



**"THIS IS THE BLOOD OF THE  
COVENANT THAT THE LORD  
HAS MADE WITH YOU IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH ALL THESE  
WORDS."**

**EXODUS 24:8**



## Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

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Maundy Thursday Worship

April 17, 2025

*Maundy (from the Latin *mandatum*, meaning “mandate” or “command”) Thursday is an evening when we experience Jesus, in the hours before his death, giving shape to the Christian life. On this evening, we remember and celebrate:*

- *Jesus’ new commandment to his disciples that they self-sacrificially love one another, demonstrated in the washing of feet*
- *Jesus’ celebration of God’s deliverance from death and slavery in Passover, re-imagined as a new covenant meal based on the rescue he is about to complete in the shedding of his blood*
- *Jesus’ walk toward betrayal and death, signified by the stripping of the altar to prepare for our stark experience of the emptiness of the crucifixion.*

*Tonight’s readings are taken from “The Voice” translation of the Bible.*

*Tonight, we welcome Anora Kuntz, Eden Miller, Blake Sherman, Zack Sherman, Nathan Skogerboe, Noah Skogerboe, Coen Voegele, and Andrew Weinhold at our Lord’s table as they receive the sacrament of the altar for the first time. They have received instruction and will publicly affirm their baptismal faith during worship this evening.*

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** A new commandment I give unto you:
- C** love one another as I have loved you.

## *Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service*

LSB 848

- 1 Lord, whose love through humble service  
Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken,  
Offered mercy's perfect deed,  
We, Your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to your purpose  
Ev'ry gift that you impart.
- 2 Still your children wander homeless;  
Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom;  
Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, your deep compassion  
Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love your Spirit kindles  
Still to save and make us whole.
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,  
Till your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness,  
Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens  
Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving,  
Your abundant life to share.
- 4 Called by worship to your service,  
Forth in Your dear name we go,  
To the child, the youth, the aged,  
Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,

**Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That your servants, Lord, in freedom  
May your mercy know and live.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

**P** Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor and enter these days of remembrance and celebration reconciled to God and one another.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** “Whoever would be great among you must be your servant,

**C** **and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,**

**P** even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,

**C** **and to give his life as a ransom for many.”** (*Matthew 20:26-28*)

**P** “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

**C** **who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,**

**P** but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

**C** **And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”** (*Philippians 2:5-8*)

**P** Gracious God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, into this world of sin in order to free us from the power of sin and death. He came as a servant and called us to respond to his love by loving and serving one another as he loved and served us. Yet we know that we have not loved you or others as we have been loved by you, and we have not served you or others as we have been served by our Lord. Hear us as we confess our lack of love and service.

*A time of silence is observed for personal self-examination and confession.*

**P** Almighty God,

**C** **We confess to you that we have not kept the commandment that you have given us. We have put ourselves first. We have not looked out for the welfare of our neighbor. We**

**have become our own gods and neglected to wash the feet of our brothers and sisters for whom you have died. For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ who chose us and gave his life for us, forgive our sins and renew us in your name.**

**P** Our Lord Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled; Trust in God, trust also in me." He was given all authority in heaven and on earth because of his suffering and death for us. His promise is true. 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 Amen.**

**P** Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let your heart be troubled no more. Trust that what God has promised is true for you.

**C Amen.**

## **Holy Gospel**

*John 13:1–17, 31–35*

**L** Before the Passover festival began, Jesus was keenly aware that His hour had come to depart from this world and to return to the Father. From beginning to end, Jesus' days were marked by his love for his people. <sup>2</sup> Before Jesus and his disciples gathered for dinner, the adversary filled Judas Iscariot's heart with plans of deceit and betrayal. <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that he had come from God and was going away to God, <sup>4</sup> stood up from dinner and removed his outer garments. He then wrapped himself in a towel, <sup>5</sup> poured water in a basin, and began to wash the feet of the disciples, drying them with his towel.

