

*A Midweek Journey in*

# LENT

March 19, 2025



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*If only  
they could talk*



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# Historic Trinity

## Lutheran Church

March 19, 2025

"O Sacred Head"

S. Kirnberger

### PRELUDE

## If Only They Could Talk

Silent Witness Three: The Nail

*And when they came to the place that is called The Skull,  
there they crucified him.*

Luke 23:33

### PROCESSIONAL

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450 v. 1, 4



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard-ian, own me Thine.



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.  
Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!  
Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;



Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.  
Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.

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### INVOCATION Mt 28:19

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets,

People: but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.

## OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: No one has ever seen God.

**People: The only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made God known.**

Pastor: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

**People: We have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

Pastor: Therefore, we must pay close attention to what we have heard.

**People: It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him,**

Pastor: while God himself also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles

**People: and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will.**

## VERSE

LSB 451 v. 1

♪ **Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See Him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;  
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.**

Pastor: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely,

**People: and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,**

Pastor: looking unto Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith.

**People: For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

## VERSE

LSB 451 v. 2

♪ **Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His?  
Friends through fear His cause disowning, Foes insulting His distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound Him, None would intervene to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that justice gave.**

Pastor: "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled."

**People: We are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.**

Pastor: When we cry, "Abba, Father," it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are the children of God,

**People: and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.**

Pastor: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached throughout the whole world, as a testimony to all nations."  
People: **We are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.**  
Pastor: "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you shall be my witnesses."  
People: **We are witnesses to all that he did. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,**  
Pastor: but God raised him up on the third day and made him manifest,  
People: **not to all people, but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses.**

### VERSE

LSB 451v. 3

♪ **Ye who think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed, See who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Dear Jesus, you were nailed to the cross for our sake. While we grieve for you, we know that those nails represent the fact that our sins were pierced through and destroyed through your suffering and death. Help us to cast every transgression onto you so that you might do away with each of them forever. Let us find strength in your power to endure the pain of the nails as we endure our own trials, and remind us always that you have overcome every evil through the cross.  
People: **Amen.**

### READING

Isaiah 53:4-6

*(He carried our sorrows)*

<sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

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

## **EPISTLE READING**

1 Peter 4:12-19

*(The fiery trial to come)*

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

<sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **ANTHEM**

"O Come, Let Us Fix Our Eyes on Jesus"  
"Behold the Lamb of God"

*arr. Mark Bender  
Paul Bouman*

*Our Shepherd Lutheran School Choir, Birmingham*

## **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 23:18-25, 33

*(Crucify, crucify Him!)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 23.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— <sup>19</sup> a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. <sup>20</sup> Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, <sup>21</sup> but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" <sup>22</sup> A third time he said to them, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." <sup>23</sup> But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. <sup>24</sup> So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. <sup>25</sup> He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

<sup>33</sup> And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

♪ Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it cases me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crowned his head with thorns?  
Were you there when they crowned his head with thorns?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crowned his head with thorns?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

**HOMILY**

“Nails Hurt”

Luke 23:33

*Rev. Ronald Guettler, Cathedral Pastor  
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church*

**GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*We continue to gather offerings utilizing the offering receptacles (one at the back of the church and one at the Gratiot entrance in the parish hall), through the mail, and online.*



**VOLUNTARY**

“Were You There?”

*Benjamin Culli*

**PRAYER**

*During this Lenten season, we hear not only the echoes of the ages, but those 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: Lord, because you have made me, I owe you the whole of my love; because you have redeemed me, I owe you the whole of myself; because you have promised so much, I owe you my whole being. Moreover, I owe you as much more love than myself as you are greater than I, for whom you gave yourself and to whom you promised yourself. I pray you, Lord, make me taste by love what I taste by knowledge; let me know by love what I know by understanding. I owe you more than my whole self, but I have no more, and by myself I cannot render the whole of it to you. Draw me to you,

Lord, in the fullness of your love. I am wholly yours by creation; make me all yours, too, in love. ~ St. Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)

**People:** Amen.

**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”. ~ Martin Luther (1483- 1546)

**People:** Amen.

**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. ~Gregory of Nyssa (335-395)

**People:** Amen.

### **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.

### **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**

“My Hope is Built”

LSB 575 v. 1-3



1 My hope is built on nothing 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



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



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.

*Refrain*



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

**POSTLUDE**

**"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"**

*Matthew Machemer*