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March 30, 2022

The Fifth Wednesday in Lent

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Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist  
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

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## As We Gather

Genesis 42–44

### Opening Hymn

“Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing”

- ♪ Jesus, grant that balm and healing In Your holy wounds I find,  
Ev’ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach’rous heart to sin,  
Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.
- ♪ Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind,  
Draw me to Your cross and passion, And new courage I shall find.  
Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard,  
Saying, “Christ for me was wounded,” That the tempter flee confounded.
- ♪ If the world my heart entices With the broad and easy road,  
With seductive, sinful vices, Let me weigh the awful load  
You were willing to endure. Help me flee all thoughts impure  
And to master each temptation, Calm in prayer and meditation.
- ♪ Ev’ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds,  
Lord, is made whole; When I’m faint, Your cross revives me,  
Granting new life to my soul. Yes, Your comfort renders sweet  
Ev’ry bitter cup I meet; For Your all-atoning passion Has procured my soul’s salvation.
- ♪ O my God, my rock and tower, Grant that in Your death I trust,  
Knowing death has lost its power Since You crushed it in the dust.  
Savior, let Your agony Ever help and comfort me;  
When I die be my protection, Light and life and resurrection.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 421 -Text: Johann Heermann 1585-1647; Tune Johann Balthasar Konig 1691-1758;  
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### 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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and  
cleans us from all unrighteousness.**

*1 John 1:8–9*

That we may have a conscience at peace, let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Psalmody**

Psalm 51:10–12

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

**Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**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**

Deuteronomy 21:8–9

<sup>8</sup>Accept atonement, O LORD, for your people Israel, whom you have redeemed, and do not set the guilt of innocent blood in the midst of your people Israel, so that their blood guilt be atoned for.' <sup>9</sup>So you shall purge the guilt of innocent blood from your midst, when you do what is right in the sight of the LORD.

## **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, we, like Joseph's brothers, carry consciences that are heavy and burdened by our sins. At Your invitation and command, we know we can bring before You all our faults and failings and be assured of Your grace and forgiveness through Your completed work as our one and only Savior from sin. Strengthen us and preserve us to walk faithfully with You in humble repentance this season and always, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **The Epistle**

1 John 1:1–10

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup>the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— <sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no

sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

## Gradual Hymn

“Were You There”

- ♪ Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- ♪ 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?
- ♪ Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
- ♪ Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?  
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?  
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,  
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 456 -Text & Tune: African American Spiritual, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.;  
Setting: C. Winfred Douglas 1867-1944; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## Holy Gospel

Luke 23:13–33

<sup>13</sup>Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, <sup>14</sup>and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. <sup>15</sup>Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. <sup>16</sup>I will therefore punish and release him.”

<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>26</sup>And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. <sup>27</sup>And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. <sup>28</sup>But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ <sup>30</sup>Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ <sup>31</sup>For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

<sup>32</sup>Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

## The Hymn

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (vv. 1-3)

- ♪ O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, Thine only crown. O sacred Head, what glory,  
What bliss, till now was Thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.
- ♪ How pale Thou art with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn!  
How doth Thy face now languish That once was bright as morn! Grim death, with cruel rigor,  
Hath robbed Thee of Thy life; Thus Thou has lost Thy vigor, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
- ♪ What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered Was all for sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression, But Thine the deadly pain. Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
'Tis I deserve Thy place; Look on me with Thy favor, And grant to me Thy grace.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 450 -Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux 1091-1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt 1607-76;  
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## Proclamation of the Word

“Guilty Consciences”

Genesis 42:21–23

## 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.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**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*

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

**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“On My Heart Imprint Your Image”

- ♪ On my heart imprint Your image, Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 422-Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo 1634-1703; tr. Peer O. Stromme 1856-1921;  
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## Postlude

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