**P** (*Peter*): <sup>6</sup> Lord, are you going to wash my feet?

**C** (*Jesus*): <sup>7</sup> **Peter, you don't realize what I am doing, but you will understand later.**

**P** (*Peter*): <sup>8</sup> You will not wash my feet, now or ever!

**C** (*Jesus*): **If I don't wash you, you will have nothing to do with me.**

**P** (*Peter*): <sup>9</sup> Then wash me but don't stop with my feet. Cleanse my hands and head as well.

**C** (*Jesus*): <sup>10</sup> **Listen, anyone who has bathed is clean all over except for the feet. But I tell you this, not all of you are clean.**

**L** <sup>11</sup> He knew the one with plans of betraying him, which is why he said, “not all of you are clean.” <sup>12</sup> After washing their feet and picking up his garments, he reclined at the table again.

**C** (*Jesus*): **Do you understand what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord, and truly, that is who I am. <sup>14</sup> So if your Lord and Teacher washes your feet, then you should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup> I am your example; keep doing what I do. <sup>16</sup> I tell you the truth: a servant is not greater than the master. Those who are sent are not greater than the one who sends them. <sup>17</sup> If you know these things, and if you put them into practice, you will find happiness.**

**L** <sup>31</sup> Upon Judas’s departure, Jesus spoke:

**C** (*Jesus*): **Now the Son of Man will be glorified as God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God’s glory is in him, his glory is also in God. The moment of this astounding glory is imminent. <sup>33</sup> My children, My time here is brief. You will be searching for me; and as I told the Jews, “You cannot go where I am going.” <sup>34</sup> So I give you a new command: Love each other *deeply and fully*. Remember the ways that I have loved you, and demonstrate your love for others in those same ways. <sup>35</sup> Everyone will know you as my followers if you demonstrate your love to others.**

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Foot Washing

**P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, on the night when our Lord Jesus was betrayed he set a powerful example of his servant love when he knelt and washed his disciples’ feet. Jesus insisted that his disciples should not seek after glory and authority by force or power but by humble service. Remembering that no servant is greater than his master, we gather to have our feet washed so that we might go into the world to wash the feet of others. The water that washes our feet reminds us of the Baptismal water that brought us into a new life of love and service.

### *Jesus, Greatest at the Table*

*LSB 446*

**1** Jesus, greatest at the table,  
The almighty Son of Man,  
Laid aside his outer clothing,  
Poured some water in a pan;

As the Twelve lay, hushed in silence,  
He the servant's task began.

2 Marvel how their Lord and teacher  
Gently taught them not to vie  
As he humbly knelt before them,  
Dusty feet to wash and dry,  
By his tender touch expressing  
True compassion from on high.

3 Jesus took the role of servant  
When upon that gruesome span,  
For all human sin he suffered  
As a vile and loathsome man;  
On the cross poured out like water  
To fulfill the Father's plan.

4 Can we fathom such deep mercy?  
Do we see what God has done?  
Who can grasp this great reversal:  
Love that gives his only Son?  
Christ, the sinless for the sinners,  
For the many dies the One.

5 Jesus gave to his disciples  
A commandment that was new:  
"Show My love to one another,  
Do as I have done for you;  
All the world will know you love me  
As you love each other too."

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love*

LSB 980

*ref Jesu, Jesu,  
Fill us with your love,  
Show us how to serve  
The neighbors we have from you.*

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
Silently washes their feet,  
Master who pours out himself for them. *Refrain*

2 Neighbors are wealthy and poor,  
Varied in color and race;  
Neighbors are nearby and far away. *Refrain*

3 These are the ones we will serve;  
These are the ones we will love;  
All these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*

4 Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
Silently washing their feet:  
This is the way we will live with you. *Refrain*

*Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way*

*LSB 857*

1 Lord, help us walk your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And, bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,  
But pow'r you laid aside.  
You lived your years in servanthood;  
In lowliness you died.

3 No golden scepter but a towel  
You place within the hands  
Of those who seek to follow you  
And live by your commands.

4 You bid us bend our human pride  
Nor count ourselves above  
The lowest place, the meanest task  
That waits the gift of love.

