

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*April 21, 2011*



# ***Maundy Thursday Service***

## ***April 21, 2011***

### **Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!**

This evening, we remember the events that took place on the night our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed. We will follow him to the “Upper Room” where he will share a meal and a prayer with his disciples. We will watch with horror as Satan enters the heart of Judas, who leaves Jesus and begins his fateful betrayal of our Lord. And we will follow Jesus and his remaining disciples into the Garden of Gethsemane and keep watch while Jesus prays. And we will stay in Gethsemane, resting like the disciples, and return tomorrow to witness Jesus’ arrest, trial, and execution. Leaving in silence, we wait, as the disciples waited, for the announcement on Sunday that: “he is not here, he is risen!”

And so, let our journey to begin.

We have been with Jesus in Jerusalem for the better part of a week (since Palm Sunday), preparing for the Passover. And we have been wondering what he will do in response to the cheering crowds that accompanied him from the North Country; and how he will handle the restlessness of the residents of Jerusalem and the hostility of the religious elites.

The stage is set. It’s time to begin retracing the most important days of human history!

-Pastor Duncan

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# Service of the Word

## *The Prelude*

## *Introduction to Worship and Announcements*

(please stand)

**Opening Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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## *The Invocation*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

## *Confession and Absolution*

**Leader:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**Leader:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**Leader:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## ***The Scripture Lessons***

**Matthew 26:14-25**

Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

**The First Message:** *The Betrayal Is Arranged and Passover Prepared*

**The Song:** When You Woke That Thursday Morning

445

**Matthew 26:26-29**

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

## The Second Message: *The Body of Christ and Blood of the Covenant*

**The Song:** Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

637

Matthew 26:30-35

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

## The Third Message: *The Betrayal Is Foretold... and Denied*

**The Song:** Go to Dark Gethsemane

436 vs. 1-2

Matthew 26:36-46

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me."

And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Again, for the second time he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again.

Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

### The Fourth Message: *The Hour at Hand*

**The Song:** Go to Dark Gethsemane

436 vs. 3-4

Matthew 26:47-56

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. Jesus said to him "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.

And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?"

At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

### The Fifth Message: *The Betrayal of Judas and the Disciples*

**The Song:** No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

444

***The Nicene Creed***

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## ***The Prayer of the Church***

### ***The Offering***

### ***The Offertory: This Do In Remembrance***

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

### ***The Words of Institution***

### ***The Sharing of the Peace***

### ***The Distribution***

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.
- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord's Supper, but that the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation.
- We believe the Lord's Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord's Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."

**The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.**

### ***Distribution Hymns***

The Lamb	547
What Is This Bread	629
The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord	634

### ***Benediction***

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **Amen!**

### ***The Stripping of the Altar***

Psalm 22

*The Congregation waits for the Altar to be stripped, then leaves in silence.*

† *Service Participants* †

The Officiant:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Pastoral Assistant:	Darren Elikar
The Organist:	Paula Gardner
The Elders:	Tom Erbrecht & Paul Klemash
The Acolytes:	Joshua Gielarowski
The Ushers:	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, & Ron Meier and Joe Gielarowski, Rachel Klemash, & Andy Weldon
Altar Guild:	Debra LaJeunesse, Carrie Lemonovich, & Carolyn Wible