

Midweek Lenten Service

April 6, 7:30 PM



The Trial: A Place of God's Will

As We Gather

Our Lord knows how changeable our wills are and how vast are the forces that fight against us as His people; therefore, He teaches us to pray, "Thy will be done." As Luther explains in the Large Catechism, "Just as God's name is holy in itself, and we still pray that it be holy among us, so also His kingdom comes of itself, without our prayer. Yet we still pray that it may come to us, that is, triumph among us and with us, so that we may be a part of those people among whom His name is hallowed and His kingdom prospers" (Part III, The Second Petition, p. 414). This evening, we meditate upon the trial of Jesus, seeing in this place the trials of the world that fight against God's will and yet also seeing the work of God, bringing salvation to the world and making the place of trial a place of His eternal will.

HYMN "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken"

LSB 439, Verses 1 & 2



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.

LENTEN SENTENCES

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Pastor: Rend your hearts and not your garments.

People: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: Jesus said, "If any man would come after Me,

People: let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me."

Pastor: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

People: He was bruised for our iniquities.

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: the name of the Lord is to be praised.

PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, our sinful hearts have taught us to fear Your will and to exchange the pleasant lies we tell ourselves for the sturdy truth of Your Word. Give us faith in Your will and help us to know the triumph of Your mercy toward those who deserved only judgment, condemnation, and death. Help us to see how all things worked according to Your saving plan in Christ our Savior, and give us hope to continue to believe You are working good in every circumstance and situation of our mortal lives. Help us to trust You in the daily routines of life just as we trust You for eternal life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

READING

Romans 7:14–25

¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

PSALM

Psalm 119:89–96, responsively by verse

Pastor: Forever, O Lord, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

People: **Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

Pastor: By Your appointment they stand this day, for all things are Your servants.

People: **If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.**

Pastor: I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have given me life.

People: **I am Yours; save me, for I have sought Your precepts.**

Pastor: The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider Your testimonies.

People: **I have seen a limit to all perfection, but Your commandment is exceedingly broad. 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.**

READING

Luke 22:63–23:25

The congregation will read in unison the text in bold type and marked by the symbol ☒

NARRATOR: Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking Him as they beat Him. They also blindfolded Him and kept asking Him,

☒ **Prophecy! Who is it that struck You?**

NARRATOR: And they said many other things against Him, blaspheming Him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led Him away to their council, and they said,

☒ **If you are the Christ, tell us.**

NARRATOR: But He said to them,

JESUS: If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.

NARRATOR: So they all said,

☒ **Are you the Son of God, then?**

NARRATOR: And He said to them,

JESUS: You say that I am.

NARRATOR: Then they said,

☒ **What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from His own lips.**

NARRATOR: Then the whole company of them arose and brought Him before Pilate. And they began to accuse Him, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS & SCRIBES: We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a king.

NARRATOR: And Pilate asked Him,

PILATE: Are you the King of the Jews?

NARRATOR: And He answered him,

JESUS: You have said so.

NARRATOR: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

PILATE: I find no guilt in this man.

4 NARRATOR: But they were urgent, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS & SCRIBES: He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.

NARRATOR: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When 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. So he questioned Him at some length, but He made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing Him. And Herod with his soldiers treated Him with contempt and mocked Him.

Then, arraying Him in splendid clothing, he sent Him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

NARRATOR: Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them,

PILATE: You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining Him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against Him. Neither did Herod, for he sent Him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by Him. I will therefore punish and release Him.

NARRATOR: But they all cried out together,

✠ Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas

NARRATOR: —a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting,

✠ Crucify, crucify Him!

NARRATOR: A third time he said to them,

PILATE: Why, what evil has He done? I have found in Him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release Him.

NARRATOR: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that He should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.



HYMN

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

LSB 437, Verses 1,2,5



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

SERMON

The Trial: A Place of God's Will (Luke 22:63–23:25) Pastor Scott Henze

OFFERING

CONFESSION

Pastor: Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.

People: He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God.

Pastor: Take off the sandals from your feet,

People: for the place where you are standing is holy ground.

Pastor: Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!

People: She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast.

Pastor: Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips,

People: and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!

Pastor: But in the very place where it was said to them, "You are not my people,"
People: **there they will be called "sons of the living God."**

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
People: **You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

Pastor: Lord, open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light
People: **and from the power of Satan to God,**

Pastor: that they may receive forgiveness of sins
People: **and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Christ.**

Pastor: O Lord,
People: **have mercy upon us and forgive us all our sins.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: **Amen.**

HYMN "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" *LSB 780 (Repeat)*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
When I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O
Lord, hear my prayer; Come and lis - ten to me. O

Text and tune: © 1982 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community, France, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828

PRAYER

Pastor: I desire then that in every place the people should pray,

People: lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling.

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

People: let my cry come to You.

Pastor: In the day of trouble I call upon You,

People: and You answer me.

Pastor: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

People: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Pastor: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

People: listen to my plea for grace.

Pastor: O Lord, our God, we acknowledge Your great goodness toward us and praise You for the mercy and grace that our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, and our hearts have known.

