

Passiontide

MARCH 28, 2024 • THURSDAY, NOON & 6:15 P.M.

TRIDUUM: MAUNDY THURSDAY





WE HAVE, IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE CLEAR TEXT IN CHRIST'S VERY WORDS, "DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME" [LUKE 22:19]. THESE ARE INVITING AND COMMANDING WORDS BY WHICH ALL WHO WOULD BE CHRISTIANS ARE TOLD TO PARTAKE OF THIS SACRAMENT. THEREFORE, WHOEVER WANTS TO BE CHRIST'S DISCIPLE, WITH WHOM HE HERE SPEAKS, MUST ALSO CONSIDER AND KEEP THIS SACRAMENT. THEY SHOULD NOT ACT FROM COMPULSION, BEING FORCED BY OTHERS, BUT IN OBEDIENCE TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, TO PLEASE HIM. HOWEVER, YOU MAY SAY, "BUT THE WORDS ARE ADDED, 'AS OFTEN AS YOU DRINK IT'; THERE HE COMPELS NO ONE, BUT LEAVES IT TO OUR FREE CHOICE." I ANSWER, "THAT IS TRUE, YET IT IS NOT WRITTEN SO THAT WE SHOULD NEVER DO SO. YES, SINCE HE SPEAKS THE WORDS 'AS OFTEN AS YOU DRINK IT,' IT IS STILL IMPLIED THAT WE SHOULD DO IT OFTEN. THIS IS ADDED BECAUSE HE WANTS TO HAVE THE SACRAMENT FREE. HE DOES NOT LIMIT IT TO SPECIAL TIMES LIKE THE JEWISH PASSOVER, WHICH THEY WERE OBLIGED TO EAT ONLY ONCE A YEAR. THEY COULD ONLY HAVE IT ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE FIRST FULL MOON IN THE EVENING [EXODUS 12:6, 18]. THEY STILL MUST NOT CHANGE A DAY." IT IS AS IF HE WOULD SAY BY THESE WORDS, "I INSTITUTE A PASSOVER OR SUPPER FOR YOU. YOU SHALL ENJOY IT NOT ONLY ONCE A YEAR, JUST UPON THIS EVENING, BUT OFTEN, WHEN AND WHERE YOU WILL, ACCORDING TO EVERYONE'S OPPORTUNITY AND NECESSITY, BOUND TO NO ONE PLACE OR APPOINTED TIME."

-LARGE CATECHISM, PART V. THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR, 45-48

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

“Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved”. -*Augsburg Confession*, Article XXIV. The Mass, 1-2a



Because of the solemnity of Passiontide, please enter in prayerful silence.

When indicated, please stand.

CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P I will go to the altar of God,

C to God my exceeding joy.

Psalms 43:4

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P Beloved in the Lord, 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.

P 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

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.

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and 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.

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 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.

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.

John 20:19-23

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

Standing

All may come forward and kneel at the altar rail to receive individual absolution.

The pastor absolves the penitents, laying his hands on the head of each and pronouncing the following absolution:

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.

After receiving individual absolution, the pastor dismisses the penitents with this blessing:

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.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

When all have been absolved, they may greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you." The pastor concludes the exchange of peace with the SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

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.

A The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter eleven.

A Brethren: When you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of others; and one is hungry and another is drunk. What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you. For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This

do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Standing

TRACT

Psalms 111:4-5; John 6:55-56



L He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

C He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

L My flesh is true food, and my blood is | true drink.*
Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and | I in him.

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



P Before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know

after this." Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean." So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sitting

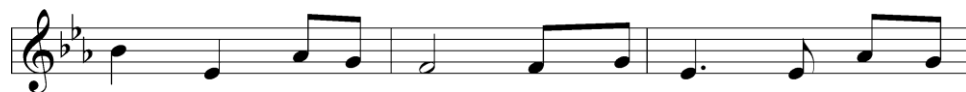
HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 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



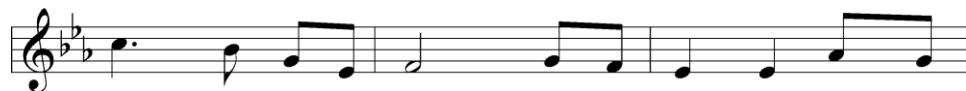
teach - er, faith - ful friend, Thoughts of self and safe - ty
with tor - ment - ed heart To be with Your dear ones
nev - er be out - spent, What great gift that would out -
bod - y, You the head, When we meet, by You in -
vi - sion glo - ri - ous, And Your saints will know the



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.

