



March 13, 2024

The Fifth Wednesday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“When I Behold Jesus Christ”

♪ When I behold Jesus Christ, True God who died for me,
I wonder much at His love as He hung on the tree.

~What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this? You showed Your love, Jesus, there
To me on Calvary. What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there To me on Calvary.

♪ For me You gave all Your love, For me You suffered pain;
I find no words, nothing can Your selflessness explain. ~What kind...

♪ You had no sin, holy Lord, But You were tortured, tried;
On Golgotha there for all My sins You bled and died. ~What kind...

♪ What love is this? Greater love No one has ever known.
My life with God- this I owe To You, and You alone. ~What kind...

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 542-Text: Almaz Belhu, sts. 1-3; tr. Hartmut Schoenherr, Jim and Aurelila Keefer, sts. 1-3; ©1970 Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane
Yesus; Joseph Herl s. 4, b 1959; ©1998 Concordia Publishing House
Tune: Almaz Belhu; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Opening Sentences

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall declare Your praise.

Psalm 51:15

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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with
shouts of praise.**

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

The sea is His, for He made it; and His hand formed the dry land.

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

O come, let us worship Him.

Office Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

♪ Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my sov’rign die?
Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I?

♪ Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!

♪ Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died For His own creatures' sin.

♪ Thus might I hide my blushing face While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt mine eyes to tears.

♪ But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 437 -Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748;

Tune: Hugh Wilson 1764-1824, setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4–9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

The Epistle

Philippians 2:1–11

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

Gradual Hymn

“Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing” v. 4

♪ 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.

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

Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel Please Stand

John 19:16b–27

^{16b}So they took Jesus, ¹⁷and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It

read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” ²²Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

“They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.”

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

The Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“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;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386

Proclamation of the Word

“Wisdom Has a Friend”

John 19:16b–27

Apostles’ Creed *Please Stand*

Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You have given to all who believe exceedingly great and precious promises. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may without all doubt trust in Your Son, Jesus Christ, so that our faith in Your sight may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on You and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

- ♪ Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
Of Your suff'ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.
- ♪ Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
- ♪ Yet, O Lord, not thus alone Make me see Your passion,
But its cause to me make known And its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin Wrought Your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been Of Your crucifixion.
- ♪ Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?
- ♪ If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm; Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son, God must have compassion!
- ♪ Graciously my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You, Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above Sing Your praise forever.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 440 -Text: Sigismund von Birken 1626-81; tr. August Crull 1845-1923;
Tune: Melchior Vulpius c.1570-1615;Setting: Lutheran Book of Worship 1978; Public Domain.

Postlude

Door Offering