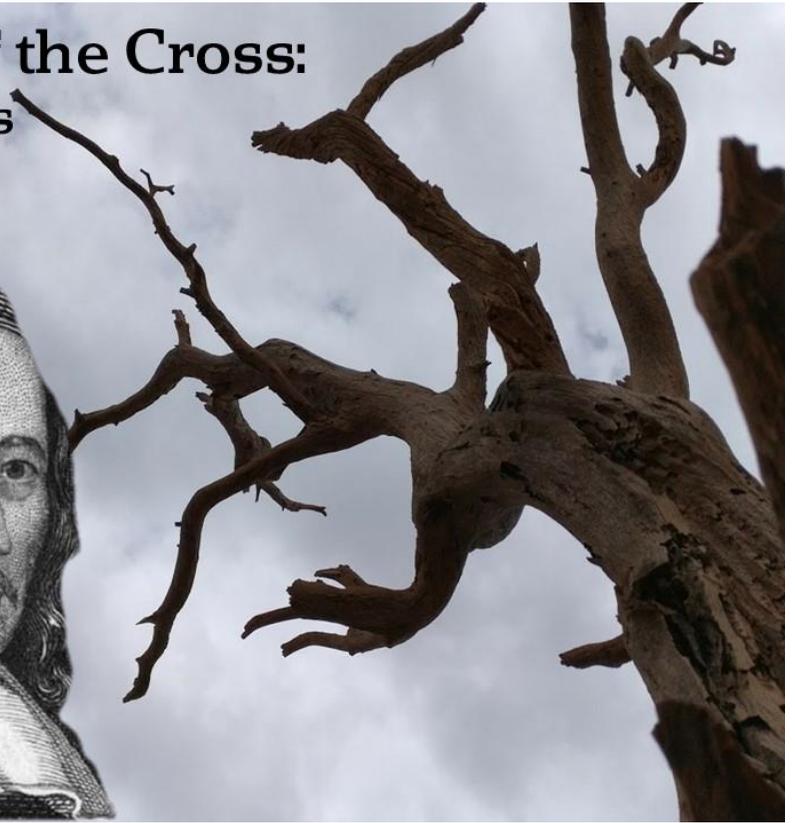


At the Foot of the Cross: George Herbert's "The Sacrifice"



Wednesday, March 20, 2019

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month
Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated according to the Lutheran Confessions based on the teaching Jesus gave his disciples and us that he is truly present in this meal. Confident that our sins are forgiven, we experience our oneness with him and each other as he gathers us at his table. His true body and blood, given and shed for us, we share in this meal as he invites in Matthew 26:26-28, "Take and eat; this is My Body ... This is My Blood..." Baptized Christians sharing these beliefs are invited to receive Communion. All others are invited to the altar rail for a blessing. Wine can be taken by common chalice, individual cup, or by dipping your wafer into the chalice. Please address questions to the Elders or the Pastor. ***Non-alcoholic wine is in purple-colored cups.***

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Mike Bandman
Asst Elder: OPEN
Acolytes: Jake and Kate Kruse
Ushers: Don Heidlauf, **OPEN**
Lay Readers: Pat Rasmussen,
Joanne Heidlauf
Greeters: Freehling Family

A LITURGY OF DOUBT AND HOPE

*Worship in a traditional order drawing on along with words of doubt and hope
from Scripture, poets, and writers.*

Opening Hymn

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

LSB 606



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Invocation

Jude 1-2, 20-22, 25

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

C: To the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

P: We come to be built up in our most holy faith,
building one another up through the Word of God.
God the Father calls on us to have compassion on one another:

C: "Have mercy on those who doubt."

P: God the Son calls on us to support one another
as we wait for His mercy that leads to eternal life:

**C: Jesus is able to keep us from stumbling
and to present us blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy. Amen.**

Confession of Sins

P: Can we just admit together that we're not fine?

C: *Because I'm not fine, and you're not fine.*

P: Can we just admit together that we're afraid?

C: *Because I'm afraid, and you're afraid.*

P: Can we just admit together that we have doubts?

C: *Because I have doubts, and you have doubts.*

P: Can we just admit together that we're not free?

C: *Because I'm not free, and I want to be.*

P: If you're not free, then call out to God with me:

C: *Emmanuel,*

God with us today,

We humbly call out Your Name:

Emmanuel,

As near as our need,

As close as the air that we breathe,

Emmanuel.

Lord, have mercy.

P: Can we just admit together that we have failed?

C: *Because I have failed, and you have failed.*

P: Can we just admit that our hands aren't clean?

C: *And our hearts aren't clean, and they'll never be.*

P: Until we're freed, and mercy sings.

C: *Emmanuel,*

God with us today,

We desperately cling to Your Name:

Emmanuel,

As near as our need,

As close as the air that we breathe.

Emmanuel.

Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Absolution (Forgiveness)

Based on liturgy by Bernie Seter and "Emmanuel" by Aaron Niequist

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, which means He does not desire your death. But rather He calls you to turn from your wicked ways and find life in the life of Christ. He has had mercy upon you. He graciously forgives your sins through the death and resurrection of Your Lord Jesus Christ. He strengthens you by the power of the Holy Spirit to amend your sinful lives according to His will, and will keep you in His grace until that day when He will take you to be with Him for eternity. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, in His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Emmanuel,

God with us today,

In thanksgiving we praise Your Name:

Emmanuel, Who came near so we are freed,

As close as the Word that we hear.

Emmanuel.

The Lord has had mercy on us.

P: Now we can admit together that we've failed,

C: *Because I am forgiven, and you are forgiven.*

P: Now we can admit together that our hands aren't clean,

C: *Because Jesus made me clean, and He made you clean.*

P: If you're now free, then call out to God with me:

C: *Emmanuel,*

God with us today,

In thanksgiving we praise Your Name:

Emmanuel.

The Lord has had mercy on us. Amen.

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gospel Reading for Tonight's "Sacrifice" Stanzas

(ESV)

⁵⁷Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered.

Matthew 26:57–68

⁵⁸And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the

courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end.

⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus

that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'"

⁶²And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" ⁶³But

Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell

us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." ⁶⁴Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell

you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and

coming on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has

uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his

blasphemy. ⁶⁶What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." ⁶⁷Then they

spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸saying, "Prophecy to us, you

Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

¹Then the whole company of them arose and brought him

before Pilate. ²And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found

Luke 23:1–12

this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute

to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." ³And Pilate asked him, "Are you the

King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief

priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man." ⁵But they were urgent, saying, "He

stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he

learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was

himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had

long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see

some sign done by him. ⁹So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer.

¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹And Herod with

his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid

clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹²And Herod and Pilate became friends with each

other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Readings for Other References in Tonight's "Sacrifice" Stanzas (ESV)

Philippians 2:5-7

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 made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Genesis 2:7

⁷Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Psalms 144:1-4, 7-8

¹Blessèd be the LORD, my rock,
who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle;
²he is my steadfast love and my fortress,
my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield and he in whom I take refuge,
who subdues peoples under me.
³O LORD, what is man that you regard him, or the son of man that you think of him?
⁴Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow.
⁷Stretch out your hand from on high;
rescue me and deliver me from the many waters, from the hand of foreigners,
⁸whose mouths speak lies and whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

Ezekiel 11:17-20

¹⁷“Thus says the Lord GOD: I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.” ¹⁸And when they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. ¹⁹And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God.”

Genesis 8:6-12

⁶At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made ⁷and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. ⁹But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. ¹⁰He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. ¹¹And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. ¹²Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

LSB 451

This hymn is inspired by Herbert's "The Sacrifice,"
especially stanza 2: "Was there ever grief like His?"



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Sermon ***“They Condemn Me With That Same Adam-Given Breath”***
(see handout)

Confession of Faith (adapted from the Apostles’ Creed)

First Nations Version

Our Father and Creator, the One Above Us All,
made all things in the world above and the earth below.

Jesus, his special born Son,
was fathered by the Holy Spirit
and was born into this world through a virgin named Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, a ruler of the Roman people,
who had him nailed to a tree pole, the cross, where he bled to death.
He was buried and then went down to the world of the dead.
On the third day he came back to life, never to die again.
He returned to his Father in the world above
and sat down at his powerful right hand.
One day he will return to this earth to make the final decision
about the eternity of the living and the dead.

After he went to the world above,
Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to us from the Father,
to live in and through us.
There is only one holy and world-wide group of believers in Jesus
—a Sacred Family called his Church.
All of the Holy Spirit’s holy people sit together equally in this Family
and share his Sacred Food at his table.
He has forgiven us and set us free from all of our broken ways,
and all who trust in him, even though they cross over to death,
will be brought back to life again,
to a life that will never end. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Just as I Am, without One Plea

LSB 570, sts. 1,3,5

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a

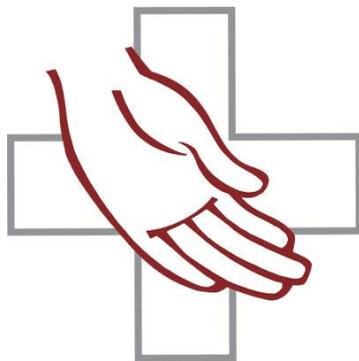


blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

- 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



Prayers of the Church

based on Langston Hughes' poem "Prayer [2]"

P: Gather up
in the arms of your mercy

**C: The sick, the depraved
The desperate, the tired,**

P: All the scum
of our weary city.
Gather up

C: In the arms of your mercy.

P: Gather up

C: In the arms of your love—

P: Those who expect

C: No love from above.

P: For them—for us—

C: We pray now.

Pastor then offers the Prayers of the Church

* Jesus reached out to people considered by others to be "scum". We reach out to all people. And we ourselves may even feel like "scum" sometimes. But look at how God responds with love.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Benediction (Blessing)

Colossians 1:19-20

P: God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Jesus Christ, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross. You are reconciled to God the Father, through the work of God the Son, and kept in this faith by God the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Announcements

Acknowledgements

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