

A Midweek Journey thru

LENT

February 24, 2021



*Surrounded by saints before us,
we persevere to make heaven
bigger tomorrow
by sharing Jesus on earth today.*

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WEEK TWO:

Coming Tears



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Historic Trinity

Lutheran Church

February 24, 2021

Tears Tell the Story

Week Two: Coming Tears

Jesus Pleads with the Unprepared

AS WE GATHER

In our Lenten Midweek services we are focusing on the tears we see in the Gospels, especially during Passion Week. Sometimes the character weeping is Jesus. Sometimes the tears are those of a disciple or someone else. Today's theme is a warning concerning the grief or joy that awaits every human being when the Lord returns on Judgment Day. There will be tears of grief for those who have rejected Jesus but tears of joy for those who have received Him in this life by repentance and faith. The Good News is that, by faith in Christ today, we can have joy and confidence in the certainty of salvation and eternal life.

PRELUDE

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

John Stainer

setting by Ryan Meyer

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

LBW 107



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

INVOCATION Mt 28:19

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

People: ♪ Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, count me among the throng, those who waved branches or laid coats in that once great procession into Jerusalem. What a day that must have been, and how proud I would have been to see you. Hail! Hosanna!, we sing. But, Father in heaven, forgive me for falling so fast. We talk about Sunday's "Hosanna!" becoming Friday's "Crucify!", when I know- all too well- that five days gives me too much credit. My descent from songs of victory to sins of vulgarity comes more quickly than I would usually care to admit. Lord, count me among the mob, and please know how sorry I am that you would see me there...

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Most merciful and gracious God,

People: **we confess that we have sinned against You.**

Pastor: We confess our sins of thought---

People: **We have been foolish in our thinking, clouded in our judgment, depraved in our imagination.**

Pastor: We confess our sins of word---

People: **We have lied and slandered; we have grumbled and complained, even about Your mercy.**

Pastor: We confess our sins of deed---

People: **We have squandered Your blessings, run from Your love, and rebelled against Your plan.**

Pastor: Forgive us, we pray,

People: **for the sake of Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: God has Good News for us today. Though we have run from Him, He receives us back into His loving arms; though we have sinned, for Jesus' sake, we are totally forgiven. In the stead and by the command of our Lord, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the √ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ Amen.

VERSE OF ABSOLUTION

♪ **But when I think that God, His Son not sparing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin;
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 10-13, 30-32

(The great and awesome day of the Lord)

¹ Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near, ² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations...

¹⁰ The earth quakes before them; the heavens tremble. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. ¹¹ The LORD utters his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful. For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome; who can endure it?

¹² "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments."

³⁰ "And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³² And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

LENTEN VERSE

LSB 752 v. 3

♪ **Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in this vale of tears;
Then you will better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
From His own fullness all He takes away.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:26-35

(The coming of the Son of Man)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 23rd Chapter.

People: *(spoken)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶ So, if they say to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out. If they say, ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. ²⁷ For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸ Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

²⁹ “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

³² “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³ So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁴ Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 575



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
 His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
 in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
 then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

HOMILY

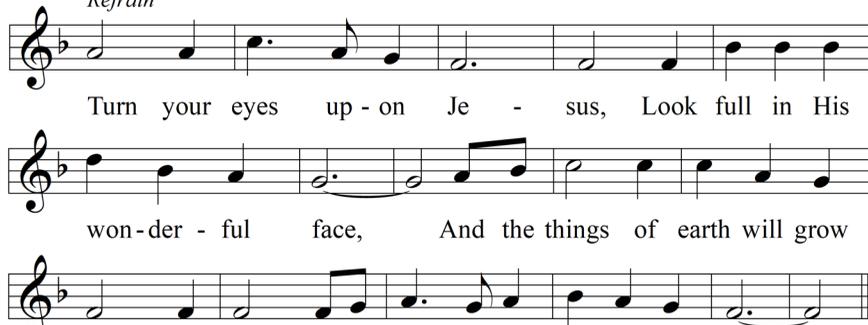
"Coming Tears"

Matthew 24:30-31

*Rev. James Rolf, Cathedral Pastor
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church*

OFFERTORY

Refrain



Turn your eyes up - on Je - sus, Look full in His
won - der - ful face, And the things of earth will grow
strange-ly dim, In the light of His glo - ry and grace.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

*Please consider continuing to support the work of the Lord at Historic Trinity with a sacrificial gift.
You can donate at historictrinity.org/give, or mail to 1345 Gratiot Ave, Detroit, MI 48207.*

VOLUNTARY

"Finlandia"

Brian Henkelmann

PRAYER

During this Lenten season, we hear not only the echoes of the ages, but the echoes that ring against these very walls, as we pray the prayers of those who find their place in the stone, glass, wood, tile, paint or fresco of Historic Trinity.

Pastor: What are you, my God? You are the highest, the most righteous and the most powerful being. You are the most merciful, and yet the most just. You are the most mysterious, and yet the most present. You are the most beautiful, and yet the strongest. You are stable, yet incomprehensible. You are unchanging, yet changing all things. You are never new and never old, yet you are constantly renewing all things. You are always working, yet always at rest. You create great riches on earth, yet you need nothing. You support, nourish and protect all. You are jealous, and yet have not fear. You recoil at our sin, and yet you do not grieve. You are angry, yet remain serene. You take as you find, yet never lose. You have no needs, yet you rejoice in all goodness. You pay debts, yet owe nothing; you forgive debts, yet lose nothing. What shall I say, O my God, my life, my holy joy? What can any man say when he speaks of you? Silence offers the greatest eloquence, yet woe to him who does not sing your praise.

People: **Amen.**

~St. Augustine (354-430 AD)

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, I approach you. I am a sinner, and dare not rely on my own worth, but only on your goodness and mercy. I am defiled by many sins in body and soul, and by my unguarded thoughts and words. Gracious God of majesty and awe, I seek your protection, I look for your healing. Poor troubled sinner that I am, I appeal to you, the fountain of all mercy. I cannot bear your judgment, but I trust in your salvation. Lord, I show my wounds to you and uncover my shame before you. I know my sins are many and great, and they fill me with fear, but I hope in your mercies, for they cannot be numbered. Lord Jesus Christ, eternal king, God and man, crucified for mankind, look upon me with mercy and hear my prayer, for I trust in you. Have mercy on me, full of sorrow and sin, for the depth of your compassion never ends. Praise to you, saving sacrifice, offered on the wood of the cross for me and for all mankind. Praise to the noble and precious blood, flowing from the wounds of my crucified Lord Jesus Christ and washing away the sins of the whole world. Remember, Lord your creature, whom you have redeemed with your blood; I repent my sins, and I long to put right what I have done. Merciful Father, take away all my offenses and sins; purify me in body and soul, and make me worthy to taste the holy of holies. May your sacrifice, although I am unworthy, be for me the remission of my sins, the washing away of my guilt, the end of my evil thoughts, and the rebirth of my better instincts. May it incite me to do the works pleasing to you and profitable to my health in body and soul, and be a firm defense against the wiles of my enemies.

People: **Amen.**

~St. Ambrose (340-397 AD)

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

A LOOK INTO HEAVEN

from Revelation 21

Pastor: I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

People: **He will wipe every tear from their eyes.**

Pastor: There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said,
 People: "I am making everything new!"

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: 
 A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Abide with Me"

LSB 878 v. 1-4, 6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

POSTLUDE

"Eventide"

David M Cherwien