People: We sincerely repent of the sins of this day and those in the past. Pardon our offenses, correct and reform what is lacking in us, and help us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Inscribe Your Law upon our hearts, and equip us to serve You with holy and blameless lives. May each day remind us of the coming of the night when no one can work.

People: In the emptiness of this present age keep us united by a living faith through the power of Your Holy Spirit with Him who is the resurrection and the life, that we may escape the eternal bitter pains of condemnation.

Pastor: By Your Holy Spirit bless the preaching of Your Word and the administration of Your Sacraments.

People: Preserve these gifts to us and to all Christians. Guard and protect us from all dangers to body and soul.

Pastor: Grant that we may with faithful perseverance receive from You our sorrows as well as our joys, knowing that health and sickness, riches and poverty, and all things come by permission of Your fatherly hand.

People: **Keep us this day under Your protective care and preserve us, securely trusting in Your everlasting goodness and love, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

HYMN **Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"**

LSB 440 vs 1,5



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
5 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science grieve me,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!

Pastor: Help us, O Lord, this night

People: **to live without sin.**

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Have mercy on us.**

Pastor: O Lord, let Your mercy be on us.

People: **As our trust is in You.**

Pastor: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: **And let our cry come to You.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who at this hour was called before the governing authorities, give us Your Holy Spirit that we may testify faithfully in our neighborhoods, in the marketplace, and before the governing authorities of this world. Help us to see Your good and gracious will even amid all the changes and chances of this mortal life, knowing with confidence that all things work for the good of those whom You have so graciously called to faith; whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God, now and fore

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

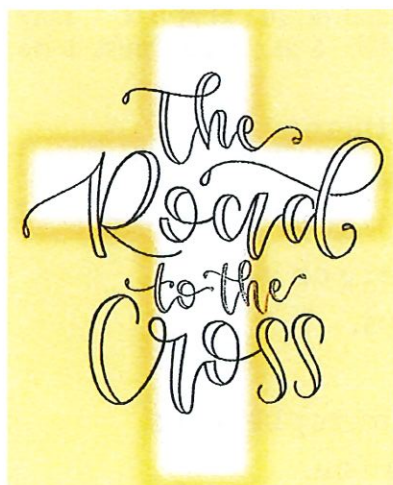
People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.

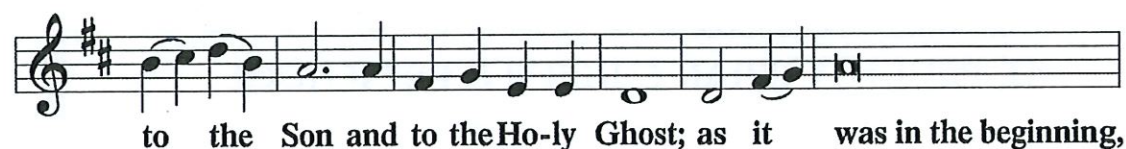
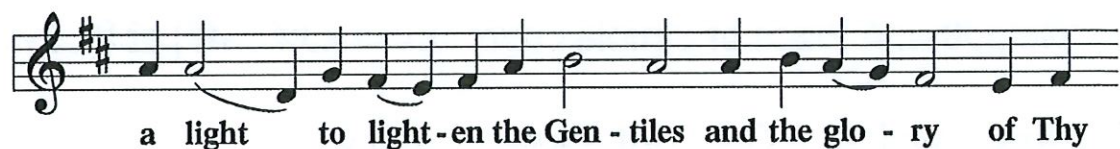
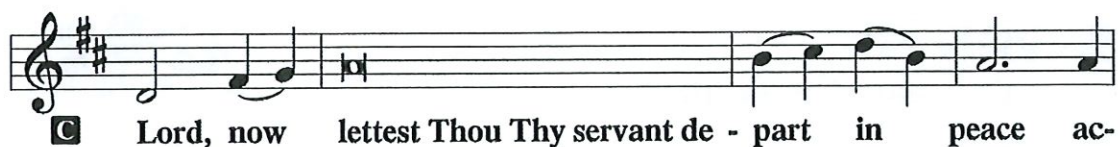
People: Amen.

ANTIPHON

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.



Nunc Dimittis



All worshipers are asked to depart in silence.



HOLY WEEK *Worship Services*

Holy Week Schedule

**April 9 - Children's Easter Celebration
& Egg Hunt at 10 AM.**

April 10 - Palm Sunday

**April 14 - Holy Thursday: "The Last Supper: A Place of Forgiveness"
Luke 22:7-23) at 7:30 PM**

April 15 - Good Friday: (Two Services)

- 12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross at Peace Mound Park located at 1300 Three Village Road in Weston.
- 7:30 PM - "Golgotha: A Place of Simple Love" (Luke 23:44-49) at St. Paul.

**April 17 - The Resurrection of Our Lord -Easter Sunday;
7:00 AM Outdoor Sunrise Service and the Resurrection Run
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Festival Communion Service with Special Music**

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor
Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director
580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326
Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org
www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:45 AM for children & youth
Adult Bible Study at 10:00 AM each Sunday