



## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### THE HANDS OF THE PASSION

WEDNESDAY

March 3, 2021

7:00 P.M.

HANDS OF MISGUIDED ZEAL (PETER)

**The Ringing of the Bell**

**The prelude**

**The words concerning worship**

**Opening Hymn: TLH 376 "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me"**

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood From Thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**

**Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly—Wash me, Savior, or I die!**

**While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee! Amen**

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you:

**C: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.**

**P:** If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness,

**C: We lie and do not live by the truth.**

**P:** If we claim to be without sin,

**C: We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.**

**All: Father, I have sinned against You and am no longer worthy to be called Your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed Your only Son to purge away my guilt. For His sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of the Holy Spirit let me serve You all my days.**

*Silence for private confession.*

**P:** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Prayer**

**All:** Lord God, we thank You for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with Your forgiving love in Christ. May Your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of Your presence through the darkness of this world.

Come and bless us as we worship You: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Psalm 37**

**P:** Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers!

**C: For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.**

**P:** Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

**C: Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart.**

**P:** Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him, and He will act.

**C: He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.**

**P:** Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

**C: Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.**

**P:** For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

**C: In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.**

**P:** But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

**C: The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him,**

**P:** but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for He sees that his day is coming.

**C:** **The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose way is upright;**

**P:** their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.

**C:** **Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked.**

**P:** For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.

**C:** **The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever;**

**P:** they are not put to shame in evil times; in the days of famine they have abundance.

**C:** **But the wicked will perish; the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish--like smoke they vanish away.**

**P:** The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives;

**C:** **for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land, but those cursed by Him shall be cut off.**

**P:** The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in His way;

**C:** **though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand.**

**P:** I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or His children begging for bread.

**C:** **He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.**

**P:** Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever.

**C:** **For the LORD loves justice; He will not forsake His saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.**

**P:** The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever.

**C:** **The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and His tongue speaks justice.**

**P:** The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip.

**C:** **The wicked watches for the righteous and seeks to put him to death.**

**P:** The LORD will not abandon him to his power or let him be condemned when he is brought to trial.

**C:** **Wait for the LORD and keep His way, and He will exalt you to inherit the land; you will look on when the wicked are cut off.**

**P:** I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree.

**C:** **But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found.**

**P:** Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace.

**C:** **But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed; the future of the wicked shall be cut off.**

**P:** The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

**C:** **The LORD helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in Him.**

**ALL:** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen**

### **Prayer**

**P:** Lord God, in this changing world we look to You as our unchanging rock of refuge and hope. Hear us as we plead for Your mercy, and grant us Your saving grace and protection; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

### **Passion Reading: Part 3**

#### *Response*

**All:** **All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.**

### **Hymn: TLH 143 “Go to Dark Gethsemane”**

**Go to dark Gethsemane, Ye that feel the Tempter’s power;  
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away, Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.**

**Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame or loss; Learn of Him to bear the cross.**

**Calvary’s mournful mountain climb; There adoring at His feet,  
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.  
“It is finished! Hear Him cry; Learn of Jesus Christ to die.**

## **John 18:4-11**

4 Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to Him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" 5 They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." Judas, who betrayed Him, was standing with them. 6 When Jesus said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. 7 So He asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." 8 Jesus answered, "I told you that I am He. So, if you seek Me, let these men go." 9 This was to fulfill the word that He had spoken: "Of those whom You gave me I have lost not one." 10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) 11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given Me?"

Sermon: The Hands of Misguided Zeal (Peter)

### **John 18:4-11**

*(Offerings would normally be received at this time-The offering plates are at both entrances or can be received electronically or mailed in)*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers and Lord's Prayer**

## **Evening Hymn of Prayer: TLH 558**

**All praise to Thee, my God, this night for all the blessings of the light.  
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings, beneath Thine own almighty wings.**

**Forgive me, Lord, through Thy dear Son, The ills that I this day have done,  
That with the World, myself, and Thee I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.**

**Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as little as my bed.  
Teach me to die that so I may Rise glorious at the awe-full day.**

**Oh, may my soul on Thee repose, and may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,  
Sleep that shall me more vigorous make To serve my God when I awake!  
Amen**

### **Benediction:**

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 peace.

C: **Amen**

### **Silent prayer**

### **Announcements**