

*A Maunday Thursday Confessional Communion Service based on Luther's "Christian Questions" for those about to partake of the Sacrament of the Altar and on the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" and the "Private Confession" in "Christian Worship" (See pages 154-156)*

## **Preservice Organ Meditation**

### **Hymn 307 "Wondrous Are Your Ways"**

### **Scripture Lesson: 1 Cor. 11:23-32**

*The congregation will please remain seated.*

## **The Preparation for Communion**

P: What does our Lord God tell everyone of us about ourselves in His Holy Word?

**C: He says that I am a sinner and I deserve only His punishment.**

P: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or if I am not troubled by them?

**C: I should examine myself according to my Lord's holy Ten Commandments.**

P: How should I apply His commandments to myself?

**C: I should ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a single person, husband, or wife — as a parent or child — as an employer or employee — as a teacher or student — whatever my station in life happens to be.**

P: What should I ask myself?

**C: Have I loved my Lord God with all my**

**heart? Have I gladly heard His Word? Have I patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud or unforgiving? Have I been selfish lazy, envious or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived? Have I taken something not mine? Have I spread rumors or gossip about someone? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?**

P: When I realize that I have sinned against my Lord's commandments and deserve His punishment, what should I do?

**C: I will confess my sins to Him, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. Then I will beg Him for His mercy and forgiveness.**

P: How do I receive our Lord's gracious forgiveness?

**C: His Spirit's Written Word of Truth assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life in my stead. Then He died on the cross in my place to pay the full price for all my sins. I am now clothed with His perfect righteousness and holiness, solely through faith in Him.**

P: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is my Savior and that I am my Heavenly Father's forgiven child?

**C: Through my Baptism Jesus assures me that He has washed me clean of all my sins. Every time I receive the Sacrament of the Altar, He gives me His true body and blood, together with the**

**bread and wine, as a forgiving, life-giving food and drink. By means of this Holy Communion He not only forgives my sins. He also removes my doubts about His love for me. He unites me with Him and with my fellow-confessors of the Scriptures' Truth. He gives me His Spirit's strength to live a truly God-pleasing life, and He even grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.**

P: How can I be sure that I am receiving all of these blessings of my Lord's Holy Supper

**C: I have His own Word spoken as His last will and testament on the night before He died. There He tells me: "Take and eat. This is My body which is given for you...Drink from it, all of you. This is My blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."**

P: How does Jesus' priceless gift of love compel me to respond to Him?

**C: I will daily thank and praise Him for His love to me. With His help I will fight temptation. I will do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and I will serve Him and all those around me with love and good works.**

### **Hymn 309 "Draw Near and Take"**

*The congregation will please rise.*

## **Confession and Absolution**

P: In the name of our God, to whom all

hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden!

**C:** *(sung)* Amen!

**All:** O Lord, hear my prayer. Listen to my cry for mercy, and in Your faithfulness come to my relief. Do not bring Your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before You. Answer me quickly, O Lord; My spirit fails. Do not hide Your face from me for I have put my trust in You. Show me the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved You with my whole heart. I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me, and I am deeply sorry for them.

**P:** Jesus says to His people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

**C:** Yes, I believe.

**P:** Therefore, because of the promise of our Savior, I, as called servant of Christ and by His authority, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Be assured that you are a dear child of our Heavenly Fa-

ther and an heir of eternal life.

**All:** O Lord, my God, I called to You for help; and You answered me. I thank You for the love You have shown me in my Savior. Through Him You have rescued me from the guilt of my sin and given me the peace of forgiveness. Help me fight against temptation. Help me correct whatever wrongs I can, and enable me to serve You and those around me with love and good works. In Jesus' name I pray.

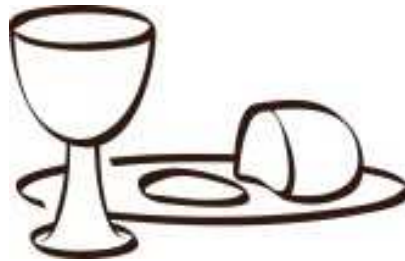
**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C:** *(sung)* Amen!

*The congregation will please be seated.*

**The Gathering of Thankofferings**

**Hymn 136 The Consecration in Song**



**Distribution—Distribution Hymn 135**

**The Thanksgiving.....Hymnal, Page 24**

**Benediction—with triple "Amen!" sung**

**Hymn 318 "Sent Forth"**

**Silent Prayer**

# His Last Will And Testament



**Maunday Thursday  
Confessional  
Communion Worship**

**Emanuel First Ev.  
Lutheran Church**

**Lansing, MI**

**April 1, 2010**

**7:00 p.m.**