

THIRD WEDNESDAY IN LENT

Wednesday, March 3, 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 2

JESUS' AGONY OF SOUL IN GETHSEMANE

Reader: As Jesus sat and ate with His disciples, He was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, one of you, which eats with Me, shall betray Me. But, behold, the hand of him that betrays Me is with Me on the table". And the disciples were exceeding sorrowful and looked on one another, doubting of whom He spoke. And they began to inquire among themselves which of them it was that should do this thing, and to say unto Him one by one, "Is it I?" And another, "Is it I?" And He answered and said unto them, "It is one of the twelve that dippeth with Me in the dish, the same shall betray Me. The Son of Man indeed goes as it is written of Him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had never been born."

Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to Him, that he should ask who it should be of whom He spoke. He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, "Lord, who is it"? Jesus answered, "He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it." And when He had dipped the sop, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. Then Judas, which betrayed Him, answered and said, "Master, is it I"? Jesus said unto him, "You have said". And after the sop, Satan

entered into Judas. Then said Jesus unto him, "What you do, do quickly". Now no man at the table knew for what intent He spoke this to him. For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, "Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor. He then having received the sop went immediately out. And it was night.

Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him. If God be glorified in Him, God shall also glorify Him in Himself, and shall straightway glorify Him".

And as they were eating in the night in which He was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, and broke it, and gave it unto His disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is My body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me". Likewise, also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, "Drink ye all of it: this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins. This do as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me". And they all drank thereof.

"Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You shall seek Me; and as I said unto the Jews, whither I go, you cannot come; so now I also say this to you. A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another. As I have loved you, you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another". Simon Peter said unto

Him, Lord, “Where are you going”? Jesus answered him, “Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you shall follow Me afterwards”. Peter said unto Jesus, “Lord, why can’t I follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake”. Jesus answered him, “Will you lay down your life for My sake? Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for you, that your faith does not fail: and when you are converted, strengthen your brethren”. Then Peter said unto Jesus, “Lord I am ready to go with You, both into prison, and to death”. Then Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I tell you, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day twice before you shall three times deny that you know Me”.

And He said unto them, “When I sent you without purse, leather bag for food, and shoes, lacked you anything”? And they said, “Nothing”. Then said He unto them, “But now, he that has a purse let him take it, and likewise his scrip. And he that has no sword let him sell his garment and buy one. For I say unto you, that this that is written must be accomplished in Me: ‘And He was reckoned among the transgressors.’ For the things concerning Me have an end”. And they said, “Lord, behold, here are two swords.” And Jesus said unto them, “It is enough.”

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: When Jesus had spoken these words, and when they had sung a hymn, He came out, and went forth, as He was wont, over the brook Cedron, to the Mount of Olives, and His disciples also followed Him. Then Jesus said unto them, "All of you shall be offended because of Me this night: For it is written, "I will smite the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad'. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee." Peter answered and said unto Him. "Though all shall be offended because of You, yet will I never be offended. Jesus said unto him, "Verily I say unto you, that this night, before the cock crow twice, you shall deny Me three times." Peter spoke the more vehemently, "Though I should die with You, yet will I not deny You in any way". Likewise also said all the disciples.

Then Jesus came with them unto a place called Gethsemane, where there was a garden, into which He and His disciples entered. Judas, who would betray Jesus, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with His disciples. And when He was at the place, He said to His disciples: "Sit here while I go and pray over there. Pray that you enter not into temptation".

And He took with Him Peter, and James and John, the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful, and very heavy. Jesus said unto them: “My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death; tarry here and watch with Me”.

And He was withdrawn from them, and went forward a little, about a stone’s cast, and kneeled down, and fell on the ground, on His face, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said: “Abba, Father, all things are possible unto you: take away this cup from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will; not My will, but Your will be done”.

Then He came to the disciples, and found them asleep for sorrow, and said unto Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? What, could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit truly is willing, but the flesh is weak”. Jesus went away again the second time, and prayed saying, “O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink, Thy will be done”. And when He returned, He found them asleep again, (for their eyes were heavy), neither knew what to answer Him. And He left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. And there appeared an angel unto Him from heaven strengthening Him. And being in an agony, He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

And He came the third time to His disciples and found them sleeping and said, “Sleep on now, and take your

rest. Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that will betray Me.”

Reader: Here endeth the reading.

HYMN

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” LSB 436 vs. 1

**Go to dark Gethsemane
All who feel the tempter’s pow’r
Your Redeemer’s conflict see
Watch with Him one bitter hour
Turn not from His griefs away
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray**

MEDITATION

“Thy Kingdom Come... On Earth as it is in Heaven”

Text: John 3:1-17

Sermon Outline

“Thy Kingdom Come” shakes our faith in ourselves as God in Christ graciously builds us into his kingdom.

- I. Faith in ourselves is shaken.
- II. On account of Christ, God builds us into His kingdom by His Spirit through his Word.

HYMN

“Just as I Am, without One Plea” LSB 570

**Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down.
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

(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