



“PLACES OF THE PASSION – THE CITY OF JERUSALEM”

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 4:00PM

Worship Service

AS WE GATHER

In this service for Ash Wednesday, we go to Jerusalem, the place of the Passover, where Jesus gathers with the crowds and sacrifices himself for us. The meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with this location are highlighted. We will learn things we may not have known before as we grow to understand more deeply the hard road our Lord took that the way to heaven might be open to us.”

Stand

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

P *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

C **Amen.**

P *Let us ever walk with Jesus.*

C **To see the depths of his love.**

P *To behold the gift of his forgiveness.*

C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

P *To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.*

C **We walk with Jesus to the City of Jerusalem.**

P *Because Passover is coming.*

C **And the Son of Man will be crucified.**

P *Faithful Lord, with me abide.*

C **I shall follow where you guide!**

Sit

OPENING HYMN

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

LSB 685

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy

Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

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Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P *Magnificent and merciful Father, because we walk into dark and dangerous places, hear us as we confess our sins.*

C **My feet take me to places of compromise and sinful ambition.**

P *My heart lingers in places of lust and lies.*

C **My words take me to places of anger, rage and hatred.**

P *My ears delight in going to places of gossip, deceit and ridicule.*

C **My mind takes me to places of selfishness and pride.**

P *My eyes lead me to places of envy and greed.*

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

P *Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That's why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!*

C **I shall follow where you guide!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *Almighty and everlasting God, send forth your Holy Spirit that this Lent we may ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure, through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:1–13

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 5:6–8

⁶Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 26:1–5

¹When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, ²“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”

³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN of the DAY

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB 637

- 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.
- 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav’nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
- 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

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SERMON

“The City of Jerusalem”

Stand

PRAYERS

- P** *Onward in Christ’s footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father’s bidding. And so we pray. Jesus, you will finally deliver us from every storm so we lift our prayers and raise our petitions to you.*
- C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Deliver us from pride and arrogance, lest we fail to acknowledge our sins and confess them.*

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Deliver the world from the enemies of peace and from injustice and give us good and faithful leaders to protect the unborn and promote virtue.*

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Deliver the erring from their darkness, the doubting from their uncertainty, and the wandering from their ways, and return them to you.*

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Deliver us from the terror of death and the grave.*

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Deliver us from selfish desire, from the tyranny of things, and from the wasteful use of the resources you have entrusted to our care.*

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Deliver us from ingratitude for all your mercies and restore our hearts to hope and joy.*

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P *Jesus, deliver us and bring us to the table of your body and blood.*

C **Jesus let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

LSB 611

1 Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,

Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.

3 Only Jesus can impart
Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

5 O my Savior, help afford
By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

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BENEDICTION

P *Jesus invites us to walk with him to Jerusalem, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.*

C **Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

CLOSING HYMN

“O Christ, You Walked the Road”

LSB 424

1 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r
And fought our ancient foe.

2 No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.

3 No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.

Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.

4 When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.

5 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour
To fight our ancient foe.

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