

GUIDED
to the
CROSS

Week 5
**GUIDED TO
PERSEVERANCE**

Guided to Perseverance

Midweek Lent 5
March 20, 2024

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might ... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance. Ephesians 6:10, 18

AS WE GATHER

In this service for Week 5 of Lent, as we are drawn to Calvary to grow in perseverance. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of perseverance in the midst of strife in the name of Jesus, who endured the cross to the very end for us all.

Opening Hymn

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

LSB 685 vss 1,2



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.

Invocation and Call to Worship

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Jesus repeatedly told his disciples what lay ahead for him. It was the purpose for which he had come. Calling himself the Son of Man, a title for the Messiah from the prophet Daniel, Jesus said, "The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day" (Matthew 17:22-23).

C **Teach us, Lord, to follow you in faithfulness.**

P As the time drew near for Jesus to finish his earthly ministry and to be taken up to heaven, he turned to Jerusalem and to the cross: "When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." (Luke 9:51)

C **When our days are difficult and challenging, Lord Jesus, help us to keep our focus on you.**

P As Jesus began to take his final steps toward the cross, he said, "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name" (John 12:27-28).

C **Jesus, in faithfulness, you took up the cross for the sake of our salvation. Set your cross before us to guide us to persevere in faith.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us confess our sins to God, and ask his forgiveness.

C Almighty God, we are called to persevere in our obedience to your will and your ways, but instead we sin against you. We do not walk in your ways or love others as we should. We are more interested in fulfilling our own desires than serving others and being faithful to your Word. Have mercy on us, and forgive our sins.

P God, in his mercy, sent his Son to deliver us. Jesus faithfully obeyed his Father's will and suffered and died to save us. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C Lord, lead us to walk faithfully in your ways.

Prayer of the Day

Lord Jesus, you set your face toward Jerusalem as the time of your death drew near. You did not turn away from what lay ahead. In Gethsemane, you prayed that your Father's will, not yours, would be done. You were faithful to your purpose and obedient to your heavenly Father, obedient to the point of death on a cross. Lead us by your Spirit to be faithful to you in our thoughts, words and actions, so that our lives bear witness to your steadfast love. Amen.

Hymn**“Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus”****LSB 531 vss 1,2**

1 Hail, Thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, Thou Gal - i -
 2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, All our sins on



le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us; Thou didst
 Thee were laid; By al - might - y love a - noint - ed, Thou hast



free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, Thou u - ni - ver - sal Sav - ior,
 full a - tone - ment made. All Thy peo - ple are for - giv - en



Bear - er of our sin and shame! By Thy mer - it
 Through the vir - tue of Thy blood; O - pened is the



we find fa - vor: Life is giv - en through Thy name.
 gate of heav - en, Rec - on - ciled are we with God.

Old Testament Reading,

Micah 6:7-8

“Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Epistle Reading,

Ephesians 6:13-20

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Gospel Reading,

John 19:16-22

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

Sermon Hymn At The Cross (Love Ran Red) Vs 1, chorus, Vs 2, Chorus



1. There's a place where mer - cy reigns and nev - er dies,
2. There's a place where sin and shame are pow - er - less,



there's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide;
where my heart has peace with God and for - give - ness;



Where all the love I've ev - er found comes like a flood, comes flow - ing down.
Where all the love I've ev - er found comes like a flood, comes flow - ing down.



At the cross, at the cross, I sur - ren - der my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in



awe of You. Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white. I owe all to You, I owe



all to You, Je - sus.

Sermon

Guided to Perseverance

Pastor Scott Henze

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Offering

Prayers

P Lord Jesus, you set your face toward Jerusalem, where you would take up your cross for the sake of our salvation. In faithful obedience to your heavenly Father, you suffered and died to save us. Faithful Lord, as we follow you,

C Set your cross before us to guide us in faithfulness.

P Lord Jesus, when we face difficult days in life, when we are filled with doubt or fear, strengthen us to persevere in faith and to hold fast to the hope and peace that you have brought us. Faithful Lord, as we follow you,

C Set your cross before us to guide us in faithfulness.

