



**“PLACES OF THE PASSION:
GETHSEMANE”**

***Sunday, March 7, 2021 9:00AM
Worship Service***

AS WE GATHER

In this service for Week 3 of Lent, the place of the Passion is Gethsemane, where Jesus is be-trayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness. We witness Jesus being taken away by soldiers, but we know that his journey toward the cross will take away our sins. The meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with Gethsemane help us to grow to understand more deeply the hard road our Lord took that the way to heaven might be open to us.

Sit

OPENING HYMN

“To Your Temple, Lord, I Come”

LW 207

- 1 To Your temple, Lord, I come,
For it is my worship home.
This earth has no better place,
Here I see my Savior’s face.
- 2 I through Him am reconciled,
I through Him become Your child.
Abba, Father, give me grace
In Your courts Your love to trace.
- 3 While Your glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue
That my joyful soul may bless
Christ the Lord, my righteousness.
- 4 While the prayers of saints ascend,
God of love, to mine attend.
Hear me, for Your Spirit pleads;
Hear, for Jesus intercedes.
- 5 While I listen to Your Law,
Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Your Gospel bring to me
Life and immortality.
- 6 While Your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear You speaking from the sky.
- 7 From Your house when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
“I have walked with God today.”

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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 Garden of Gethsemane.

P Where he is betrayed by Judas.

C And arrested by the Jews.

P So that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.

C Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where you guide!

HYMN

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

LSB 685 sts. 1 & 4

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.

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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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Paul writes in today’s second lesson, “Christ came proclaiming peace to those who are far off and those who are near.” (Ephesians 2:17) Heavenly Father, this proclamation has reached our ears but we confess it has not settled into our hearts.

C We confess that we do not live in the light of Christ’s peace.

P We prefer being peace-fakers and peace-breakers.

C We are more ready to worry than to trust.

P More ready to fret than have faith.

C More ready to blame than to believe.

P Forgive our hard hearts.

C And make us more alive to the depths of your love.

P Show us what it cost to give up your Son.

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 Heavenly Father, because Jesus walked into the perfect storm—betrayal, arrest, assault with a sword and then all his friends ran away—you are able to bring your perfect peace in the storms of our lives. Empower us to believe it and receive it; through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever. Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMEN READING

Isaiah 53:1–5

P The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 53.

¹Who has believed what they heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;

and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his stripes we are healed.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 2:11–18

P The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 2.

¹¹Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 26:47–56

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.” ⁴⁹And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. ⁵¹And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?” ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. ⁵⁶But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

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

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

LSB 436

- 1 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.
- 2 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 suff’ring, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

SERMON

Places of the Passion: Gethsemane

Stand

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- 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. Heavenly Father, you haven't promised us a storm-less life. You don't offer quick fixes or shallow solutions. But you do promise perfect peace, in the midst of whatever happens. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Grant us your peace.**
- P** Heavenly Father when we're out of bootstraps to pull up, come to the end of our rope and feel like quitting, you are with us and for us. Thank you for being a Father who will never forget or abandon us in our storms. Thank you for working all things together for the good of those who love you. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Grant us your peace.**
- P** Heavenly Father, thank you for your perfect peace—a peace perfectly suited for the moment. Our calling is not to take control, but to mine the riches of the Gospel and never lose sight of your wonderful love. You are the Rock that is higher than us, the Rock of refuge, the Rock of ages. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Grant us your peace.**
- P** We ask Your gracious answers to the prayers of those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*]. Visit, relieve, console, and uplift them according to Your plans, using us where possible as part of the answer to their petitions. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Grant us your peace.**
- P** Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for your peace that surpasses all understanding. Anchor us in hope, strengthen us in grace and fortify us with resolute courage.
- 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.**

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, for You sent Your only Son into human flesh so that He could become the complete sacrifice for our sins and our sinfulness.

We give You thanks that in this Sacrament our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness as we receive the forgiveness, life, and salvation that He won for us in His death and resurrection. Strengthen our faith thereby that we lift high the cross in how we live and what we proclaim.

- C** 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."

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

LSB 575

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain
- ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.
- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN**“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”****LSB 425**

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
 On which the Prince of Glory died,
 My richest gain I count but loss
 And pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
 Save in the death of Christ, my God;
 All the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them to His blood.
- 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet
 Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
 Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 That were a tribute far too small;
 Love so amazing, so divine,
 Demands my soul, my life, my all!

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O God the Father, who sent Your Son into human history so that He could be given over to death as one of us, despised, and in weakness and lowliness,

C we give thanks that in giving us His body and blood in this Sacrament You have bestowed on us the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Accompany us as we leave that we may proclaim Christ crucified to all who do not yet know Your true wisdom, strength, and salvation;

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to the Garden of Gethsemane, 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!

*Sit***CLOSING HYMN****“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”****LSB 715**

- 1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me
 Over life's tempestuous sea;
 Unknown waves before me roll,
 Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal.
 Chart and compass come from Thee.
 Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- 2 As a mother stills her child,
 Thou canst hush the ocean wild;
 Boist'rous waves obey Thy will
 When Thou say'st to them, “Be still!”

Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea,
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

- 3 When at last I near the shore
And the fearful breakers roar
 Twixt me and the peaceful rest,
 Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me,
“Fear not, I will pilot thee.”

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