

Maundy Thursday
Holy Communion Service
28 March 2024



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church,
170 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

PRELUDES

Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund BWV 621
O Mensch, beweine' dein' Sünde gross BWV 622
O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig BWV 618
Herzlich thut mich verlangen BWV 727

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Be merciful to me, O God, because of Your constant love.
C: **Because of Your great mercy wipe away my sins!**
M: Wash away all my evil.
C: **and make me clean from my sins.**
M: I recognize my faults;
C: **I am always conscious of my sins.**
M: I have sinned against You – only against You –
C: **and done what You consider evil.**
M: So You are right in judging me.
C: **You are justified in condemning me.**
M: I have been evil from the day I was born.
C: **from the time I was conceived, I have been sinful.**
M: Sincerity and truth are what You require;
C: **fill my mind with Your wisdom.**
M: Remove my sin, and I will be clean;
C: **wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.**
M: Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness;
C: **and though You have crushed me and broken me, I will be happy once again.**
M: Close Your eyes to my sins;
C: **and wipe out all my evil.**
M: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
C: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

M: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him to forgive us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Lord God, our heavenly Father, I am a sinner and I have sinned against You, not only in my words and actions, but also in my secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully know or understand, but which You know completely. I am sorry that I have displeased You, and repent of the evil I have done. For the sake of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, have mercy on me, forgive my sins, and graciously help me in my weakness. Amen.

M: I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

M: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in His name?

C: I do.

M: Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy?

C: I do.

ABSOLUTION

M: As you believe, let it be done for you. By the authority the Lord has given His church and by His command I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. God forbid that any of you reject His grace and forgiveness by refusing to repent and believe, and your sins therefore remain unforgiven. May He comfort you with His holy absolution, and strengthen You with His Sacrament, that Your joy may be full. Peace be with you.

C: Amen.

HYMN LH 295 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee

**1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.**

**Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish.**

O Lord, have mercy.

By Thy body, pure as none other,

Born of Mary, Thy virgin mother,

By Thy blood For us shed,

Help us in the hour of need.

O Lord, have mercy.

2 Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us.
O Lord, have mercy.
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid:
Peace with God once more is made.
O Lord, have mercy.

3 May God bestow on us His grace and blessing,
That, new life in Him possessing,
We walk as brethren in true love and union,
And ne'er rue this blest communion.
O Lord, have mercy.
Lord, let not Thy Spirit forsake us,
Grant that heavenly-minded He make us;
Let Thy Church Ever see
Days of peace and unity.
O Lord, have mercy.

Gott sei gelobet und gebenedeiet

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

St.1: 15th century

Tr. cento, based on Richard Massie, 1854

COLLECT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray to receive life through the body and blood of Christ. [silence]
Heavenly Father, your Son instituted His holy supper as our Passover feast,
and gave His life for us. Unite us all by faith in Him, so that we who eat His
body and drink His blood may pass with Him from death to life, and serve
one another in love. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING Exodus 12:1-14

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

CHOIR Psalm 116:1-2,12-19 *chant by Henry G. Ley (1887-1962) LH 712*

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 13:1-17, 31b-35

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

NICENE CREED: WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally
begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from
true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate
of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

HYMN LH 286 O Lord, who in Thy love unfeigned

**1 O Lord, who in Thy love unfeigned
Thy holy supper hast ordained,
Thou dost impart, by power divine,
Thy flesh and blood through bread and wine.**

**2 Thy supper gives us grace and life
To stand unmoved mid earthly strife;
Thou dost thereby Thy strength bestow
Against all sin and need and woe.**

**3 Lord, let this bread be heavenly food,
Refresh us by Thy precious blood;
O still the longing of each soul,
And make our spirits strong and whole.**

**4 Lord Jesus, grant us grace that we
May not partake unworthily;
By this blest food, Lord, let us live,
And Thee all praise and honour give.**

*Jesus setzt ein vor seinem End
G. Vogler's 'Katechismus', 1625
Tr. 'Evangelical Lutheran Hymnal' (Ohio), 1880
Recast, Hymnal Compilers*

SERMON

CHOIR ANTHEM Tantum ergo – de Severac

*Bend we low before Thee praising, /Wondrous mystery God
expressed, /Light illumines darkened ageing; /Newer rite made
manifest. /Faith surpassing, hope enduring, /Senses failing, hearts
assuring. / To the Father and to His Son/ Praise and sons of joy
divine, /Laud and honour, might and wisdom, /Blessing be forever
Thine, /Also to the Holy Spirit, /Equal, Holy, One in merit. /Amen.*

*As the choir sings, the pastors wash the feet of representative members
of the congregation.*

HYMN LH 362 What shall I give to God, my Saviour

**1 What shall I give to God, my Saviour,
For all He gives me day by day?
Can I bestow on Him a favour,
Or for His loving kindness pay?
The best of offerings He requires;
It is my heart that He desires.**

2 To God this offering I will tender;
Who else may claim it as his own?
Should I to Satan it surrender,
No peace shall ever there be known.
To Thee alone I will assign,
O Lord, my heart and all that's mine.

