

LENT MIDWEEK - MARCH 15th, 2023

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please sign the guest register in the entry as you leave the church today.

TODAY'S SERVICE

March 15th, 2023

Speaker: Pastor Matthew Ude

Pianist:

Lila Brown

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PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 107:31-43

³¹ Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the LORD *for* His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men! ³² Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people, And praise Him in the company of the elders. ³³ He turns rivers into a wilderness, And the watersprings into dry ground; ³⁴ A fruitful land into barrenness, For the wickedness of those who dwell in it. ³⁵ He turns a wilderness into pools of water, And dry land into watersprings.³⁶ There He makes the hungry dwell, That they may establish a city for a dwelling place, ³⁷ And sow fields and plant vineyards, That they may yield a fruitful harvest. ³⁸ He also blesses them, and they multiply greatly; And He does not let their cattle decrease. ³⁹ When they are diminished and brought low Through oppression, affliction, and sorrow, ⁴⁰ He pours contempt on princes, And causes them to wander in the wilderness where there is no way; ⁴¹ Yet He sets the poor on high, far from affliction, And makes their families like a flock. ⁴² The righteous see *it* and rejoice, And all iniquity stops its mouth. ⁴³ Whoever *is* wise will observe these things, And they will understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#142 "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

by Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676

I. A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of all men bearing;
And laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing!
Goes patient on, grow weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer;
Bears shame and stripes, and wounds and death,
Anguish and mockery, and saith,
"Willing all this I suffer."

3. "Yea, Father, yea, most willinglyI'll bear what Thou commandest;

My will conforms to Thy decree, I do what Thou demandest." O wondrous Love, what hast Thou done! The Father offers up His Son! The Son, content, descendeth! O Love, how strong Thou art to save! Thou beddest Him within the grave Whose word the mountains rendeth.

5. Of death I am no more afraid,
New life from Thee is flowing;
Thy cross affords me cooling shade
When noonday's sun is glowing.
When by my grief I am opprest,
On Thee my weary soul shall rest
Serenely as on pillows.
Thou art my Anchor when by woe
My bark is driven to and fro
On trouble's surging billows.

INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

CONFESSION OF SINS

- p God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
- c If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanses us from all sin.
- p If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- c If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- all Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful

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mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen

- p Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- c 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

PRAYER

Let us pray ... O Lord, spare us from the folly of wickedness and the pursuit of evil. Make us rejoice in your saving acts that we who have been redeemed by your Son may abound in works of faith, hope, and love; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forevermore. Amen.

PASSION READING #4: PETER AND JUDAS MATTHEW 26:69-27:10

Peter Denies Jesus, and Weeps Bitterly

⁶⁹Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee."

⁷⁰ But he denied it before *them* all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying."

⁷¹ And when he had gone out to the gateway, another *girl* saw him and said to those *who were* there, "This *fellow* also was with Jesus of Nazareth."

^{7²} But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!"

⁷³ And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are *one* of them, for your speech betrays you."

⁷⁴ Then he began to curse and swear, *saying*, "I do not know the Man!"

Immediately a rooster crowed. 75 And Peter remembered

the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

Jesus Handed Over to Pontius Pilate

Matthew 27 When morning came, all the chief priests and elders of the people plotted against Jesus to put Him to death. ² And when they had bound Him, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pontius^[1] Pilate the governor.

Judas Hangs Himself

³Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴ saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!"

⁵ Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself.

⁶ But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." ⁷ And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. ⁸ Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. ⁹ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, ¹⁰ and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."^[k]

Psalm of The Day: Psalm 107:1-3,8-15

- P Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is* good!
- C For His mercy *endures* forever.
- P Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
- C Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
- P And gathered out of the lands,
- C From the east and from the west, From the north and from the south.
- P Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the LORD *for* His goodness,
- C And *for* His wonderful works to the children of men!
- P For He satisfies the longing soul,

- C And fills the hungry soul with goodness.
- P Those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death,
- C Bound in affliction and irons--
- P Because they rebelled against the words of God,
- C And despised the counsel of the Most High,
- P Therefore He brought down their heart with labor;
- C They fell down, and *there was* none to help.
- P Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
- C And He saved them out of their distresses.
- P He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
- C And broke their chains in pieces.
- P Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the LORD *for* His goodness,
- C And *for* His wonderful works to the children of men!

#723 What Wondrous Love Is This

Author: Anonymous

I What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I AM, While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, While millions join the theme, I will sing. 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll sing His love for me, And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, And through eternity I'll sing on.

SERMON

John 18:1-11 When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. ² And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. ³ Then Judas, having received a detachment *of troops*, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. ⁴ Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" ⁵ They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am *He.*" And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. ⁶ Now when He said to them, "I am *He*," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷ Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am *He.* Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," ⁹ that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none." ¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. ¹¹ So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

MISUNDERSTOOD

Peter fails because he cannot imagine the depth of God's love.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
Amen

#554 Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow"

by Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676

I. Now rest beneath night's shadowThe woodland, field, and meadow,The world in slumber lies;But Thou, my heart, awake thee,To prayer and song betake thee;Let praise to thy Creator rise.

2. The radiant sun hath vanished,
His golden rays are banished
By night, the foe of day;
But Christ, the Sun of gladness,
Dispelling all my sadness,
Within my heart holds constant sway.

The rule of day is over
 And shining jewels cover
 The heaven's boundless blue.
 Thus I shall shine in heaven,
 Where crowns of gold are given
 To all who faithful prove and true.

4. To rest my body hasteth,
Aside its garments casteth,
Types of mortality;
These I put off and ponder
How Christ will give me yonder
A robe of glorious majesty.

5. Lord Jesus, who dost love me, Oh, spread Thy wings above me And shield me from alarm! Though evil would assail me, Thy mercy will not fail me: I rest in Thy protecting arm. 6. My loved ones, rest securely,For God this night will surelyFrom peril guard your heads.Sweet slumbers may He send youAnd bid His hosts attend youAnd through the night watch o'er your beds.



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