

SECOND WEDNESDAY IN LENT

Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 12:00 pm

THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN (Please Stand)

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory" LSB 427

**In the cross of Christ I glory
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime**

**When the woes of life o'er take me
Hopes deceive and fears annoy
Never shall the cross forsake me
Lo it glows with peace and joy**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day**

**Bane and blessing pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified
Peace is there that knows no measure
Joys that through all time abide**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Spoken LSB pg. 167)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:30]

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God unto all of you and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (Sing) Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (Spoken): And also with you.

Pastor: Let Us Pray:

COLLECT

Pastor: "Lord Jesus Christ, You humbled yourself by taking the form of man and becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. All this You did for us and for our salvation. This Lenten season, create in us clean hearts as we take up our cross and follow You, granting us humility as we meditate on Your Holy Passion, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God world without end."

People: Amen.

(You May Be Seated)

Pastor: In order to better prepare ourselves for the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during this Lenten season, a portion of the Passion story will be read each Wednesday during each of the five Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday. It is hoped that these readings will provide spiritual strength for all of us during this Lenten season.

PREPARATION HYMN

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" LSB 440 vs. 1

**Jesus I will ponder now
On Your Holy Passion
With your Spirit me endow
For such meditation
Grant that I in love and faith
May the image cherish
Of Your suff'ring, pain, and death
That I may not perish**

The Passion History of Our Lord According to the Four Evangelists

PART 1

JESUS' READINESS TO SUFFER AND DIE

Reader: Now the feast of unleavened bread drew near which is called the Passover. And Jesus said unto His disciples, "You know that after two days is the feast of the Passover, and the Son of Man is betrayed to be crucified."

Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and consulted that they might take Jesus by subtlety, and kill Him. But they said, "Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people", for they feared the people.

Then entered Satan into the heart of Judas, surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Jesus unto them. And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he said unto them: "What will you give me, and I will deliver Him unto you"? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray Jesus unto them in the absence of the multitude.

Now on the first day of the feast of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed, the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto Him: "Where would you like us to go and prepare a place for you to eat the Passover?" And

He sent forth two of His disciples, Peter and John, and said unto them: "Go and prepare us the passover that we may eat". And they asked Jesus: "Where would you like us to prepare it"? And He said to them: "Go into the city, and behold, when you are entered into the city, there shall meet you a man, bearing a pitcher of water. Follow him into the house where he enters. Wherever he shall go in, say to the goodman of the house: 'The master says unto you, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover with My disciples. Where is the guestchamber where I shall eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he shall show you a large upper room furnished and prepared; there make ready for us." And His disciples went forth and came into the city, and found as He had said unto them: and the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them, and they made ready the passover.

HYMN

"Jesus, I will Ponder Now" LSB 440 vs. 4

**Grant that I your Passion view
With repentant grieving
Let me not bring shame to You
By unholy living
How could I refuse to shun
Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son
Suffered without measure**

Reader: And in the evening, when the hour was come, He sat down, and the twelve disciples with Him. And He said unto them: "With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer; for I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God". And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. And He said unto them: "The kings of the gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But you shall not be so. He that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. For which is greater, he that sits at meat, or he that serves? Is not he that sits at meat? But I am among you as he that serves. You are they which have continued with Me in My temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as My Father has appointed unto Me; that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

"I speak not of all of you. I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, 'He that eats bread with me has lifted up his heel against me'. Now I tell you before it occurs, that, when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am he. Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that receives whomsoever I send receives Me; and he that receives Me receives Him that sent Me.

Reader: Here endeth the reading.

HYMN

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now” LSB 440 vs. 6

**Graciously my faith renew
Help me bear my crosses
Learning humbleness from You
Peace mid pain and losses
May I give You love for love
Hear me O my Savior
That I may in heav’n above
Sing Your praise forever**

MEDITATION

HYMN

“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross” LSB 425

**When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride**

**Forbid it Lord that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ my God
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to His blood**

**See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were a tribute far too small
Love so amazing so divine
Demands my soul my life my all**

(Please Stand)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

**All: 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.**

BENEDICAMUS (Spoken LSB 252)

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord. [Psalm 103:1]

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION (Spoken LSB 252)

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the
(+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve
you.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Abide with Me" LSB 878 vs. 1, 5 & 6

**Abide with me fast falls the eventide
The darkness depends Lord with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless O abide with me**

**I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness
Where is death's sting Where grave thy victory
I triumph still if Thou abide with me**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee
In life in death O Lord abide with me**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor
Ken Kosmalski, Elder
Marie Brown, Organist
Volunteers, Ushers