



**St. Stephen Lutheran Church**

*Maundy Thursday*

*April 6, 2023*

## **The Beginning of the Three Days (*Triduum*)**

“On Maundy Thursday, this Lenten season of returning to the font of grace ends as it began: in repentance. Our confession of sin is met by the flood of God’s forgiveness; even all our self-examination, fasting and prayer, sacrificial giving and works of love is washed away. Grace alone carries us, reconciled with God and with one another into the Three Days. Now begins ‘the hour’ that holds the universe and widens to eternity: the suffering, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

“Jesus washes the feet of his disciples. Setting aside our shoes, our reluctance to serve, and our objections to being served, we take up the towel and fill the basin. Washing and being washed, we enact the love we pray to embody every day. At his invitation and in obedience to his command, we eat the bread and drink the cup. This is Christ’s body given, Christ’s life poured out in love for the world. Darkness deepens. The room is stripped. The cry of the psalmist echoes into the night: “Will your lovingkindness be declared in the grave?” (Psalm 88:11a) – Quotes from Ben Stewart, in *Worship Guidebook for Lent and the Three Days*

“The first story told on Maundy Thursday is the account of the Passover from Exodus 12 (verses 1-14). The angel of death will punish the oppressors, but the blood of the lamb will mark the door of the Israelites, and so God’s chosen people will live. For Christians, the blood on our doors that saves us from death is the blood of Christ, shared in the meal at this service, held in mind in the devotion of Good Friday, and celebrated with story and song at the Easter Vigil. ...

“Psalm 116, appointed as the people’s response to the first reading, is most appropriate for Maundy Thursday. The psalm passage brings the Jewish Passover into our assembly by speaking of the cup of salvation and the sacrifice of thanksgiving. ...

“In the second reading, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Paul reprimands those first-century Christians who were violating the ideals of community by treating poor people differently from rich people at their communal meals.”

In the Gospel reading, John 13:1-17, 31b-35, Jesus enacts the meaning of the body of Christ by washing the disciples’ feet. “The new relationship between the members of the body of Christ is to be a covenant of humble service, one to another.” -- Quotes from Gail Ramshaw, in *The Three Day Feast*

***Please gather in the silence of God’s presence***

# Order of Service

Gathering Hymn

*Three Holy Days enfold us now*

ACS 930

## Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now

1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing  
2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -  
3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you

feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and  
vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry  
ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in

life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.  
is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.  
praise pro - claim: "You are the Lord of all. A - men."

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

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## **Invitation**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**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.  
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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us  
even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.  
By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Almighty God strengthen you with power  
through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.  
**Amen.**

*Worshippers may come forward for the laying on of hands and words of forgiveness.*

*Beneath the cross of Jesus – St. Stephen Ringers      Arr. Ron Mallory*

## **Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The First Lesson**

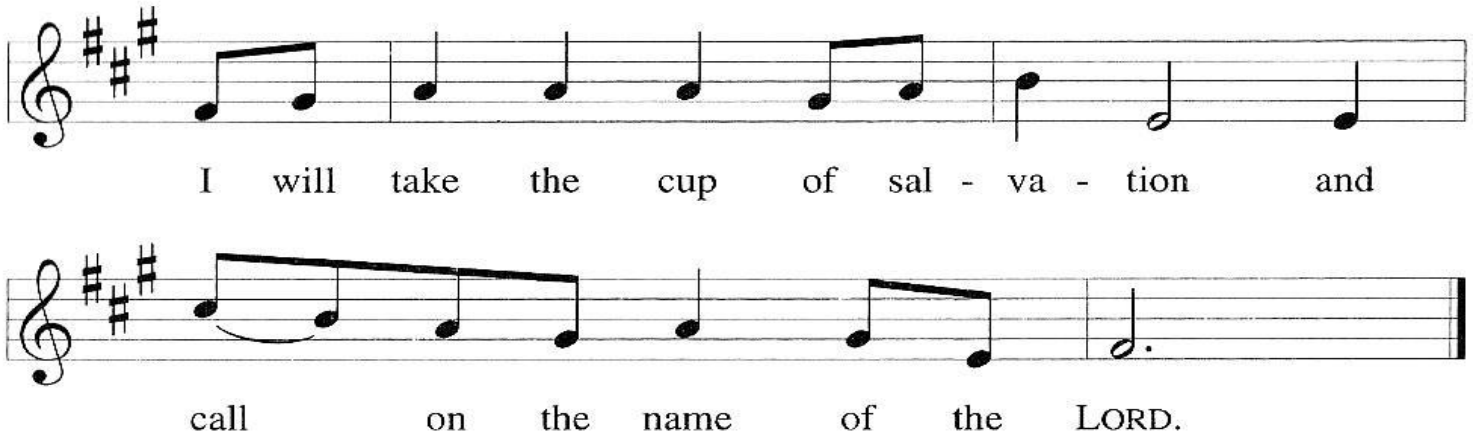
**Exodus 12:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. [<sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ] <sup>11</sup>This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

*Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."*

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 *All Sing refrain – Women start verse 1; Men respond verse 2*



I will take the cup of sal - va - tion and  
call on the name of the LORD.

Ps. 116:11

Robert Buckley Farlee

- <sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,\*  
and listened to my | supplication,\*  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given | ear to me\***  
**whenev- | er I called.**
- <sup>12</sup> How shall I re- | pay the LORD\*  
for all the good things God has | done for me?
- <sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup | of salvation\***  
**and call on the name | of the LORD. Refrain**
- <sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD\*  
in the presence of | all God's people.
- <sup>15</sup> **Precious in your | sight, O LORD\***  
**is the death | of your servants.**
- <sup>16</sup> O LORD, truly I | am your servant;\*  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me | from my bonds.
- <sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving\***  
**and call upon the name | of the LORD.**
- <sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD\*  
in the presence of | all God's people,
- <sup>19</sup> **in the courts of | the LORD's house,\***  
**in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem. Refrain**

**The Second Lesson**

**1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

<sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup>In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."*

*Response after announcement of the Gospel: “Glory to you, O Lord.”*

<sup>1</sup>Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” <sup>12</sup>After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

<sup>31b</sup>“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

*Response at the conclusion of the Gospel: “Praise to you, O Christ.”*

**Sermon**

*Rev. Darlene Jackson*

## Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and  
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us  
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your  
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.  
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

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Music © Oxford University Press.



## Footwashing

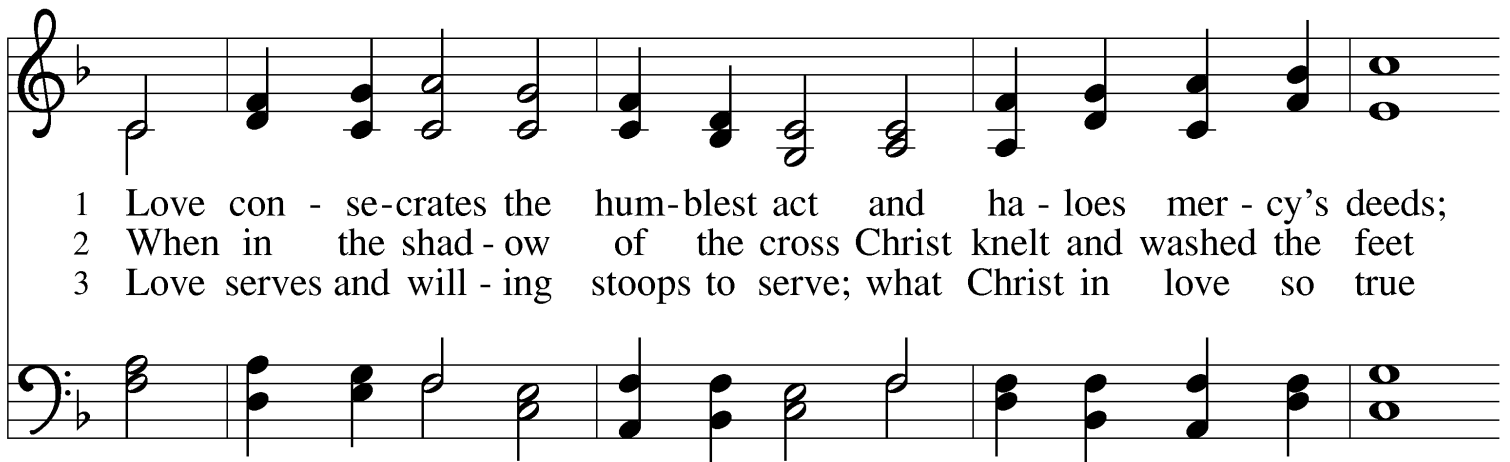
*Worshippers are invited to sit on one of the chairs near the baptismal font. After a sibling in Christ washes and dries your feet, please do the same for the next person.*

