

**HOLY THURSDAY**  
New Covenant Promise  
April 9, 2020

**As We Gather**

Holy Thursday begins the great three days that commemorate how God accomplished our salvation in Jesus Christ. The first part of the service is confession and forgiveness, the culmination of the Lenten season of repentance. Holy Thursday then recalls two central events leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. First is the Lord's Supper. The Gospel tells of the Holy Thursday night when, during the Passover meal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "This is My body." He then took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My blood of the new covenant." The old covenant involved regular repeated animal sacrifice. This new covenant involves the once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus' blood, which fulfilled the old covenant once for all. We now share this Meal regularly in remembrance of Jesus' all-availing sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. The second central event recalled tonight is the abandonment of Jesus by all who loved Him. This is remembered by the action of stripping the altar while Psalm 22 is sung or read. This reminder of how Jesus was forsaken also assures us that Jesus is with us at times when we feel forsaken.

+ PREPARATION +

**445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning**

*LSB 445*

- 1       When You woke that Thursday morning,  
          Savior, teacher, faithful friend,  
          Thoughts of self and safety scorning,  
          Knowing how the day would end;  
          Lamb of God, foretold for ages,  
          Now at last the hour had come  
          When but One could pay sin's wages:  
          You assumed their dreadful sum.
  
- 2       Never so alone and lonely,  
          Longing with tormented heart  
          To be with Your dear ones only  
          For a quiet hour apart:  
          Sinless Lamb and fallen creature,  
          One last paschal meal to eat,  
          One last lesson as their teacher,  
          Washing Your disciples' feet.
  
- 3       What was there that You could give them  
          That would never be outspent,  
          What great gift that would outlive them,  
          What last will and testament?

“Show Me and the world you love Me,  
Know Me as the Lamb of God:  
Do this in remembrance of Me,  
Eat this body, drink this blood.”

- 4 One in faith, in love united,  
All one body, You the head,  
When we meet, by You invited,  
You are with us, as You said.  
One with You and one another  
In a unity sublime,  
See in us Your sister, brother,  
One in ev’ry place and time.
- 5 One day all the Church will capture  
That bright vision glorious,  
And Your saints will know the rapture  
That Your heart desired for us,  
When the longed-for peace and union  
Of the Greatest and the least  
Meet in joyous, blest communion  
In Your never-ending feast.

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### **Invocation**

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

### **Introit**

*Psalm 116:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

- P Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.  
C **I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.**
- P Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.  
C **The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.**
- P Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”  
C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

### **Confession**

- P People of God, we struggle against sin, death, and the power of the devil. We have intensified the struggle begun at Baptism to daily die with Christ and also to rise daily in Christ to live anew. In this struggle we have been reminded again that we are weak and Christ is strong. We need the forgiveness of our sins in order to live as the people

God has called us to be.

*A time of silence is observed.*

P Assured of God's love for us through our Baptism into Christ, we confess our sin against God and our neighbors, so that we enter these three days, so central to our faith, reconciled to God and to one another.

**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P The Word of God is living and active. Words of forgiveness spoken in the name of Jesus do what they say. Come, receive the forgiveness won for you by the blood of Jesus. Your sins are forgiven.

+ WORD +

### **Prayer of the Day**

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.**

### **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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

*Psalm 116:12–19 (antiphon: v. 17)*

<sup>12</sup>What shall I render to the LORD  
for all his benefits to me?

<sup>13</sup>I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD,

<sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup>Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his saints.

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.  
You have loosed my bonds.

<sup>17</sup>I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>18</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup>in the courts of the house of the LORD,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!

### Gradual

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

P Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood,

C **thus securing an eternal redemption.**

P Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,

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

P He sent redemption to His people;

**C He has commanded His covenant forever.**

**Epistle**

*Hebrews 9:11–22*

<sup>11</sup>But 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Verse**

*John 13:1b*

P Having loved His own who were in the world,

**C He loved them to the end.**

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 26:17–30*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

**C Glory to You, 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 to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn** “O Lord, We Praise Thee”

LSB 617

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,  
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.  
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish:

O Lord, have mercy!

May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,  
That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And Thy blood for us plead  
In all trial, fear, and need:

O Lord, have mercy!

2 Thy holy body into death was given,  
Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;  
May this feast thereof remind us!

O Lord, have mercy!

Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee  
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.  
All our debt Thou hast paid;  
Peace with God once more is made:

O Lord, have mercy!

3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor  
That we follow Christ our Savior  
And live together here in love and union  
Nor despise this blest Communion!

O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;  
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;  
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see  
Days of peace and unity:  
O Lord, have mercy!

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**Sermon** base on Hebrews 9:11–22

*“The Need for Blood”*

People give blood in order to save the lives of others. As far as I know, no one has given blood to the point of death. Though, I know that a parent would give all their blood in order to save their children. People are willing to sacrifice their lives to save the lives of others they dearly love.

And this is true of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. His love for us moved Him to pour out His blood to save us.

It wasn't during a crisis that He decided to lay down His life for us. It wasn't a quick unselfish act. It was a well thought out plan. It was an answer to a serious problem. It was the cure for the condition of mankind.

God established the priesthood and the sacrifices to implant in the hearts of His people how He would deliver them from their deadliest condition. He chose the tribe of Levi to be priests for the people of Israel. These sinful men would have to meet certain requirements and perform required sacrifices before they would offer sacrifices for the people.

They had to be perfect, that is, without blemish. They could not go into the temple to offer sacrifices until after they had made sacrifices for their own sin. Once atoned for their sins by the blood of goats, lambs or bulls, they then could offer up animal sacrifice for the atonement of the people.

All this was to point to the perfect High Priest who would make the perfect sacrifice for all people for all times. And this perfect High Priest was and is still today Jesus the Christ.

He didn't need to make any sacrifice for Himself before making this sacrifice. No animal blood was needed to cleanse Him of sin. He was perfect and knew no sin.

And not having to take an animal as a substitute for the person, He substituted Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world. All the blood of all the goats, lambs and bulls could not pay for the sins of the world. But the holy precious blood of Christ could and did.

And with His blood He established a new covenant, a new promise with His people. Just like the old covenant was sealed with the blood of the animal, so the new covenant was sealed with the blood of the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

The life of the person is found in the blood therefore the person's blood is required to pay for the breaking of the law of God. In place of man's blood, lambs, goats and bulls blood was sprinkled onto the people to show it was the blood that cleansed them, a life given for the life of many.

Now, the blood is no longer sprinkled on the people. It is drunk like nourishing life sustaining wine. It still washes away our sins but also strengthens us to trust in Christ's perfect sacrifice for the forgiveness our sin, life and salvation.

We are presently separated from each other and the gathering together around the table of the Lord. May, this be a time of reflection on how precious the Lord's Supper is to us and for our salvation. May, our hunger for this meal and the washing away sin be increased within us. And may we look forward to the day in which we will sit forever at the day when we drink the cup of wine with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

T AMEN T

### 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 of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

P Gathered by the love and remembrance of Jesus, we offer our prayers to God.

*Silence for reflection*

P For the Church, that the celebration of the Lord's Supper renew and strengthen us;  
that by our love for one another, the world may know that we are disciples of Jesus  
Christ, that pastors and teachers follow the example of Jesus, gentle and humble of  
heart, let us pray to the Lord,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the poor, the hungry, and the homeless, that God use us to reach out to them and  
lift them up, let us pray to the Lord,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those preparing for Holy Baptism, that the love of Christ deepen and grow in their  
hearts and lives, let us pray to the Lord,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have lost their faith and for those who struggle to believe, that during  
these holy days they be filled with Christ's light and peace, let us pray to the Lord,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick, the dying, and the mourning, help them to trust in the promise that  
nothing—not even sickness or death—can separate us from the love of God in Christ  
Jesus, let us pray to the Lord,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all of us, gathered on this holy night, that, nourished by the body and blood of  
Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, we forgive those who have wronged us and love  
one another from our hearts, let us pray to the Lord,

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Hear the prayers of Your people, merciful God, for the sake of the One who stretched out His arms on the cross to redeem Your people and to reconcile the whole creation, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**Offering Hymn** *“On My Heart Imprint Your Image”*

*LSB 422*

1 On my heart imprint Your image,  
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,  
That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures  
Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be:  
Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope’s foundation,  
And my glory and salvation!