5 Lord, help us walk your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And, bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

*O God of Mercy, God of Might*

*LSB 852 (tune 560)*

1 O God of mercy, God of might,  
In love and pity infinite,  
Teach us, as ever in thy sight,  
To live our lives in thee.

2 And thou, who cam'st on earth to die  
That our lost world might live thereby,  
O hear us; for to thee we cry,

**In hope, O Lord, to thee.**

**3 Teach us the lesson thou hast taught:  
To feel for those thy blood hath bought,  
That ev'ry word and deed and thought  
May work a work for thee.**

**4 All are redeemed, both far and wide,  
Since thou, O Lord, for all hast died.  
Grant us the will and grace provide  
To love them all in thee!**

**5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
May we each other's burdens share;  
May we, where help is needed, there  
Give help as unto thee!**

**6 And may thy Holy Spirit move  
All those who live to live in love  
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above  
All those who live in thee.**

## **Prayer for Christ's Servants**

**P** O Lord, we give you thanks that just as you cleansed your disciples through the washing of feet so you have cleansed us by shedding your holy and precious blood on our behalf. Grant that as we receive your gifts of service and are nourished by them, we might be empowered to be servants to one another. In the name of Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **Homily**

### **Old Testament Reading**

*The Voice*

*Exodus 12:1,3,5-7,11-14,21-23, 25-27*

*(Eternal One to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt):* <sup>1-2</sup>Mark this month as the first month of all months for you—the first month of your year.

<sup>3</sup>Declare this message to the entire community of Israel: “When the tenth day of this month arrives, every family is to select a lamb, one for each household.

<sup>5</sup> Choose a one-year-old male that is intact and free of blemishes; you can take it from the sheep or the goats. <sup>6</sup> Keep this chosen lamb safe until the fourteenth day of the month, then the entire community of Israel will slaughter their lambs *together* at twilight. <sup>7</sup> They are to take some of its blood and smear it across the top and down the two sides of the doorframe of the houses where they plan to eat.

<sup>11</sup> Here is how *I want you* to eat this *meal*: Be sure you are dressed and ready to go *at a moment's notice*—with sandals on your feet and a walking stick in your hand. Eat quickly because this is my Passover.

<sup>12</sup> I am going to pass through the land of Egypt during the night and put to death all their firstborn children and animals. I will also execute *my* judgments against all the gods of the Egyptians, for I am the Eternal One! <sup>13</sup> The blood on *the doorframes* of your houses will be a sign of where you are. When I *pass by and* see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague will not afflict you when I strike the land of Egypt *with death*.

<sup>14</sup> This will be a day for you to always remember. I want you and all generations after you to commemorate this day with a festival to me. Celebrate this feast as a perpetual ordinance, *a permanent part of your life together*.

<sup>21</sup> Then Moses called all of Israel's elders together and gave them instructions.

(*Moses*): Go and pick out lambs for each of your families, and then slaughter *your family's* Passover lamb. <sup>22</sup> Take a handful of hyssop *branches*, dip them down into the bowl of blood *you drained from the sacrifice*, and mark the top of the doorway and the two doorposts with blood from the bowl. *After you do this*, no one should go out that door until the next morning.

<sup>23</sup> The Eternal will pass through *the land during the night* and bring death to the Egyptians. But when he sees the blood-markings across the tops of your doorways and down your two doorposts, he will pass over your houses and not allow his messenger of death to enter into your houses and strike you down.

<sup>25</sup> Even after you arrive in the land the Eternal has promised you—*the land flowing with milk and honey*—you must keep *these instructions and perform* this ritual. <sup>26</sup> When your children ask you, “What does this ritual mean to you?” <sup>27</sup> you will answer them, “It is the Passover sacrifice to the Eternal, for he passed over the houses of the

Israelites *when we were slaves* in Egypt. And although he struck the Egyptians, he spared *our lives and our houses.*”

*When Moses finished these instructions,* the people bowed down and worshiped.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Rite for First Communion