**Hymns:**

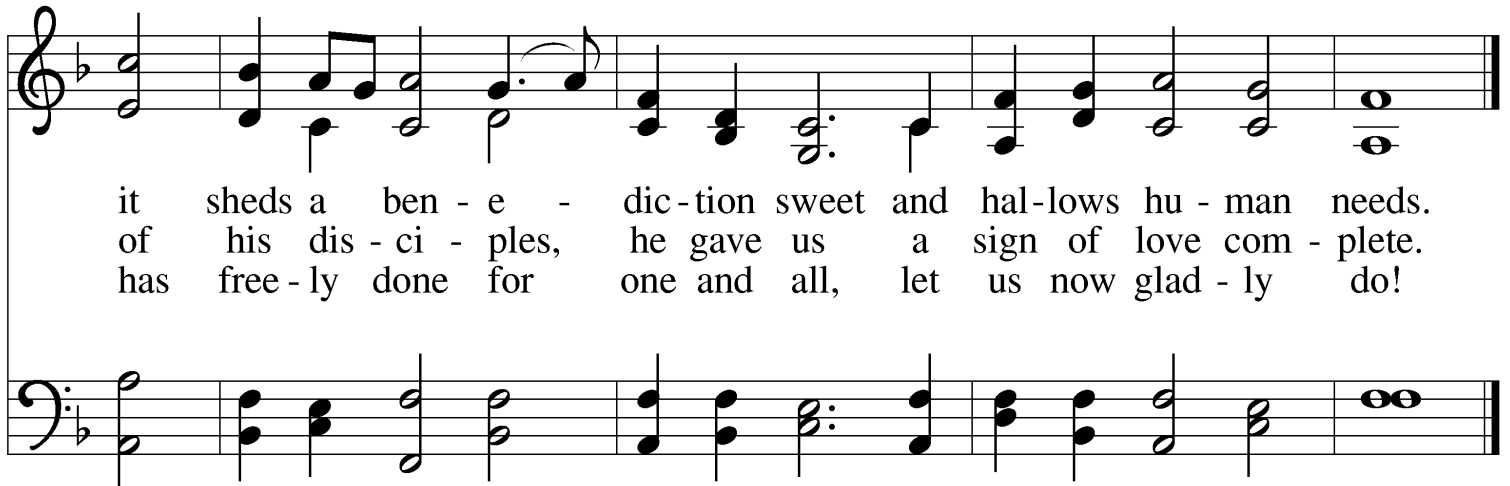
*Love Consecrates the Humblest Act*

ELW 360

## Love Consecrates the Humblest Act



1 Love con - se - crates the hum - blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;  
2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet  
3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true



it sheds a ben - e - dic - tion sweet and hal - lows hu - man needs.  
of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.  
has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, 1845–1917

