

Holy Week & The Triduum Sacrum

The Church views Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil as one continuous service: The **Triduum Sacrum** ("The Sacred Three Days" in Latin). These three days are seen together as the three days of Jesus' death and resurrection, ending on the third day: the Resurrection of Our Lord!



Maundy Thursday is celebration of the Lord instituting His own Body and Blood under the bread and wine for Christians to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of their sins. The first word in "Maundy Thursday" should not be pronounced like "Monday Thursday" but is a reference to the Latin word *mandatum*: "command." Jesus' new commandment, "Take eat!", shows us that by receiving of the Lord's Body and Blood, all people will know who the Lord's disciples are (Matthew 26:26-29 & John 13:34-35). This is the institution of the divine service for the Church to celebrate for all time. Maundy Thursday ends with the stripping of the altar, just as Our Lord Jesus was stricken, smitten, and afflicted on the way to the cross.

Good Friday brings contemplative prayer and a restrained yet joyful focus on the crucifixion of Jesus: God offered Himself up as the once-for-all sacrifice, as fulfillment of the Old Testament priest and also sacrificial lamb. The **Tre Ore** is the chief reflection on the sufferings, wounds, cross, and death of Jesus Christ. It includes the St. John Passion, the reproaches of Jesus against His people, and the veneration of the cross. The **Tenebrae** is a service done in darkness with only a few candles, and it is a targeted look at the seven last sayings of Jesus on the cross. The Tenebrae ends with the *strepitus*, the loud noise indicating the nails through Jesus' hands and feet into the cross and also indicating the closing of Christ into the tomb.

Easter Vigil is a beautiful confession and finish to the Triduum Service, often taking place late on Saturday night. This service starts in darkness with the lighting of the paschal candle. While Maundy Thursday ends with movement from light into darkness, and the Good Friday is done in darkness, the historical confession of the Vigil is a movement from darkness into light! The Vigil is a continuation of the prior two days, but is also the first moment of Easter joy! With the the Lord's crucifixion and resurrection in view, the height of the Easter Vigil is the Lord's Supper announced with the ancient versicle: "Alleluia! He is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!" This is the place and time when the first proclamation of Christ's resurrection is given. The Service is comprised of six parts: (1) Service of Light, (2) Service of Readings, (3) Service of Holy Baptism, (4) Service of Prayer, (5) Service of the Word, and (6) Service of Holy Communion. The rationale for having it in the evening is because God created the pattern for days by saying "evening and morning, the first day." Thus, the Church observes that a day starts at sundown (i.e. evening, not morning). It's the same with Christmas Eve being the same day as Christmas Day, with All Hallows' Eve being same as All Saints Day, and Maundy Thursday (evening) being the same as Good Friday Tre Ore (noon), since the next day does not start until the next sundown. Likewise, Easter Vigil is the evening before Easter Sunday, but is the first day of Easter Season. This year, we are invited to celebrate the Easter Vigil at Mount Zion!

The Order of Service for
GOOD FRIDAY

TRE ORE

April 18, 2025

1:00 p.m.

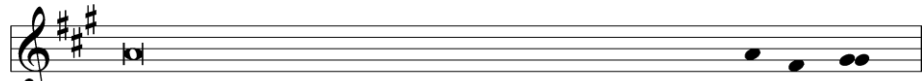
✠ *In Nomine Iesu Christi* ✠

The congregation enters in silence for reverent prayer and meditation on the crucifixion of our Lord and our Redemption. The Church views today's service as a continuation of Maundy Thursday.

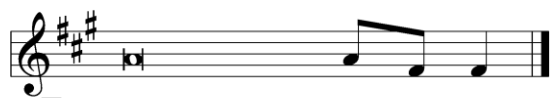
It will be completed tomorrow at the Easter Vigil. That is why there was no Benediction last night, and why there will be none today. The Benediction will be pronounced over the congregation again only when the Resurrection of Our Lord has been proclaimed and commemorated.

The Procession of the Cross

The following is chanted three times.



P Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.



G O come, let us wor - ship Him.

The Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

The Hymn LSB 439

The Old Testament *Isaiah 52:13-53:12*

The Collect

P Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

The Epistle

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

The Collect

P Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Hymn *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now* LSB 440:1

The Reading *Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus* *John 18:1-11*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:1

The Reading *Jesus Before the High Priest and the Denial of Peter* *John 18:12-27*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:2

The Reading *Jesus Before Pilate* *John 18:28-40*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:3

The Reading *Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion* *John 19:1-16a*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:4

Stand

The Reading *The Crucifixion of Jesus* *John 19:16b-24*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:5

The Reading *Jesus' Mother and His Death* *John 19:25-30*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:6

The Reading *Jesus' Side is Pierced* *John 19:31-42*

The Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450:7

The Nicene Creed

The Sermon *How Unfair!*

The Office Hymn

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle LSB 454

The Bidding Prayer

Stand for the Church's Prayer. Following each bid and petition the congregation responds:

P ...through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Reproaches

The following Reproaches are the words of the Lord against His people, the Church, to which the congregation replies with a plea for mercy.

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O My people.

L Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy LSB 434:1

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and delivered Me to those who persecute Me. For I have fed you with My Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given Me gall and vinegar to drink. O My people.

L Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy LSB 434:2

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O My people.

L Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy LSB 434:3

The Adoration of Christ



C We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.
God be merciful to us and | bless us,*
and cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy up- | on us.
We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.

The Concluding Collect

The Hymn

The Royal Banners Forward Go LSB 455

The Versicle

P We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

There is no Benediction on Good Friday. The pastor and worshippers leave quietly to reflect the holy awe of those who have stood in the presence of the crucified Lord.

✠ Soli Deo Gloria ✠

The Participants

The Pastor	Rev. Brennick Christiansen
The Organist	Mr. Stephen P. Johnson
The Cantor	Mr. Bob Cahill

Holy Week Services

April 17	Maundy Thursday	4:00 & 6:30 p.m.
April 18	Good Friday Tre Ore	1:00 p.m.
	Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers	6:30 p.m.
April 19	Easter Vigil at Mt. Zion	8:00 p.m.
April 20	The Resurrection of Our Lord	8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Closed Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing. If you arrive too late to do this before the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor after the service.

Visitors

We welcome you. Please sign the guest book and introduce yourself to the Pastor. Also complete a blue attendance card located in the pews and put an X in the () if you will be communing with us. We invite you to join us for Bible Study on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the school gym.