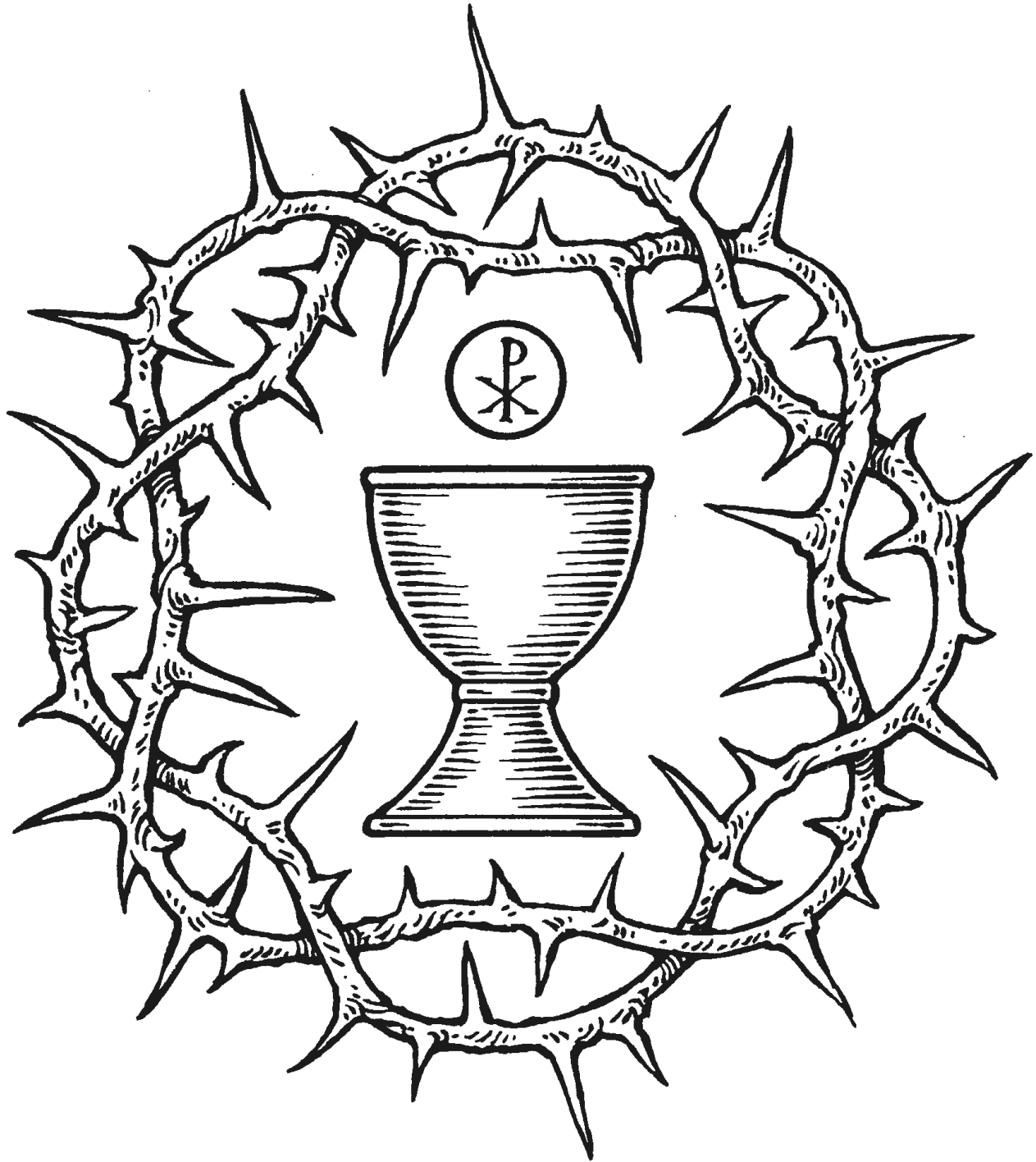


# Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Holy Thursday

April 2, 2026



The Institution of the Lord's Supper

Matthew 26:17-30

# Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**P** I will go to the altar of God,  
**C** to God my exceeding joy.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Sit*

**P** During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.  
**C** Amen.

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**C** Amen.

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C** Yes.

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** 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. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in † peace.

**C** Amen.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 24:3–11*

<sup>3</sup>Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." <sup>4</sup>And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>5</sup>And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. <sup>6</sup>And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. <sup>7</sup>Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." <sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

*Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a*

[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of | his own blood,\*  
thus securing an eternal re- | demption.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new | covenant,\*

so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal in- | heritance.

He sent redemption to his | people,\*

he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

## Epistle

Hebrews 9:11–22

<sup>11</sup>When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. <sup>16</sup>For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. <sup>17</sup>For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. <sup>18</sup>Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. <sup>19</sup>For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, <sup>20</sup>saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.” <sup>21</sup>And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. <sup>22</sup>Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:17–30

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.
- C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup>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?” <sup>18</sup>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.’” <sup>19</sup>And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>20</sup>When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. <sup>21</sup>And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” <sup>22</sup>And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” <sup>23</sup>He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup>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.” <sup>25</sup>Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”

<sup>26</sup>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.” <sup>27</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>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.”