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

## Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

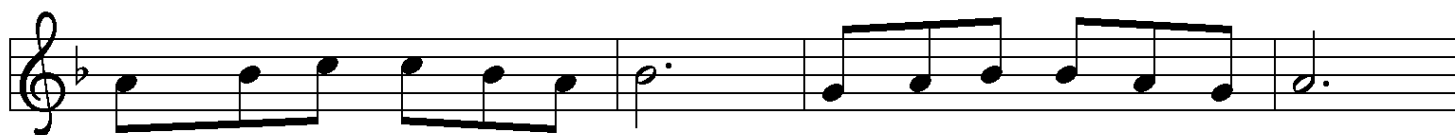
*Refrain*



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

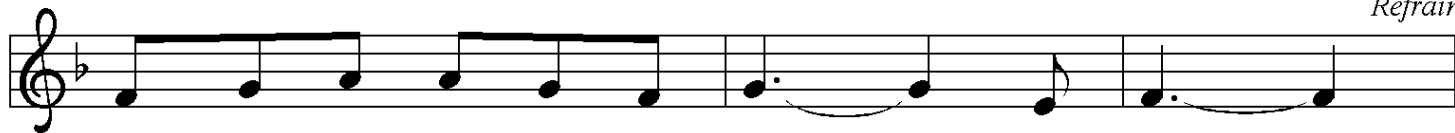


us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



- |   |                                    |                                       |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Kneels at the feet of his friends, | si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,  |
| 2 | Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor,  | var - ied in col - or and race,       |
| 3 | These are the ones we will serve,  | these are the ones we will love;      |
| 4 | Kneel at the feet of our friends,  | si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet: |

*Refrain*



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Each petition concludes, "Merciful God." Response: "Receive our prayer."*

## **Offering**

*During our shared worship services, offerings received in St. Stephen or St. Martin's envelopes will go to the designated congregation. Lose offerings will go to FISH Inc.*

**Offering of Music**      *Behold, the Lamb of God*      John Behnke

## **Offertory Prayer**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Words of Institution**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymns**      *Where Charity and Love are Shown*      ACS 931  
(printed on the next page)

*Ah, Holy Jesus-* St. Stephen Ringers      arr. Cathy Moglebust

## **Table Blessing**

## **Prayer After Communion**

### **The Stripping of the Altar as we listen to Psalm 88**

*Stay as long as you wish for prayer. Please depart in silence. Our Triduum service will continue tomorrow evening at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 7:00 PM.*

# Where Charity and Love Are Shown

## *Donde hay caridad*

*Refrain / Estribillo*



*Don-de* hay *ca - ri - dad* *y a - mor,* *a - llí* *es -*  
Where char-i - ty and love are shown, our God is



*tá el* *Se - ñor,* *a - llí* *es - tá el* *Se - ñor.*  
there made known, our God is there made known.



1 *U - na* *sa - la* *y u - na* *me - sa,* *u - na* *co - pa,*  
1 One as - sem - bly at one ta - ble; one the cup, the  
2 At the ta - ble we are wel - comed to the ban - quet  
3 This, the bread of life e - ter - nal; this, the sav - ing



*vi - no y* *pan,* *los her - ma - nos* *com - par -*  
bread, the wine; in one love we are com -  
from a - bove. We re - call the Lord's com -  
cup we claim, draw us close with - in one



*tien - do* *en a - mor* *y en* *u - ni - dad.*  
pan - ions, and in u - ni - ty we dine.  
mand - ment that we live and grow in love.  
fam - 'ly, make us one in Je - sus' name.



*Nos* *re - ú - ne* *la pre - sen - cia* *y el* *re - cuer - do*  
Brought to - geth - er by the pres - ence and the prom - ise  
As the gifts of God are giv - en, Je - sus' bod - y  
Let us tell the liv - ing sto - ry of his suf - f'ring



*del* *Se - ñor;* *ce - le - bra - mos* *su* *me -*  
of God's Word, here in joy and in re -  
and his blood, so we give our - selves to  
and his pain, and pro - claim the ho - ly

*Refrain / Estribillo*



*mo - ria* *y la en - tre - ga* *de su a - mor.*  
mem - brance we re - ceive our lov - ing Lord.  
oth - ers and we seek our neigh - bor's good.  
mys - t'ry: Christ has died, yet lives to reign.