



March 9, 2022

The Second Wednesday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
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As We Gather

Genesis 37

Opening Hymn

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

- ♪ 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’ertake 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.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 427-Text: John Bowring 1792-1872; Tune: Ithamar Conkey 1815-67;
Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Invocation

In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph of Genesis

And come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before the Lord not in silence, but in confession of our sins, awaiting His voice of forgiveness.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You,

And I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”

And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:3–5

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.

The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. *Psalm 29:4*
His voice is full of forgiveness. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Psalmody

Psalm 29:1–11

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,

Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:1–9

¹“Cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet;
declare to my people their transgression, to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet they seek me daily and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that did righteousness and did not forsake the judgment of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments; they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?”

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness,

to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily;

your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'

If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, as we journey with Joseph together in this Lenten season, help us to hear Your voice through Your Word of life that You may guide, direct, and bless us in our earthly journeys, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Epistle

Romans 3:19–26

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Gradual Hymn

“Glory Be to Jesus”

- ♪ Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood From His sacred veins!
- ♪ Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!
- ♪ Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment Did the world redeem!
- ♪ Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.
- ♪ Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.
- ♪ Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 433 -Text: Italian, 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall 1814-78; Tune: Friedrich Filitz 1804-76;
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Holy Gospel

Luke 22:21–46

²¹But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²²For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" ²³And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

²⁴A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

²⁸"You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, ²⁹and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, ³⁰that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³²but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." ³³Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." ³⁴Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

³⁵And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing." ³⁶He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. ³⁷For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment." ³⁸And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

³⁹And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." ⁴¹And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, ⁴²saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." ⁴³And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. ⁴⁴And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. ⁴⁵And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

The Hymn

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

- ♪ 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.
- ♪ Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
- ♪ Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

♪ Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 436 -Text: James Montgomery 1771-1854; Tune: Richard Redhead 1820-1901;
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Proclamation of the Word

“The Injustice”

Genesis 37:23–28

Apostles' Creed *Please Stand*

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

Benediction

In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph of Genesis

And come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

Even in silence, Your deeds are wondrous and mighty, and Your Word speaks to us.

The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. *Psalm 29:4*

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

Amen.

Closing Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Not All the Blood of Beasts”

♪ Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace Or wash away the stain.

♪ But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb, Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.

♪ My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand, And there confess my sin.

♪ My soul looks back to see The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursèd tree; I know my guilt was there.

♪ Believing, we rejoice To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice And sing His bleeding love.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 431 -Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748; Tune: William Daman c.1540-91
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Postlude

Door Offering *You may place your offering in the plate at the door as you leave.*