**P** Beloved in the Lord, in Holy Baptism these children were born again as God’s children and received into his Church. As a further gift of his love for us, our Lord Jesus Christ has given his Church the Sacrament of the Altar and invites his children to receive this Sacrament in faith for the forgiveness of their sins. The apostle Paul reminds us, “Let a person examine himself and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup,” and “as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”

You are about to be invited to the Lord’s Table. Holy Scripture describes the life of the Church and every baptized Christian with these words: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” You are invited by our Lord to come regularly to hear his Word and receive his Sacrament. You will continue to be instructed and nurtured in the Christian faith and life. You are invited to confess your sins and receive the comfort of Holy Absolution. All this will help you live as the child of God you have been made through Holy Baptism. In testimony of this faith and confession, I now ask you:

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** Do you believe that Jesus Christ, true God and true man, is your Lord?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** Do you believe that you are a sinner?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** Do you believe that Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of all your sins?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true

body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and to strengthen your faith in him and your love toward others?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** Do you intend to continue to hear and receive the instruction of your Lord, confess your sins, and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully throughout your life?

**R** *Yes, with the help of God.*

**P** I therefore invite you to the Lord's Supper to receive Christ's precious body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Parents, sponsors, and members of the congregation, the whole Church shares with you the responsibility and concern for the ongoing instruction and spiritual care of these children. I now ask you, will you intercede for them in prayer and, as much as you are able, give them your counsel and aid that, in communion with the Church, they may grow up to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ? Then answer: We will, with the help of God.

**C** **We will, with the help of God.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray. Heavenly Father, whose Son Jesus Christ loved the young and called them to himself, we ask you to bless these children. Strengthen their in the faith through the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood so that they may grow spiritually and bring forth the fruits of faith in a life of love towards others to the praise and honor of your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** We rejoice with thankful hearts in your confession of faith. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive his holy Supper, he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Peace  $\text{✠}$  be with you.

**C** **Amen.**

**Holy Gospel**

*John 6:51-58*

*(Jesus):* <sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that has come down from heaven to rescue those who eat it. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever.

The bread that I will give breathes life into the cosmos. This bread is my flesh.

<sup>52</sup> *The low whispers of some of Jesus' detractors turned into an out-and-out debate.*

*(Crowd): What is he talking about? How is he able to give us his flesh to eat?*

*(Jesus):* <sup>53</sup> I tell you the truth; unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not know life. <sup>54</sup> If you eat my flesh and drink my blood, then you will have eternal life and I will raise you up at the end of time. <sup>55</sup> My flesh and blood provide true nourishment. <sup>56</sup> If you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will abide in me and I will abide in you. <sup>57</sup> The Father of life who sent me has given life to me; and as you eat my flesh, I will give life to you. <sup>58</sup> This is bread that came down from heaven; I am not like the manna that your fathers ate and then died! If you eat this bread, your life will never end.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Communion Liturgy

**P** “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD,

**C** “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

**P** Not like the covenant that I made with their ancestors on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt –

**C** My covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,” declares the LORD. (*Jeremiah 31:31-32*)

**P** “I will make a covenant of peace with them;

**C** It will be an everlasting covenant.” (*Ezekiel 37:26*)

**P** Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year,

**C** And never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.

(*Hebrews 9:1,7*)

**P** When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation.

**© He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves, but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.**

**Ⓟ** The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.

**© How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!**

**Ⓟ** For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised inheritance –

**© -- now that he has died as a ransom, to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. (*Hebrews 9:11-15*)**

**Ⓟ** “As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

**© I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. (*Zechariah 9:11*)**

**Ⓟ** Having loved his own who were in the world,

**© He now showed them the full extent of his love.” (*John 13:1*)**

**Ⓟ** For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you:

**© The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, 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.”

**© 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.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,

**© We proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. (*I Cor. 11:23-26*)**

**Ⓟ** This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you,

**© In accordance with all these words. (*Exodus 24:8*)**

## **Distribution**

*We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live*

*eternally with God.*

*We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.*

***Is it I?***

*Choir*

***What Feast of Love***

*ELW 487*

- 1**    ***What feast of love is offered here,  
What banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
What gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
The bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna is given.***
  
