



# Holy Week | Holy Thursday

6:30 pm March 28, 2024

## New to COS?

If this is your first time at COS, please sign our guestbook:



## Kids Church & Nursery

There is no Kids Church or Nursery this evening. The narthex and fellowship hall are available for use as a cry room.

## Hearing Assistance

The sanctuary is equipped with Williams Hearing Assist technology. Personal receivers are at the AV console.

**Preservice** Were You There?

**Hymn 416** When You Woke That Thursday Morning

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

As we begin the solemn celebration of our Lord's passion, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

**Holy God, gracious Father,  
I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.  
I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.  
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.  
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\Upsilon$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

**Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.**

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on a cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this sacrament to our eternal good; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading

Exodus 12:21–30

<sup>21</sup>Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. <sup>22</sup>Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning. <sup>23</sup>When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.

<sup>24</sup>“Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants.

<sup>25</sup>When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. <sup>26</sup>And when your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’ <sup>27</sup>then tell them, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.’” Then the people bowed down and worshiped. <sup>28</sup>The Israelites did just what the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.

<sup>29</sup>At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. <sup>30</sup>Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

<sup>16</sup>Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

<sup>17</sup>Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

**Choir** Remember Me

*Stand*

## **Gospel**

*Mark 14:12–26*

<sup>12</sup>On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

<sup>13</sup>So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. <sup>14</sup>Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>15</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

<sup>16</sup>The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

<sup>17</sup>When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. <sup>18</sup>While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

<sup>19</sup>They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

<sup>20</sup>"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me.

<sup>21</sup>The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

<sup>22</sup>While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

<sup>23</sup>Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

<sup>24</sup>"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them.

<sup>25</sup>"Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup>When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Hymn 665**    What Is This Bread?

## Sermon

### Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus, you are the Lamb of God, pictured in the ancient Passover feast, now giving your own body and pouring out your own blood in Holy Communion. Just as the Passover lambs assured the Israelites of God's promise to deliver them from death, **strengthen our belief that the bread is your real body and the wine is your real blood, given to us for our forgiveness, life, and salvation.**

Prepare us to receive this sacrament remembering your death and repenting of our sins.

**Unite us by our oneness of faith throughout this congregation and our synod, and love us to the end that we may love others as you have loved us.**

We rejoice in our fellow believers who have been instructed in your Word and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, who are now ready to receive Holy Communion.

**Equip them with every spiritual blessing for doing your will.**

We pray for those absent from the sacrament because of their own neglect.

**Call them in your mercy to return and renew their faith.**

Keep in your care those unable to receive the sacrament often because they are homebound, hospitalized, imprisoned, serving in the military, or otherwise separated from the fellowship of believers. Encourage them so that they do not lose hope.

**Be gracious to us all and nourish us with this feast, that we remain faithful unto death, and become partakers of the wedding feast of the Lamb. Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## Offering

Offerings may be given via the QR code ([cosrock.org/donate](https://cosrock.org/donate)) or the plates at the entrance to the sanctuary.



*Stand*

## The Words of Institution

*Sung to the tune of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

**The night that Jesus was betrayed  
He took the bread and then he prayed,  
He broke and gave them of the bread  
And unto his disciples said:**

"Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

**Then when the sacred meal was o'er,  
Our blessed Savior spoke once more.  
He offered thanks and lifted up  
To give to all the blessed cup:**

"Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

## Lamb of God

**O Lamb of God, you take away  
The sin of all; now hear us, we pray.  
And grant us from our sins release:  
Have mercy on us! Grant us peace!**

*Be seated*

## Distribution

*Reception of the Sacrament at COS is reserved for those who share our confession of the doctrines of Holy Scripture. We ask those who do not hold membership in this or another WELS congregation to give us the chance to teach those doctrines to you via our New Life in Christ Course prior to communing. Speak with one of our pastors for more or about the enrolling in the next course.*

*Center purple cups of each tray are reserved for those who have requested alcohol free wine for medical reasons.*

*Stand*

## Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

## Proclamation

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

## Post-Communion Prayer

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Stripping of the Altar

*Our service this evening concludes with a solemn stripping of the altar. The altar is the most prominent symbol of Christ in the church. This ancient tradition of removing the altar ware and paraments at the conclusion of the Holy Thursday service serves as a powerful reminder of Jesus' abandonment by his disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane.*

## Hymn 425 Go to Dark Gethsemane

# this week @ COS



## Thursday, March 28

6:30 pm Holy Thursday Worship  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal



## Friday, March 29

7:30 pm Good Friday Tenebrae  
Worship

## Saturday, March 30

9:00 am Easter Set Up



## Sunday, March 31

8:30 am Easter Worship  
9:30 am Easter Breakfast  
10:45 am Easter Worship

## Monday, April 1

## Tuesday, April 2

## Wednesday, April 3

## Thursday, April 4

6:30 pm Worship

## Friday, April 5

## Saturday, April 6

## Sunday, April 7

8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Sunday School/Little Lambs/  
Adult Forum  
10:45 am Worship

## birthdays & anniversaries

Reagan Veine

Linda DeWitt  
Derek Dyer

Ryan Thelen

Scarlette Blackall  
Jeff Lamborne

Renee Aleisa  
Donald McGrath  
Brian Oliver

Andrew Alexander

Laura Alexander  
Ethan Voss  
Bonnie Schrader

## Organ

Kris Nitz

## Preservice Trio

Kris Nitz, piano  
Terri Rohde, flute  
Patti Rau, clarinet

## Liturgy

Pastor Tim Gauger

## Sermon

Pastor Steve Hahm

## Altar Guild

Jill Weber  
Rebekah Becker  
Rosemary Winicki  
Laurie Marquis

## Streaming

Heather Hahm

## Ushers

Preston Schmitzer  
Ken Ruppel

## Communion

Mark Hess  
Ed Harris

## Acolyte

Lucy O'Brien



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WELS  
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

member church of the  
**Wisconsin  
Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod**