

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor.

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

Distribution Hymn: TLH #148 *"Lord Jesus Christ, My Life..."*

The Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

Hymn: TLH #653 *"Now the Light Has Gone Away"*

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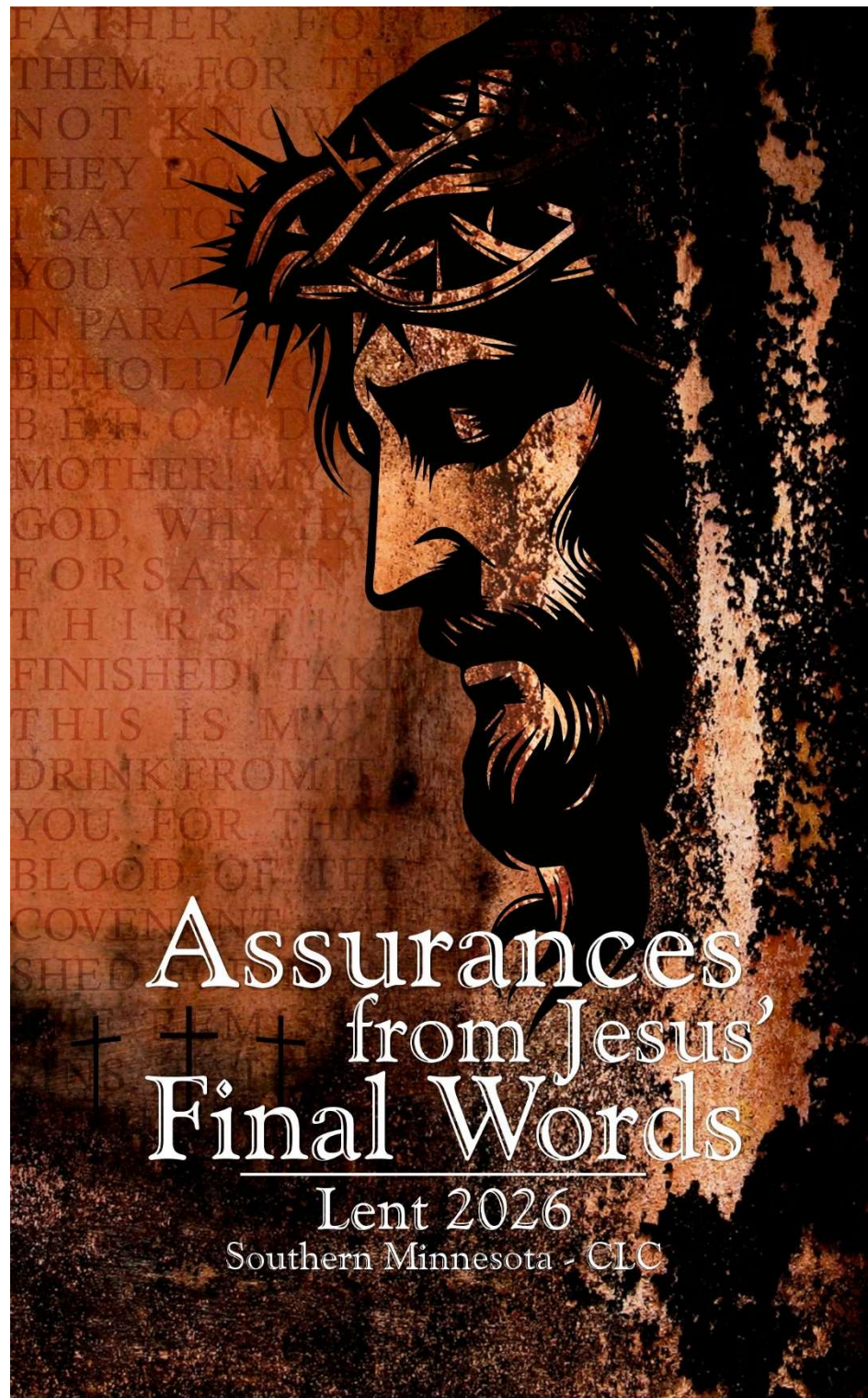
Easter Flowers – Anyone is welcome to bring Easter flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Sunday's resurrection celebration!

Holy Week Schedule –

- Good Friday Tenebrae Worship - 6:30 pm
- Easter Breakfast - 8:00 am
- Easter Worship - 9:30 am

CDS Easter Service – The school children will present an Easter Service on Sunday, April 12, at 10:30 am. The theme is "Our Lifted, Uplifted Lord." A potluck will follow, so please stay if you are able and bring a dish to share.

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Assurances from Jesus' Final Words

Lent 2026
Southern Minnesota - CLC

Lenten Theme: Assurances from Jesus' Final Words

Ash Wed.	Feb. 18	Intercessor for Sinners	Rodebaugh
Lent #2	Feb. 25	Finalizer of God's Plan	Mayhew
Lent #3	Mar. 4	Confidence of Eternal Life	Rodebaugh
Lent #4	Mar. 11	Guardian in this Life	Sippert
Lent #5	Mar. 18	One Forsaken by God	Naumann
Lent #6	Mar. 25	Fulfillment of the O.T.	Dummann
Maun. Thurs.	Apr. 2	The New Covenant	Rodebaugh
Good Friday	Apr. 3	The One who Died	Rodebaugh

✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #310

"Thy Table I Approach"

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

G Amen.

Confession of Sins

P "This is the message which we have heard from Jesus and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

G "If we say that we have fellowship with God, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth."

P "But if we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ God's Son cleanses us from all sin."

G "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

P "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." *1 John 1:5-9*

G O LORD God, we rejoice that You have called us out of darkness and into Your marvelous light. Yet, we must confess that we are constantly confronted with temptation and often find ourselves lost in the darkness of sin. With our thoughts, words, and actions we have violated Your commandments and dishonored Your name. We confess these sins to You, O LORD, and grieve over them. We pray that You would forgive us and cleanse us, even as You have promised. We plead for Your mercy and trust in Your promises.

P "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience--among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind." *Ephesians 2:1-3*

P ♪ So who am I,

G ♪ **That I should live and He should die,
Under the rod. My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me?
Oh taste and see—the Lord is free.**

P "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread." *1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

P ♪ Yet is God here?

G ♪ **Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear.
In mouth and soul, He makes us whole—
Christ, truly present in this meal.
Oh, taste and see—the Lord is real.**

P "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." *Ephesians 2:4-7*

P ♪ Is this for me?

G ♪ **I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe, That I receive,
His very body and His blood.
Oh, taste and see—the Lord is good.**

✠ The General Prayer ✠

P “Let my prayer rise before you as incense,” *Psalm 141:2*

C “The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

(A Lenten prayer is offered here.)

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me today. And I pray that You would forgive me all my sins, wherever I have done wrong, and graciously protect me tonight. Into Your hand I entrust my body and soul and everything else. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the devil may have no power over me. Amen.

✠ The Order of Holy Communion ✠

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, “Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.” *Matthew 26:26; 1 Corinthians 11:23-24*

P *What is this bread?*

C *Christ’s body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
Oh, taste and see—the Lord is peace.*

P In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” *Matthew 26:27-28; 1 Corinthians 11:25*

P *What is this wine?*

C *The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace brings His embrace
Of life and love, and so, I sing:
Oh taste and see—the Lord is King.*

Confessional Antiphon

Tune of TLH #163

C *Baptismal waters cover me
As I approach on bended knee;
My Father’s mercy here I plead,
For grievous sins of thought and deed.*

*I look to Christ upon the tree,
His body broken there for me;
I lay before Him all my sin,
My darkest secrets from within.*

*Baptismal waters cover me;
Christ wounded hand has set me free.
Held in my Father’s strong embrace,
With joy I praise Him for His grace.*

Absolution of Sins

P Dear children of God—Your heavenly Father has loved you together with the entire world. He sent Jesus to be the atoning sacrifice for your sins and those of the whole world! Rejoice, therefore, in the mercy of your God. Be assured that you stand forgiven before the cross. And pray for the Spirit’s power to enable you to walk in righteousness!

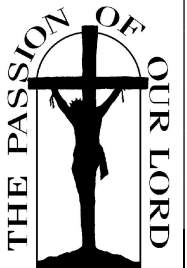
C Amen!

Harmony Reading of
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

Based on the *English Heritage Version* of the Bible

This week’s harmony readings:

- Judas agrees to betray Jesus
- Jesus serves the disciples
- “One of you will betray me.”
- The Lord’s Supper
- “I will never fall away.”



Confession of Faith

Smalcald Articles: Article 1

C The first and chief article is this, that Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins and was raised again for our justification. And He alone is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world and God has laid upon Him the iniquities of us all. Likewise: All have sinned and are justified without merit freely, and without their own works or merits by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood.

Since it is necessary to believe this, and it cannot be otherwise acquired or apprehended by any work, law, or merit, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us. For we conclude that a man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the law, that God might be just, and the Justifier of him who believes in Christ.

Of this article nothing can be yielded or surrendered nor can anything be granted or permitted contrary to the same, even though heaven and earth, and whatever will not abide, should sink to ruin. For there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. And with His stripes we are healed. Amen.

Choir *"Lamb of God"*

Hymn: TLH #164 *"'Twas on That Dark, That Doleful Night"*



Matthew 26:26-28

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to

the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Assurances from Jesus' Final Words:

Jesus – The Initiator of the New Covenant

Offertory: TLH #144 *"Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing"*

C *♪ Every wound that pains or grieves me,
By Thy stripes, Lord is made whole;
When I'm faint, Thy Cross revives me,
Granting new life to my soul. Yea, Thy comfort renders sweet
Every bitter cup I meet; For Thy all-atoning Passion
Has procured my soul's salvation.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: Based on TLH #172 *"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*

C *♪ My Shepherd, now receive me;
My Guardian, make me Yours.
From You, Fount of all blessing,
Your Word my heart assures.
Your lips have often fed me
With words of truth and love;
Your Spirit has endowed me
With food from heaven above.*

*"THIS IS MY
BODY... THIS
IS MY
BLOOD OF
THE NEW
COVENANT."*

*Your body, for us broken,
Your lifeblood for us shed,
Are present, as You've spoken,
Under the wine and bread.
In fellowship and union
This covenant You share.
With faith in this communion,
Forgiveness we find there.*

*Lord, let me stand beside You;
Despise me not, my Lord!
Here, let me find salvation;
Your life for me outpoured.
Through bread and wine You offer
Forgiveness for my sins,
Strength for the lengthy journey;
A new life now begins.*