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**Lord's Prayer**

**C 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.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn** *“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy”*

*LSB 434*

1 Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o’er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

2 Lamb of God, pure and holy,

Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

- 3 Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

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**Hymn** "What Wondrous Love Is This"

*LSB 543*

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this  
That caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down  
Beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
- 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
To God and to the Lamb,  
Who is the great I AM,  
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
While millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.  
And when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing His love for me,  
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,  
And through eternity I'll sing on.

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**Hymn** *“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior”*

LSB 627

- 1 Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior,  
Turned away God’s wrath forever;  
By His bitter grief and woe  
He saved us from the evil foe.
  
- 2 As His pledge of love undying,  
He, this precious food supplying,  
Gives His body with the bread,  
And with the wine the blood He shed.
  
- 3 Jesus here Himself is sharing;  
Heed then how you are preparing,  
For if you do not believe,  
His judgment then you shall receive.
  
- 4 Praise the Father, who from heaven  
To His own this food has given,  
Who, to mend what we have done,  
Gave into death His only 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.

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**Hymn** *"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"*

LSB 618

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,  
For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able  
To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain.

ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning  
That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;  
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain.

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,  
Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,  
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain.

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;  
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden  
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain.

5 What higher gift can we inherit?  
It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit,  
The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain.

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**The Meaning of Stripping of the Altar**

*[Preparing for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ]*

Psalm 22

L My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?  
Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?  
O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,  
and by night, but I find no rest.

**Hymn** “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB 611 st. 1

1 Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high,  
Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am His, and He is mine.

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A Yet You are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In You our fathers trusted;  
they trusted, and You delivered them.  
To You they cried and were rescued;  
in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

**Hymn** “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB 611 st. 2

2 Oh, the height of Jesus’ love,  
Higher than the heav’ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea,  
Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me—wondrous thought!  
Found me when I sought Him not.

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L But I am a worm and not a man,  
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.  
All who see Me mock Me;  
they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;  
“He trusts in the Lord; let Him deliver Him;  
let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”  
Yet You are He who took Me from the womb;  
You made me trust You at My mother’s breasts.  
On You was I cast from My birth,  
and from My mother’s womb You have been My God.

**Hymn** “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB 611 st. 3

3 Only Jesus can impart  
Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiv’n,  
Joy that lifts the soul to heav’n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God  
In the way that Enoch trod.

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A Be not far from Me,  
for trouble is near,  
and there is none to help.  
Many bulls encompass Me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround Me;  
they open wide their mouths at Me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

I am poured out like water,  
and all My bones are out of joint;  
My heart is like wax;  
it is melted within My breast;  
My strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and My tongue sticks to My jaws;  
You lay Me in the dust of death.

For dogs encompass Me;  
a company of evildoers encircles Me;  
they have pierced My hands and feet—  
I can count all My bones—  
they stare and gloat over Me;  
they divide My garments among them,  
and for My clothing they cast lots.

**Hymn** “*Chief of Sinners Though I Be*”

*LSB 611 st. 4*

4 Chief of sinners though I be,  
Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known,  
All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life  
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

*Public domain*

L But You, O Lord, do not be far off!  
O You My help, come quickly to My aid!  
Deliver My soul from the sword,  
My precious life from the power of the dog!  
Save Me from the mouth of the lion!  
You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild oxen!

I will tell of Your name to My brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise You:  
You who fear the Lord, praise Him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him,  
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!

For He has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and He has not hidden His face from Him,  
but has heard, when He cried to Him.

**Hymn** “*Chief of Sinners Though I Be*”

*LSB 611 st. 5*

5 O my Savior, help afford  
By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray,  
Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply  
While I live and when I die.

*Public domain*

A From You comes My praise in the great congregation;  
My vows I will perform before those who fear Him.  
The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek Him shall praise the Lord!  
May your hearts live forever!  
All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before You.  
For kingship belongs to the Lord,  
and He rules over the nations.

All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;  
before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep himself alive.  
Posterity shall serve Him;  
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;  
they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,  
that He has done it.

*All leave in silence.*

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