P Lord Jesus, be present with those who face illness, pain and grief, especially and those we name in our hearts. Comfort them through the promises of your Word, and keep them strong in faith. Guide us as we serve them in love. Faithful Lord, as we follow you,

C Set your cross before us to guide us in faithfulness.

P Lord Jesus, keep us steadfast in the study of your Word so that we will grow in faith, ready to defend the hope that is ours and to be your witnesses each day. Give us opportunities to speak to others about your redeeming death and triumphant resurrection, so that in the power of the Spirit, they, too, may come to follow you in faith. Faithful Lord, as we follow you,

C Set your cross before us to guide us in faithfulness.

P Lord Jesus, faithful to your purpose and to your Father's will, you suffered and died to save us. Keep us steadfast in faith, walking in your footsteps, until we live in your presence forever. Faithful Lord, as we follow you,

C Set your cross before us to guide us in faithfulness.

P Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

Blessing

(Psalm 31:5; Numbers 6:24-26)

P Into your hand I commit my spirit;

C **You have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

LSB 688 vss 1,5



1 "Come, fol - low Me," the Sav - ior spake, "All in My
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your-selves, the world for-sake,
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,

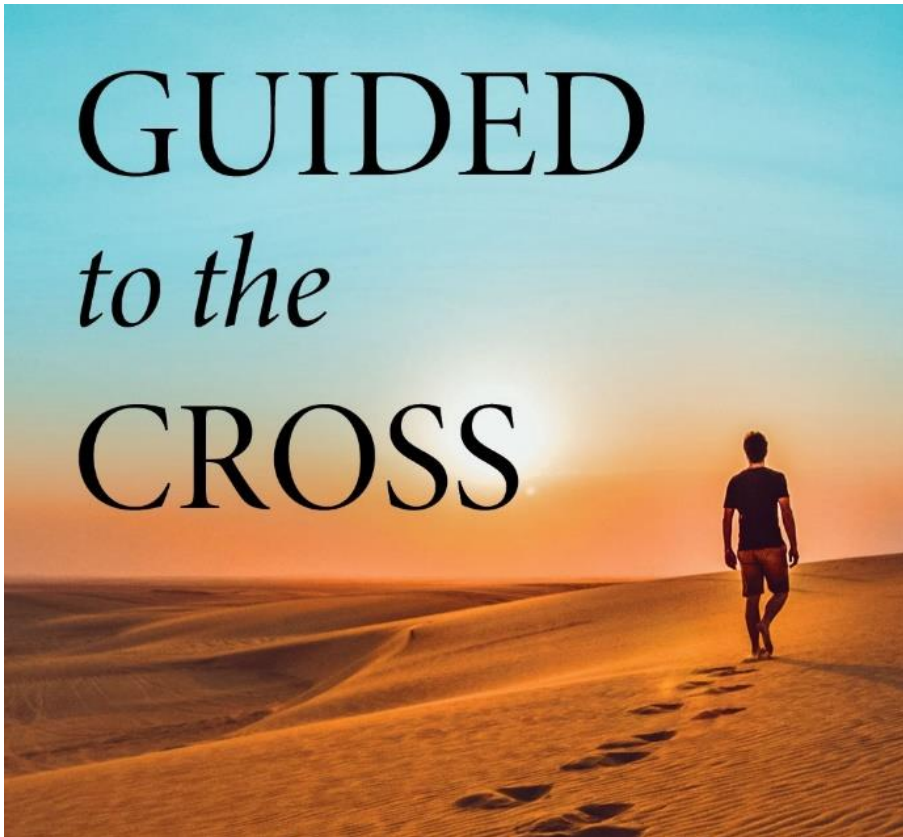


O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.
bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Holy Week Worship Schedule



March 28th 2024

March 29th 2024

March 29th 2024

March 31st 2024

March 31st 2024

Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross at 12:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service of Darkness at 7:30 p.m.

Outdoor Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.

Easter Services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties. Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

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 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving