Body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.*" And "*This cup is the New Covenant in My Blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.*" Jesus put His REAL Body and Blood into Holy Communion. Now that doesn't mean the bread and wine are gone. They're present too. But Jesus' Body and Blood make this the perfect gift. And it's ours when we "**do this.**" In other words, when we come forward and receive the Sacrament, **we receive the real Body and Blood of Christ In, With, and Under** the real bread and wine. When Communion is over, all that will be left on the altar is bread and wine, but we will have received the gift Jesus gave.

Jesus gave this gift **to us**. **St. Paul** says, "*For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you.*" (But, Wait!) **When did Paul receive Holy**

Communion from the Lord? **Not on Maundy Thursday**. Paul was not yet a disciple then. If he was in Jerusalem, he was eating with Pharisees. If he was thinking about Jesus at all, he was wishing the authorities would do something about Him. **Yet Jesus personally passed this on to him**. When? Do you remember the story? Paul was traveling to **Damascus** to arrest Jewish Christians. Suddenly, **Jesus appeared to him**, and he made Paul a Christian. After that, the Holy Spirit led Paul into the wilderness and for three years he was instructed there. Jesus told Paul what He had done in the Upper Room, and He commanded Paul to pass this gift on to every church Jesus founded. **Jesus then gave this gift to all Christians everywhere**.

In our celebration tonight, we will proclaim the Lord's death. We will proclaim that God became Man. **God the Son joined himself to a human body and soul so that he could die and rise again**. We will proclaim that after living a life of perfect service to God, Jesus died to pay for all our sin and weakness. Three days later, He rose to give us eternal life. That life and death and life again are what Jesus gives us in this gift.

In the rare book room in the library at the seminary, there are Bibles and other books that are four hundred and five hundred years old. Sometimes, pastors like to go in and look at them. Some professors may use them occasionally to do research, **but neither the students nor the faculty use them on a day-to-day basis because they would never survive**. Even if they are carefully preserved there for generations - if Jesus doesn't come back first - one day, time will eventually win and **those rare books will perish**.

We will eat the bread and drink the cup and **proclaim Jesus' death until He comes**. We will proclaim the forgiveness of sins and life in God's Name because when we eat and drink, we share the very Body Jesus offered on the Cross and the very Blood that ran down His face and out of His side. We share the price God paid to free us from death and hell. We call this teaching **REAL PRESENCE**. Jesus' Body and Blood are really present here in Communion. I can't explain how. (Nobody can.) I can't whip out a microscope and show it to you. But **Jesus tells us this is true. And He tells us to treasure** this gift until He returns. Jesus said, "*Do this in remembrance of Me.*"

II. Not long before the grandmother of a young mother died, she gave that young mother a set of crystal dishes. One day, one of the young mother's children was swinging on the doors of the cabinet that held that crystal and he dumped it out. It was all destroyed. His mother wept when she lost those tokens of love. **The Lord's Supper is more than a token**. It's more than just something by which to remember Jesus. **It's the visible preaching of the Gospel. It's the real Body and Blood of Christ** given to us every time we kneel here.

(But) What if someone **abused** that? The Christian **congregation in Corinth had been abusing the Lord's Supper**. Some of them were even getting drunk before they celebrated it. So **St. Paul** said, "*So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the Cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the Body and Blood of the Lord.*" Do those words send a

chill up your spine? What does Paul mean by “unworthy”? (Indeed,) Sin makes us unworthy - but Jesus washed all our sin away. That’s what the Cross is all about. So only one thing makes us UNworthy: **unbelief**. Only one thing makes us worthy: **faith**. If we trust in Jesus and the promises He attaches to His Supper, we are worthy. If we don’t trust in Jesus, we’re unworthy.

(And, even more) Jesus is present in this Sacrament **whether we believe it or not**. We receive Jesus’ Body and Blood when we eat and drink whether we repent of our sins or not. If you receive The Sacrament without faith or repentance, the Bible teaches that you receive judgment instead of forgiveness, death instead of life. For that reason, it’s a very dangerous thing to come to the Lord’s Table UNprepared.