- 2**    ***What light of truth is offered here,  
What covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
What wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
The sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given.***
  
- 3**    ***What wine of love is offered here,  
What crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
What precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
The sweetest wind of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given***

## ***Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord***

LSB 637

- 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was he for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and himself the priest.**
- 2 He who his saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav'nly bread he makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.**
- 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of love you bless us now.**

## ***Jesus, Remember Me***

LSB 767

- 1 Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
*Repeat***

## **Dismissal**

## **Stripping of the Altar**

### **Psalm**

*Psalm 22*

- 1 My God, my God, why have you turned your back on me?  
Your ears are deaf to my groans.**
- 2 O my God, I cry all day and you are silent;  
my tears in the night bring no relief.**
- 3 Still, you are holy;  
You make your home on the praises of Israel.**
- 4 Our *mothers and* fathers trusted in you;  
they trusted, and you rescued them.**
- 5 They cried out to you *for help* and were spared;  
they trusted in you and were vindicated.**
- 6 But I am a worm and not a human being,  
a disgrace and an object of scorn.**
- 7 Everyone who sees me laughs at me;  
they whisper *to one another* I'm a loser; they sneer and mock me,  
saying,**
- 8 "He relies on the Eternal; let the Eternal rescue him**

and keep him safe because he is happy with him.”

<sup>9</sup> But you are the One who granted me life;  
You endowed me with trust as I nursed at my mother’s breast.

<sup>10</sup> I was dedicated to you at birth;  
You’ve been my God from my mother’s womb.

<sup>11</sup> Stay close to me—  
trouble is at my door;  
no one else can help me.

<sup>12</sup> I’m surrounded by many tormenters;  
like strong bulls of Bashan, they circle around me *with their taunts*.

<sup>13</sup> They open their mouths wide at me  
like ravenous, roaring lions.

<sup>14</sup> My life is poured out like water,  
and all my bones have slipped out of joint.  
My heart melts like wax inside me.

<sup>15</sup> My strength is gone, dried up like shards of pottery;  
my *dry* tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
You lay me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup> A throng of evil ones has surrounded me  
like *a pack of wild dogs*;  
They pierced my hands and *ripped a hole in* my feet.

<sup>17</sup> I count all my bones;  
people gawk and stare at me.

<sup>18</sup> They *make a game out of* dividing my clothes among themselves;  
they cast lots for the clothes on my back.

<sup>19</sup> But you, O Eternal, stay close;  
O you, my help, hurry to my side.

<sup>20</sup> Save my life from violence,  
my *sweet* life from the teeth of the wild dog.

<sup>21</sup> Rescue me from the mouth of the lion.  
From the horns of the wild oxen, you responded to my plea.

<sup>22</sup> I will speak your Name to my brothers and sisters  
when I praise you in the midst of the community.

<sup>23</sup> You who revere the Eternal, praise him—  
descendants of Jacob, worship him;  
be struck with wonder before him, all you children of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> He’s not put off  
by the suffering of the suffering one;  
He doesn’t pretend he hasn’t seen him;

when he pleaded for help, he listened.

<sup>25</sup> You stir my praise in the great assembly;

I will fulfill my vows before those who humble their hearts before him.

<sup>26</sup> Those who are suffering will eat and be nourished;

those who seek him will praise the Eternal.

May your hearts beat strong forever!

<sup>27</sup> Those from the farthest reaches of the earth will remember  
and turn back to *look for* the Eternal;

All the families of the nations  
will worship you.

<sup>28</sup> The Eternal owns the world;

He exercises his *gentle* rule over all the nations.

<sup>29</sup> All the wealthy of the world will eat and worship;

all those who fall in the dust will bow before him,

even the life that is headed to the grave.

<sup>30</sup> Our children will serve him;

future generations will hear the story of *how* the Lord *rescued us*.

<sup>31</sup> They will tell the generations to come

of the righteousness of the Lord,

of what he has done.

*We depart in silence.*





**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

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**Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.**

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