

A Midweek Journey in

LENT

MARCH 23, 2022



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

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Assisting Pastor

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Rev. James Gruetzner
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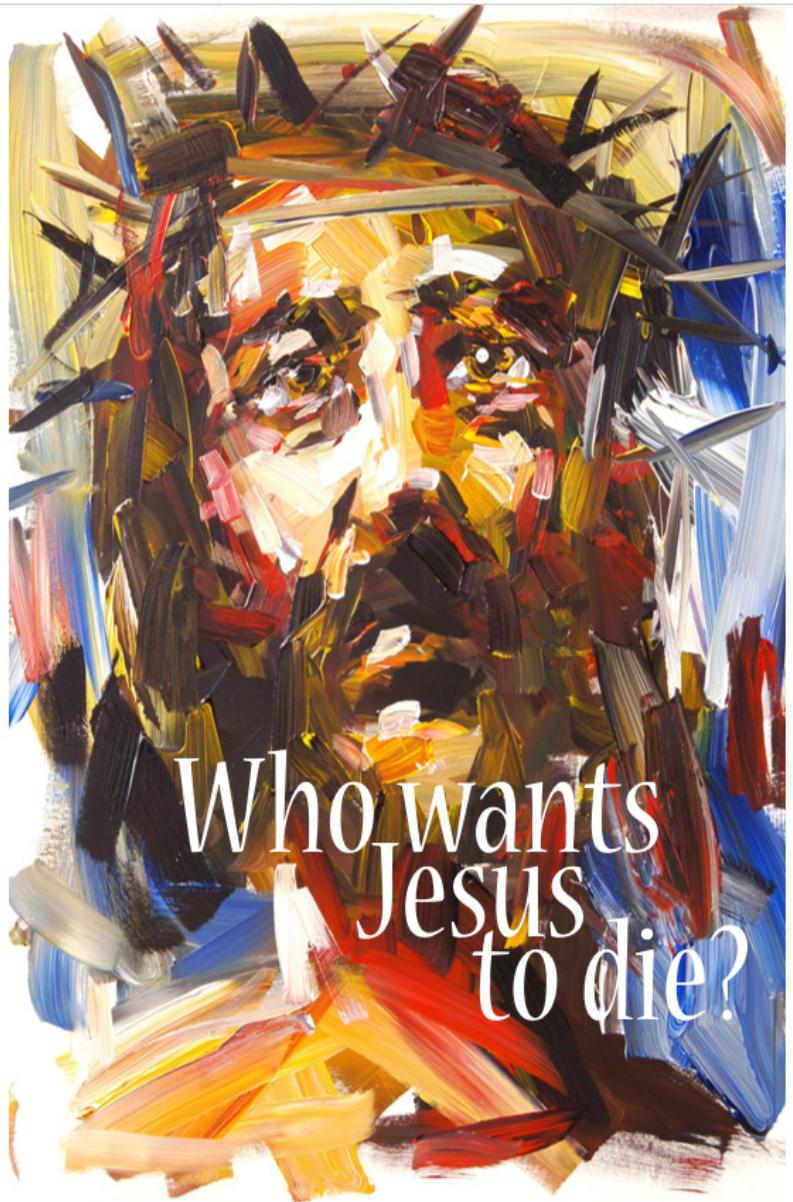
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✦ *In Memoriam* ✦
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March 23, 2022

Who Wants Jesus to Die?

Week Four: The High Priest Wants Jesus to Die

PRELUDE

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Kevin Hildebrand

AS WE GATHER

When Christ came, the religious zealots, the priests, and Pharisees were confronted with God's divine authority in Jesus, who dared to expose their own abhorrent deceit and pride. Christ came to usher in the Kingdom of God, not to confirm the kingdom of man. The religious Jews desired a political state of power, and Jesus threatened this with His words, His actions, and His Messiahship, demonstrated through His indescribable mercy and humility, and witnessed by His wisdom in expressing the truth of God's Word before Jews and Gentiles alike.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“The Church's One Foundation”

LSB 644 v. 1-2, 4



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

INVOCATION

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

People: ♪ Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Pastor: Dear Jesus, our Savior and Lord,

People: **lead us to the time of Your passion;**

Pastor: lead us to the places You walked and the people You have encountered;

People: **lead us to Your cross;**

Pastor: to the place of crucifixion.

People: **Stay with us, Lord, as we witness Your suffering and listen to Your Words.**

Pastor: At Calvary we become increasingly mindful of our sins and of Your incredible love for us.

People: **Calvary is the place where You reveal Your perfect forgiveness.**

Pastor: In the midst of Christ's repulsive crucifixion, divine love confronts hatred; divine forgiveness abolishes the consequence of sin; hope for humanity begins anew.