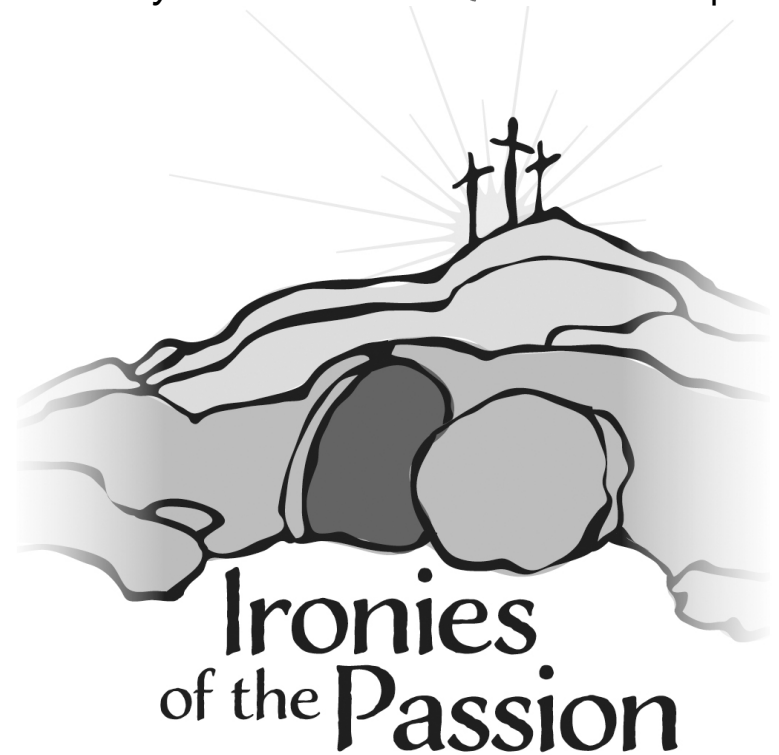
That’s one reason why **we practice Close(d) Communion**. We only admit those who can examine themselves. **Paul** says, “*Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink of the cup.*” What does that mean? The back inside page has 20-Questions (by Luther). It really comes down to **3-Questions**: 1. *Do you know you’re a sinner?* 2. *Do you trust that Jesus paid for your sin and Rose to forgive you?* 3. *Do you believe His Body and Blood in the bread and wine give you that forgiveness personally?* If you answer, “**Yes, Yes, Yes.**” you are worthy and well-prepared.

Perhaps a question is rising in your mind. **What if I haven’t been worthy in the past?** Am I going to hell? No. Did you receive judgment instead of blessing? Jesus didn’t give us this gift to torture us with doubt and guilt. He died and paid for all our sin. He gave us Holy Communion to comfort us and to stifle even **the accusations our own hearts throw at us**. That’s what it means to do this **in Remembrance of Him**. It means remembering that we are **forgiven for all our sins**, even for the times we didn’t really come to Holy Communion with proper preparation. It means hearing Jesus speak to us as we eat and drink. “*This is the New Covenant.*” He says, “*This is for you.*” That means **He has taken away ALL our sins**. Come, trusting in the forgiveness even of the **sins that torment you most**. Come, trusting in His promises and receive the blessing of the Body and Blood of our Lord. Jesus said, “*Do this in remembrance of Me.*” **Communion is a GOSPEL Remembrance.**

CONCLUSION Jesus put His own Body and His Blood into bread and wine. No one could have ever guessed that He would do that, but He did. It would be sad if **we didn’t come regularly and receive that blessing regularly**. It would be sad if we ever forgot what Jesus said or failed to trust in His promise and rob ourselves of this blessing. **This is a treasure from God**. It’s not like the treasures of this life. Have you or would you ever stop treasuring the gifts of love you’ve received? It happens. Sometimes, we find something we haven’t looked at in years and **when we try to remember why we treasured it, it no longer moves us**. That **can** happen here on earth. But it **cannot** happen with Communion, because the power is **not emotion**. It’s **not nostalgia**. The power is the Body and Blood of Christ given by **Jesus’ Word and Command** to take our sins away. That gives us Peace, peace that passes all understanding. “*Do this in Remembrance of Jesus.*” **IJ’N, Amen.**

SDG

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS
Lent-2016 *Maundy Thursday* ✠ *Ironies of the Passion*
February 10th – March 16th  2016 ✠ 4:30 pm



Services

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Ash Wednesday/Midweek 1 | This Man Went Home Justified | Luke 18:9-14 |
| Midweek 2 | It Is Better That One Man Die for the People!..... | John 11:45-53 |
| Midweek 3 | Not During the Feast | Matthew 26:1-5 |
| Midweek 4 | He Had Been Wanting to See Jesus | Luke 23:6-12 |
| Midweek 5 | We Have No King but Caesar! | John 19:12-16a |
| Midweek 6 | Don’t You Fear God?..... | Luke 23:39-43 |
| Palm Sunday | Do You Hear What These Children Are Saying?..... | Matthew 21:12-17 |
| Maundy Thursday | Do This in Remembrance of Me..... | 1 Corinthians 11:23-29 |
| Good Friday | He Said, “I Will Rise Again” | Matthew 27:62-66 |
| Easter Sunday | Why Do You Look for the Living Among the Dead? | Luke 24:4-8 |