

# Questioned For Christ

Mid Week Lenten Service  
March 18, 7:30 PM

“A Question of Innocence”

*“When he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself □to him who judges justly.” 1 Peter 2:23*

## Opening Hymn

## “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” LSB 435 Verses 1 & 2



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined  
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain  
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -  
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.  
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.

## Opening Verses

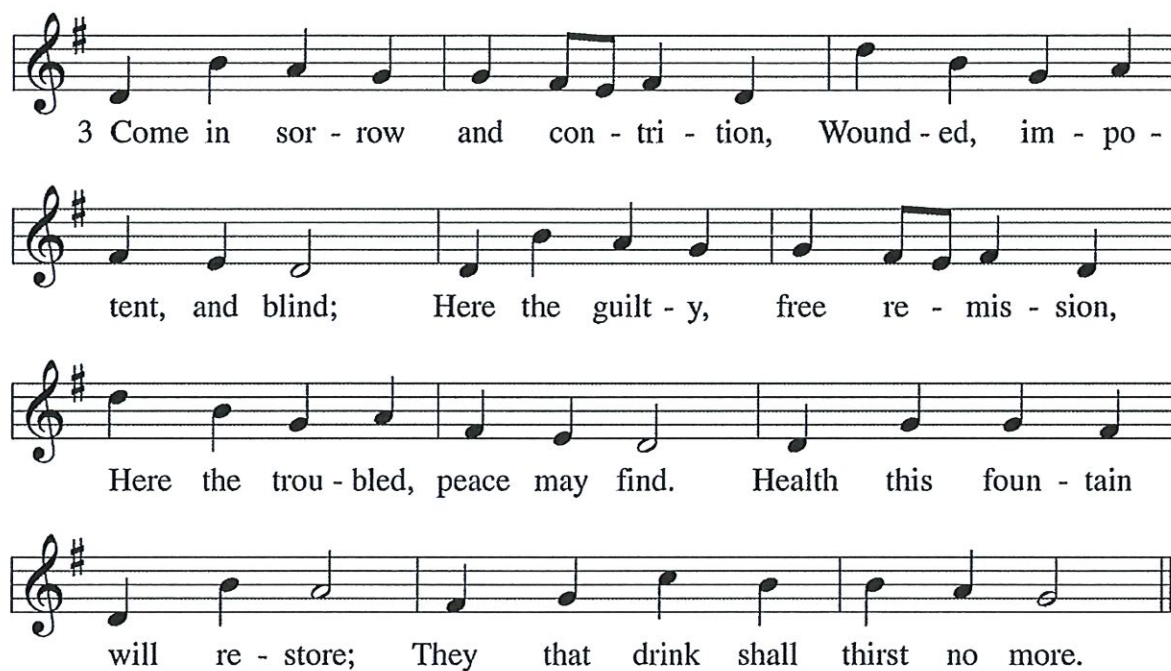
- P** *For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.*
- C** **He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.**
- P** *When he was reviled, he did not revile in return;*
- C** **When he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.**
- P** *He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,*
- C** **That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**



## Confession and Absolution

- P** *Let us confess our sins to God, asking his forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who suffered for us.*
- C** **Almighty God, I do not often follow in my Savior's steps. I do not walk in love as he walked. I do not put the interests of others ahead of my own interests. I sin against you in my thoughts, words and actions. For the sake of Jesus, who carried my sins to the cross, have mercy and forgive me**
- P** *Jesus suffered for us. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. Because of Jesus' innocent suffering and death, you have been declared not guilty. By Jesus' command, 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 Jesus, help us to follow you and to entrust our lives, as you did, into the hands of our heavenly Father.**

## Hymn "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" LSB 435 verse 3



3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -  
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,  
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain  
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.

## Prayer of the Day

- P** *Our heavenly Father, we often pray, "Hallowed be thy name," but often we forget to hallow your name by our actions as well as by our words. Help us to keep your name holy in everything we do and in the attitudes that accompany our actions. When we are falsely accused, enable us to put our trust in you. Let our lives give evidence of your love. Let our actions match our confession of faith. Help us to remember that your Son was falsely accused and ridiculed by sinful men. Make us mindful that Jesus was cursed that we might be blessed and punished that we might be pardoned. Then, remembering, help us to "bless those who persecute us and to pray for those that mistreat us." In Jesus' name. Amen.*

## First Reading

*Luke 8:1-3*

Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks Be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Matthew 10:21-31*

Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household. So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks Be to God.**



**Drama**        *“The Interrogation of Mary Magdalene”*

**Sermon**       *“A Question of Innocence”*

*Pastor Scott Henze*

## **Prayers**

*Each petition ends with the following response:*

**P**        *Jesus, innocent Son of God,*

**C**        **In you we have forgiveness and life.**

**P**        *Lord Jesus, when you were reviled and threatened, you did not answer in kind, but entrusted yourself into your Father’s care. Jesus, innocent Son of God,*

**C**        **In you we have forgiveness and life.**

**P**        *Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your body to the cross. By your wounds we are healed. Jesus, innocent Son of God,*

**C**        **In you we have forgiveness and life.**

**P**        *Lord Jesus, help us by your Spirit to entrust ourselves into the Father’s care. Teach us to respond with forgiveness even to those who hurt us. Jesus, innocent Son of God,*

**C**        **In you we have forgiveness and life.**

**P**        *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.**

## Benediction

- P** *Jesus said to go into the world, but we are not of the world.*
- C** **We know the world can see the difference, the difference of faith in Christ, in us.**
- P** *Use that difference as a witness to God's Word of Law and Gospel in a lawless and loveless world. Shine as lights in the world.*
- C** **We go in confidence, and even though the world may mock or falsely accuse us, we know God's grace goes with us.**
- P** *Go in the name of the Father and the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn      *"I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus"*      LSB 729 Verses 1,6



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
6 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus; Nev - er let me fall.



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
I am trust - ing Thee for - ev - er And for all.