

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

Maundy Thursday Vespers



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, MA

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

Introduction to the Recorded Service

TLH 41: THE OPENING VERSICLES

*O Lord, open Thou my lips,
and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.*

Psalm 51:15

*Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
make haste to help me, O Lord.*

Psalm 70:1

**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.**

THE PSALMODY: PSALM 116:12-19 (antiphon v. 17)

*I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.*

*What shall I render to the LORD
for all His benefits to me?*

*I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,*

*I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all His people.*

*Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of His saints.*

*O LORD, I am Your servant;
I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.*

*I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.*

*I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in Your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!*

**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.**

*I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.*

The Reading of God's Word

from the Old Testament: Exodus 12:1–14

Response after the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

from the Letters: 1 Corinthians 11:23–32

Response after the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

from the Holy Gospels: John 13:1–17, 31b–35

Response after the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

TUNE: TLH 170—TEXT: TLH 170/ LSB 452—O PERFECT LIFE OF LOVE



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,
2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;
3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.
All forms of hu - man grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.

- 5 In perfect love He dies;
For me He dies, for me.
O all-atoning Sacrifice,
I cling by faith to Thee.
- 6 In ev'ry time of need,
Before the judgment throne,
Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,
Thy merits, not mine own.
- 7 Yet work, O Lord, in me
As Thou for me hast wrought;
And let my love the answer be
To grace Thy love has brought.

The Sermon

The Small Catechism

What is the Ninth Commandment? **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

What does this mean? **We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.**

What is the Tenth Commandment? **You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

What does this mean? **We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.**

TUNE: TLH 387 — TEXT: LSB 596 — ALL CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-merged and drowned for-
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of
cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-
ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The
out ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned
gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-destroyed And
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!
in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.
all our sin-ful selves em-ployed Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.
makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.

5 **O Christian, firmly hold this gift
And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift
In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul,
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.**

6 **So use it well! You are made new—
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do
Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!**

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THE LITANY OF THE PASSION

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

God the Father in heaven

Have mercy.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy.

God the Holy Spirit,

Have mercy.

Jesus, Son of the living God,

Have mercy.

From all evil,

O Jesus, deliver us.

From sudden, unprepared, or evil death;

From the snares of the devil;

From anger, hatred or ill-will;

From everlasting death,

O Jesus, deliver us.

By the mystery of Your incarnation;

By Your most holy life and conversation;

By Your most bitter Passion and death;

By Your agony and bloody sweat;

By Your thrice-repeated prayer;

By Your bonds and stripes;

By Your sacred body, buffeted and smitten;

By the spitting upon Your adorable face;

By the false judgment pronounced by Caiaphas;

*By Herod's disdain of You;
By the shameful stripping of Your garments;
By Your painful crown of thorns;
By Your purple robe of mockery;
By Your most unjust condemnation;
By Your bearing Your own cross;
By Your footprints to the place of death;
By the tearing off of Your garments;
By the cruel straining of Your sacred limbs;
By Your dread crucifixion;
By the anguish You did suffer;
By Your prayers and tears;
By the insults You endured;
By the shedding of Your most precious blood;
By Your patience and humility;
By the love with which You loved us to the end:*

O Jesus, deliver us.

We poor sinners implore You to hear us:

O most loving Jesus.

*That being dead to sin, we may live unto righteousness;
That we may not glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ;
That we may take up our cross daily and follow You;
That Your blood may cleanse us from dead works to serve the living God;
That looking on Your example, we may follow Your steps;
That we may soon receive together the sacred mystery of Your body and blood;
That being partakers of Your sufferings, we may be also partakers of Your glory:*

We implore You to hear us, O Jesus.

With thanksgiving for [_____] and to give comfort and relief to [_____] and to all who have asked for our prayers:

We implore You to hear us, O Jesus.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

Have mercy.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

Have mercy.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

Grant us Your peace. Amen.

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 THANKSGIVING COLLECT

*Christ Jesus, Lord and Savior of mankind, we praise You, for on this night You washed the feet of sinners and made Yourself the servant of all. Now having washed, served, and joined Yourself to us tonight, by Your Holy Spirit we pray that You would lead us to cling to You in true faith, faithfully serve our neighbors with works of love, and abide under the shelter of Your righteousness forever; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

TLH 45: THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

*O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR: PSALM 22 (antiphon v. 19)

O Lord, do not be far off!

Come quickly to my aid!

My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?

Why are You so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

*O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.*

Yet You are holy,

enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our fathers trusted;

they trusted, and You delivered them.

To You they cried and were rescued;

in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm and not a man,

scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

All who see me mock me;

they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

*“He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver him;
let Him rescue him, for He delights in him!”*

*Yet You are He who took me from the womb;
You made me trust You at my mother’s breasts.*

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

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

*Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.*

*I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
You lay me in the dust of death.*

*For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—*

*I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.*

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

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

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

*I will tell of Your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise You:*

*You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him,
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel*

*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.*

*From You comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear Him.*

*The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!*

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.*

*For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and He rules over the nations.*

*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 himself alive.*

*Posterity shall serve Him;
it shall be told of the LORD to the coming generation;
they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that He has done it.*

*O LORD, do not be far off!
Come quickly to my aid!*

Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

Preacher: Rev. Peter Gregory

Liturgist: Vicar Ed Schneeflock

Organist: Anne Bennet

Tech Support: Vicar Ed Schneeflock, Chip Schopp

*Cover image: Mosaic of Christ washing the feet of the apostles
from the Cathedral of Monreale in the Province of Palermo, Sicily, Italy (ca. 1180s).*

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