JUDAS ISCARIOT

AS WE GATHER

Betrayed by Judas, one of His twelve disciples. Betrayed by Judas for thirty pieces of silver. Betrayed by Judas with a kiss—imagine that, a kiss! Betrayed by Judas in a garden east of Jerusalem called Gethsemane. Betrayed! Jesus was betrayed for us. After betraying Jesus, Judas plunges into the depths of despair. He does not return to Jesus to seek forgiveness. But this Thursday, the night Jesus is betrayed, reminds us of the forgiveness, life, and salvation that Jesus provides for us in the Lord's Supper. May we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as we journey ever closer to the cross.

Prelude

P: The Lord be with you **C: and also with you.**

Opening Sentences:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: As we continue our Lenten journey, we focus on the night when Jesus was betrayed.

C: We find Jesus' betrayer, Judas.

P: Satan leads Judas to this grave sin.

C: Judas, the thief, betrays Jesus for money,

P: but Judas isn't the only guilty person at the table.

C: All of the disciples abandon Jesus.

Opening Hymn – "When You Woke That Thursday Morning" – **Hymn #445**

Service of Confession

(The questions and responses used throughout this service are those of Luther in his Small Catechism, "Christian Questions with their Answers.")

P: Do you believe that you are a sinner?

C: Yes, I believe it; I am a sinner.

P: How do you know this?

C: From the Ten Commandments; which I have not kept.

P: Are you also sorry for your sins?

C: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

P: What have you deserved of God by your sins?

C: His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.

P: Do you also hope to be saved?

C: Yes, that is my hope.

P: May the God of peace sanctify you wholly and keep your spirit, soul, and body sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful and He will do it. Go in peace; you are free.

C: Amen.

Service of the Word

Prayer for Maundy Thursday

P: O Lord, in the wondrous Sacrament of Holy Communion, You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. May this sacrament of Your body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption You have brought; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:1–14

R: The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

"Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

R: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:

P: What shall I render to the LORD

- C: for all His benefits to me?
- P: I will lift up the cup of salvation

C: and call on the name of the LORD,

P: I will pay my vows to the LORD

C: in the presence of all His people.

P: Precious in the sight of the LORD

C: is the death of His saints.

P: O LORD, I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant.

C: You have loosed my bonds.

P: will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving

C: and call on the name of the LORD.

P: I will pay my vows to the LORD

C: in the presence of all His people,

P: in the courts of the house of the LORD,

C: in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 11:23–32

R: For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

R: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gradual:

ALL: Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,

so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

Verse:

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

Holy Gospel: John 13:21–30

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

P: After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in His spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom He spoke. One of His disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table close to Jesus, so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom He was speaking. So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus answered, "It is He to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when He had dipped the morsel, He gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." Now no one at the table knew why He said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray – Hymn #663

Sermon: Judas Iscariot

The Words of Our Lord

Confession of Faith: (From Luther's "Christian Questions with their Answers...for Those Who Intend to Go to the Sacrament" in the Small Catechism.)

- P: In whom, then, do you trust?
- C: In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Who is Christ?

- C: The son of God, true God and true man.
- P: How many Gods are there?
- C: Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- P: What, then, has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?
- C: He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross; for the forgiveness of sins.
- P: Did the Father also die for you?
- C: He did not; for the Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is true God and true man; He died for me and shed His blood for me.

- P: How do you know this?
- C: From the Holy Gospel, from the words instituting the sacrament; and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the sacrament.
- P: You believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?
- C: Yes, I believe it.
- P: What induces you to believe this?
- C: The words of Christ, "Take eat, this is my body; drink of it, all of you, this is my blood."
- P: Why ought we to remember and proclaim His death?
- C: So we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, can do this. So we may learn to be horrified by our sins and regard them seriously. So we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved. And comfort in Him alone, and thus be saved.
- P: What was it that moved Him to die and make satisfaction for your sins?
- **C:** His great love to the Father and to me and other sinners.
- P: Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?
- C: That I may learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of great love and that I also may learn of Him to love God and my neighbor.

Litany for Maundy Thursday

- P: Lord, have mercy upon us.
- C: Lord, have mercy upon us.
- P: Lord, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C: have mercy upon us.
- P: Passover Lamb, Lamb of Calvary, stricken, smitten, and afflicted.
- C: Have mercy upon us.
- P: By Your holy Body and precious Blood, redeem us and make us whole.
- C: Have mercy upon us.
- P: Lord Jesus Christ, who sanctified this night with the Holy Supper.
- C: Hear our prayers.
- P: That we might be one, even as You and the Father are One, that we might see in one another that we are the body of Christ, that we might be strengthened in faith as Your dear family, that we might be empowered by love as Your servants.

C: Gracious Lord, hear us.

P: From hardness of heart and darkness of thought, from trampling on Your Body and Blood in the ugliness of our sin, from crucifying You anew by unholy living, from taking You for granted in the Sacrament of the Altar,

C: Gracious Lord, deliver us.

P: From denying You when we feel threatened, from betraying You because we have our own plans, from running away because our faith is uncertain, from hiding because we do not want to be identified with You.

C: Gracious Lord, deliver us.

P: For those who weep alone, for those who suffer broken hearts and broken lives, for those whose bodies are broken by sin and disease, for those who do not know the comforting

touch of a friend's hand,

C: Gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

P: For as often as you eat His Body and drink His Blood,

C: you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again.

P: Come, Lord Jesus,

C: in Your body and Your blood.

P: Come, Lord Jesus,

C: in Your word and through Your spirit.

P: Come, Lord Jesus,

C: in our hearts and through our lives.

(Special Petitions)

P: And grant us Your peace.

C: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

P: We thank You Lord for instituting this special meal for us to remember all that You have done for us, to give us Your Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine to strengthen us to serve one another in love by our words and actions. For we are all one bread and one body even as we all are partakers of this one bread and drink from this 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 Jesus.

C: Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer:

Peace:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei - "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" – Hymn #434

Distribution of Holy Communion

Choir Anthem – Ave Verum Corpus – Mozart "Jesus, Greatest at the Table" – Hymn #446 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table" - Hymn #618

Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon): "Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace" – Hymn #937

Prayer after Communion:

P: Almighty God, You gave Your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to His, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

Blessing: (Pastor) C: Amen

Closing Hymn: "Where Charity and Love Prevail" - Hymn #845

(During the closing hymn, the altar will be stripped for Good Friday.)

Postlude