3 Accept the gift which Thou requirest,
The first-fruits of my heart, O God;
The offerings Thou so much desirest,
And paidst for with Thy precious blood.
To Thee my heart I now resign;
Let it, O Lord, be ever Thine.

4 To Thee I give my heart's affection,
For Thou didst love me unto death.
Thy fervent love is my protection;
In this, Lord, do I rest my faith.
And thus shall my heart Thy heart be
Now and throughout eternity.

*Was gibst du denn, o meine Seele
Karl Friedrich Lochner (1634-1697)
Tr. 'Australian Lutheran Hymn Book', 1921
Revised, Hymnal Compilers*

OFFERTORY

C: What can I offer to the Lord for all His goodness to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. I will offer to You a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the Name of the Lord. I will keep my promises to the Lord in the presence of all His people. In the courts of the house of the Lord in your midst, O Jerusalem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord, in Your mercy.
C: Hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

M: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
M: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them up to the Lord.
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord.
C: For that is fitting and right.

M: It is truly fitting and right, and for our lasting good that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; For He has taken upon Himself our sin, that we, being dead to sin, should live to righteousness. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts;
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

M: 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 power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: 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 his disciples, and said, Take and eat; this is † My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.

In the same way He took the cup, after the supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said, Drink of it, all of you; this is † My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

PEACE

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD LH 48 Lamb of God

Soloist

1 Lamb of God most holy,
Who on the cross didst languish,
Patient, meek, and lowly,
Though mocked amid Thine anguish:
All sin hast Thou borne for us,
Else would despair reign o'er us.
Have mercy on us, O Jesus.

Choir

2 Lamb of God most holy,
Who on the cross didst languish,
Patient, meek, and lowly,
Though mocked amid Thine anguish:
All sin hast Thou borne for us,
Else would despair reign o'er us.
Have mercy on us, O Jesus.

Congregation

3 Lamb of God most holy,
Who on the cross didst languish,
Patient, meek, and lowly,
Though mocked amid Thine anguish:
All sin hast Thou borne for us,
Else would despair reign o'er us.
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus.

Nikolaus Decius (c.1485-c.1546)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN LH 287 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

1 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness,
Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
Come into the daylight's splendour,
There with joy thy praises render
Unto Him whose grace unbounded
Hath this wondrous banquet founded;
High o'er all the heavens He reigneth,
Yet to dwell with thee He deigneth.

2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him
And with loving reverence greet Him;
For with words of life immortal
Now He knocketh at thy portal.
Open wide the gates before Him,
Saying, while thou dost adore Him:
Come, dear Lord, let me receive Thee;
Grant that I may never leave Thee.

3 Ah how hungers all my spirit
For the love I do not merit!
Ah how oft with sighs fast thronging
For this food have I been longing!
Oft have I sought this refreshing
In the cup of life and blessing
Given by Him who here invites us,
And to God Himself unites us.

4 Now I sink before Thee lowly,
Filled with joy most deep and holy,
As with trembling awe I ponder
On the depth of this great wonder:
Thou Thy holy blood art giving
With the cup we are receiving;
And Thy body yet remaineth,
Though it countless souls sustaineth.

5 Sun, who all my life dost brighten;
Light, who dost my soul enlighten;
Joy, the sweetest man e'er knoweth;
Fount, whence all my being floweth;
At Thy feet I cry, my Maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this food, now set before me,
For my good and to Thy glory.

6 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
Thou hast left Thy throne in heaven
On the cross for us to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Thy blood in sadness;
This we drink now, that we ever
May recall Thy love, dear Saviour.

**7 Jesus, bread of life, I pray Thee,
Let me gladly here obey Thee;
Never to my hurt invited,
Be Thy love with love requited:
From this banquet let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep its treasure;
Through the gifts Thou here dost give me,
As Thy guest in heaven receive me.**

*Schmucke dich, o liebe Seele
Johann Franck (1618-1677)
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858/1863
Revised, Hymnal Compilers*

CHOIR God so loved the world – *Chilcott*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Three Variations on Caswall - *T. Attride*

DISMISSAL

M: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life eternal. Go in peace. †

C: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

C: **For Lord our God, send down Your rich blessing on us as we remember the suffering and death of Your Son. Grant us pardon and comfort, so that we may be assured of our eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

BLESSING

M: The God of love and peace † be with you.

C: **Amen.**

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

This will be done as a voice is heard reading Psalm 88 and selected verses from Psalm 22.

The lights will be extinguished as the altar is stripped. You may remain for a time in silent meditation.

*Please leave in **silence**.*

Worship continues on Good Friday at 10 am.

EASTER SERVICES AT BETHLEHEM

Good Friday 10am	Solemn Worship Service with Organ, Choir and Violin.
Easter Sunday 6:30am	Lord's Supper, Organ, Choir and Brass
9am	Lord's Supper, Organ, Choir and Trumpet
11am	Lord's Supper, Instrumental
7pm	Lord's Supper, Organ

Please direct any enquiries to our office on 8223 6662
or to our website: www.bethlehemadelaide.org.au