People: **Lead us to take up our cross, to die, to live, to follow in Your footsteps.**

Pastor: Lead us, Lord,

People: **to come to Your holy cross. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the Lord's presence, let us confess our sins to Him.

People: **Lord, my sin-filled life is laid before You. I have fallen short of the glory of God in all areas of my emotional, physical, and spiritual life. I confess before You and my brothers and sisters in Christ that I am guilty of grievous faults and in repentance, seek Your forgiveness. If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, who could stand before you? But with You there is forgiveness. Father, for Jesus' sake forgive me. Make me constantly aware of Your infinite mercy and grace. Today and every day I cling solely to the cross of Christ.**

Pastor: Jesus was nailed to that cross where He died to secure forgiveness for sins and salvation. He endured punishment and died the death we deserve. He refreshes our hurting souls with forgiveness. As a called and ordained servant of Christ Jesus, it is my privilege to announce the grace of God to all of you, and in so doing, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ Amen.

VERSE

LSB 420 v. 3

♪ **Thou hast borne the smiting only That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring, Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.**

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: O Lord, set our hearts ablaze with abiding faith, created and nurtured by Your Holy Spirit, that we may comprehend the saving acts of God for all people, Jew and Gentile alike. Encourage us in our relationships with one another that we may also express the complete and joyful forgiveness that You alone provide for all those who repent, confessing Your holy and awesome name, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,

People: ♪ **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Ephesians 4:1-6

(One body and one spirit)

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Behold the Lamb of God”
“Green the Weeping Willow Tree”

Paul Bouman
Robert Graham
St. Paul Lutheran School, Royal Oak, MI

GOSPEL

Matthew 26:57-68

(The Sanhedrin unjustly accuse Christ of blasphemy.)

⁵⁷ Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸ And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹ and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’” ⁶² And the high priest stood

up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸ saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON HYMN "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Have You Broken" LSB 439 v. 1-4



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
 3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
 4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
 With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
 It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
 The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
 They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
 Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
 The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
 cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
 her - it, This I do mer - it.
 owe Him, Who would not know Him.

HOMILY

*Rev. Jakob Andrzejewski, Senior Pastor
 St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Royal Oak, MI*

GATHERING OF TITHES AND 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

“Herzliebster Jesu”

Allan Mahnke

PRAYERS

Pastor: Christ, give me strength: Your servant is not what he once was. I am spent, O my Christ, Breath of my life. Perpetual stress and surge, in league together, make long, O long, this life, this business of living. Grappling with foes within and fears without, my soul has lost its beauty, blurred your image. Christ, give me strength.

People: **Amen.** *~St. Athanasius (296-373 AD)*

Pastor: Our Father in heaven, misery stands like a great wall between us. How shall we, your children on earth, so separated from you, ever come to You in our homeland? O God and Father, I do not doubt the things for which I have prayed are promised, not because I prayed for them, but because You have invited me to pray and have surely promised to grant them. I am certain that you keep your promise. It is not the worthiness of my prayer but the certainty of your truth that makes me firmly believe beyond doubt that it will be and remain “yes” and “amen”.

People: **Amen.** *~ Martin Luther (1483- 1546)*

Pastor: Kindness flows from you, Lord, pure and continual. You banished us from paradise, and you called us back again; you took from us the fig leaves that made us so unseemly, and you put on us a covering of great worth. Never again, after all this, will Adam blush when you call him, never will he try to hide because his conscience accuses him, never again will he hide under trees in a garden. For us that were heirs to his sin, all has been forever changed. The whole heavens and earth is at one again in friendship. There is no doubt who dresses his beautiful bride, it is Christ. Blessed is He now, and throughout all the ages.

People: **Amen.** *~Gregory of Nyssa (335-395)*

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.**

BELL ANTHEM

“Holy, Holy, Holy”
“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

*Sandra Eithun
Linda Scholes
St. Paul Lutheran School, Royal Oak, MI*

LENTEN BENEDICTION

from Isaiah 53 and Psalm 34:18

Pastor: May He Whose grave was made with the wicked; May He with Whom there was no violence, nor deceit in his mouth; May He Who was crushed by the will of the Lord; May He—together with the Father and the Holy Spirit—continue to be near to the brokenhearted and save the crushed in spirit. And may the blessing of Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit keep you close to His heart.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

“It is Well with My Soul”

LSB 763 v. 1-2



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let

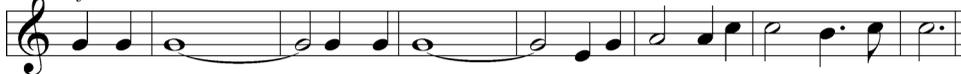


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

POSTLUDE

“We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died”

Carl Schalk