SERMON

OFFERING

In Tears of Grief, St. Matthew Passion

J.S. Bach

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P Heavenly Father, You have built Your Church according to the humble image of Your Son. Direct our faith to His self-offering on the cross. Draw us by His redemption and after His example to resist the allure of worldly power and pursue our own sacrificial callings. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, by Your righteousness deliver our souls, which are precious in Your sight, from death. Embolden our hearts to pray, confident that Christ prays with us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, as the institution of Your new testament is celebrated this day among all peoples, make Your saving power known throughout the earth. Grant that those who boast in the sacrificial gift of Christ would share Him with the world He came to bless. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, give healing to the sick according to Your will. Grant relief to the suffering by Your grace. Give comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying. We lift before You those who have requested our prayers [*including _____ and those we name in our hearts*]. Bring all things to their perfect healing and fulfillment in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our evil way and live. We come before You, although we have sinned and deserve only Your wrath; yet we flee to Your mercy in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who gave His body and His blood for our redemption. Lord, grant that we may ever thus believe and never waver. Grant that in such faith we may worthily come to Your altar to eat the very body and drink the true blood which Your Son has given for our redemption. In thanksgiving, we remember and proclaim the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we place our trust. Until His return, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



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 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



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.

Kneeling or sitting forward.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv-en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My bod-y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem-brance of Me." In the same way al-so
He took the cup after sup-per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say-ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

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

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

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.

Sitting

About participation in the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)

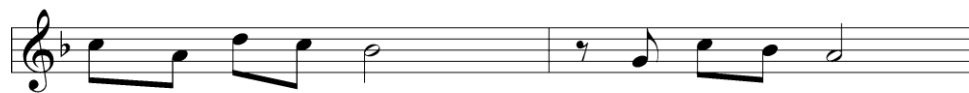
MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 629

"What Is This Bread"



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from the	dead:	This bread	we break,
Je - sus	shed for	mine;	The cup	of grace
live and	He should	die	Un - der	the rod?
Word and	prom - ise	clear,	In mouth	and soul
giv - en	and set	free!	I do	be - lieve



This life	we take,	Was crushed	to pay for	our re -
Brings His	em - brace	Of life	and love	un - til I
My God,	my God,	Why have	You not	for - sak - en
He makes	us whole—	Christ,	tru - ly	pres - ent in this
That I	re - ceive	His	ver - y	bod - y and His

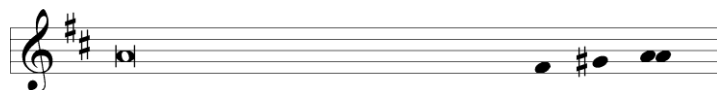


lease.	O taste	and see—	the Lord	is peace.
sing!	O taste	and see—	the Lord	is King.
me?	O taste	and see—	the Lord	is free.
meal.	O taste	and see—	the Lord	is real.
blood.	O taste	and see—	the Lord	is good.

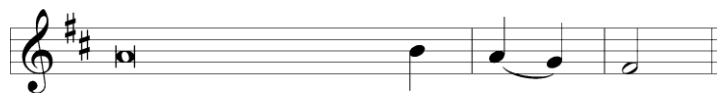
Standing

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



B and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Because the Triduum (Three Days) is seen as one service in three parts (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil), no Benediction is spoken at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday Mass. The Benediction spoken at the Easter Vigil concludes all the services of the Three Days.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR (6:15 P.M. ONLY)

PSALM 22



L My God, my God, why have you for- | saken 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.

Yet you are | holy,*
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

In you our fathers | trusted;*
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

To you they cried and were | rescued;*
in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

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 de- | liver him;*
let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”

Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;*
you made me trust you at my | mother’s breasts.



L On you was I cast | from my birth,*
and from my mother's womb you have | been my God.
Be not far from me, for trouble | is near,*
and there is | none to help.
Many bulls en- | compass me;*,
strong bulls from Bashan sur- | round 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 with- | in 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 en- | compass 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 a- | mong them,*
and for my clothing they | cast lots.
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, glo- | rify 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.

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Grayson Beckman, *Head Elder*

Organist

Laura Darden, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Briana Darden

Altar Guild

Whitney Worthington/Linda Rathje

Usher(s)

David Darden

Lententide/Easter Mass Schedule

Ash Wednesday:	February 14	noon and 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
Midweek:	February 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20	6:15 P.M. (supper at 7:00 P.M.)
Holy Triduum:	March 28 (Maundy Thursday)	noon and 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
	March 29 (Good Friday)	noon and 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
	March 30 (Easter Vigil)	6:15 P.M. (no supper)
Easter Sunday:	March 31	10:00 A.M. (breakfast at 8:30 A.M.; egg hunt at 11:30 A.M.)

Lenten Offerings: Lutheran Bible Translators

All offerings collected during the Lenten midweek services will go to support Lutheran Bible Translators and their effort to translate the Gospel of Mark into the language of the people of Botswana. Thank you for your donations to help put God’s Word into the hands of all peoples.



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION

4000 ROSWELL ROAD · ATLANTA, GA 30342
404-255-0224 · 404-256-0037 FAX
WWW.ASCENSION-LCMS.COM