<sup>30</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## Nicene Creed

- C** **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

**617 O Lord, We Praise Thee**



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,  
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,  
3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy  
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er  
That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that  
love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -  
geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!  
blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our  
Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy  
Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead  
blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;  
heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Offertory

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit*

## Offering

*"There is a Garden"*  
Adult Choir  
Alison Yox & Philip Yox, solos

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

## Service of the Sacrament

Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.



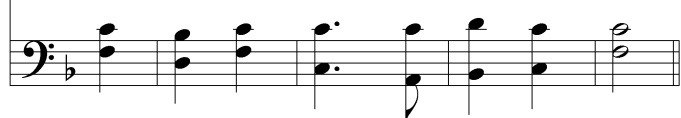
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

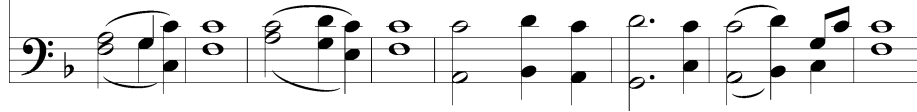


**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**P** 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

### The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

**A** A - men.

The musical score for 'Pax Domini' consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a single note on a whole note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

**A** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

The musical score for 'Agnus Dei' is a multi-measure piece with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single staff with lyrics underneath. The piano accompaniment is written in two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into several systems, each with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us." and "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men."

## Distribution

### 627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's  
2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious  
3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you  
4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this



wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe  
food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,  
are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,  
food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,



He saved us from the e - vil foe.  
And with the wine the blood He shed.  
His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.  
Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken  
That this food is to be taken  
By the sick who are distressed,  
By hearts that long for peace and rest.

6 Agony and bitter labor  
Were the cost of God's high favor;  
Do not come if you suppose  
You need not Him who died and rose.

7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,  
And receive My grace and favor:  
Those who feel no pain or ill  
Need no physician's help or skill.

8 "For what purpose was My dying  
If not for your justifying?  
And what use this precious food  
If you yourself were pure and good?"

9 If your heart this truth professes  
And your mouth your sin confesses,  
You will be your Savior's guest,  
Be at His banquet truly blest.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish  
That its fruit of love may flourish  
And your neighbor learn from you  
How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.  
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## 446 Jesus, Greatest at the Table



1 Je - sus, great - est at the ta - ble, The al -  
 2 Mar - vel how their Lord and teach - er Gent - ly  
 3 Je - sus took the role of ser - vant When up -  
 4 Can we fath - om such deep mer - cy? Do we  
 5 Je - sus gave to His dis - ci - ples A com -



might - y Son of Man, Laid a - side His out - er cloth - ing,  
 taught them not to vie As He hum - bly knelt be - fore them,  
 on that grue - some span, For all hu - man sin He suf - fered  
 see what God has done? Who can grasp this great re - ver - sal:  
 mand - ment that was new: "Show My love to one an - oth - er,



Poured some wa - ter in a pan; As the Twelve lay,  
 Dust - y feet to wash and dry, By His ten - der  
 As a vile and loath - some man; On the cross poured  
 Love that gives His on - ly Son? Christ, the sin - less  
 Do as I have done for you; All the world will



hushed in si - lence, He the ser - vant's task be - gan.  
 touch ex - press - ing True com - pas - sion from on high.  
 out like wa - ter To ful - fill the Fa - ther's plan.  
 for the sin - ners, For the man - y dies the One.  
 know you love Me As you love each oth - er too."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955  
 Tune: David McCarthy, 1931  
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 Tune: © 1975 Stainer & Bell Ltd, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740

## 445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,  
 2 Nev - er so a - lone and lone - ly, Long - ing  
 3 What was there that You could give them That would  
 4 One in faith, in love u - nit - ed, All one  
 5 One day all the Church will cap - ture That bright



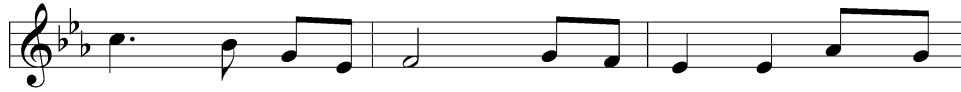
teach - er, faith - ful friend, Thoughts of self and safe - ty  
 with tor - ment - ed heart To be with Your dear ones  
 nev - er be out - spent, What great gift that would out -  
 bod - y, You the head, When we meet, by You in -  
 vi - sion glo - ri - ous, And Your saints will know the



scorn - ing, Know - ing how the day would end;  
 on - ly For a qui - et hour a - part:  
 live them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?  
 vit - ed, You are with us, as You said.  
 rap - ture That Your heart de - sired for us,



Lamb of God, fore - told for a - ges, Now at  
 Sin - less Lamb and fall - en crea - ture, One last  
 "Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me  
 One with You and one an - oth - er In a  
 When the longed - for peace and u - nion Of the



last the hour had come When but One could pay sin's  
 pas - chal meal to eat, One last les - son as their  
 as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance  
 u - ni - ty sub - lime, See in us Your sis - ter,  
 Great - est and the least Meet in joy - ous, blest com -



wa - ges: You as - sumed their dread - ful sum.  
 teach - er, Wash - ing Your dis - ci - ples' feet.  
 of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."  
 broth - er, One in ev - 'ry place and time.  
 mu - nion In Your nev - er - end - ing feast.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008  
 Tune: Marty Haugen, 1950  
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## Stripping of the Altar

*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*

*The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar; the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.*

*All leave the church in silence.*