

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



Lent Midweek Evening
February 21, 2024

A Ransom For Many

... is the theme for our Lenten services this year. It is taken from this Scripture:

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45

These words of Jesus give us the reason, the center, of the story, of his suffering and death. Many terrible things happened to Jesus: injustice, shame, physical suffering. But the reason for all of it is that Jesus is giving his life for us. Each evening, we will meditate on a portion of the story of Christ's suffering and death as told in the Gospel of Mark. What we will hear is how Jesus gave his life as a ransom for us.

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Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]; [Ephesians 4:4–6]; Romans 6:4

L In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

L I will go to the altar of God,
C **to God my exceeding joy.**

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

L Let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Kneel/Sit

Confession of Sins

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

L God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
C **Amen.**

L Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
C **Yes.**

L Let it be done for you as you believe.

Absolution

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Sit

Reading

Philippians 3:3–14

³For we are the real circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— ⁴though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss

for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading of the Passion of Jesus According to St. Mark

Mark 14:1–25

¹It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, ²for they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.”

³And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. ⁴There were some who said to themselves indignantly, “Why was the ointment wasted like that? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. ⁹And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”

¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

¹²And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, “Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the

Passover?" ¹³And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, ¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." ¹⁶And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" ²⁰He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

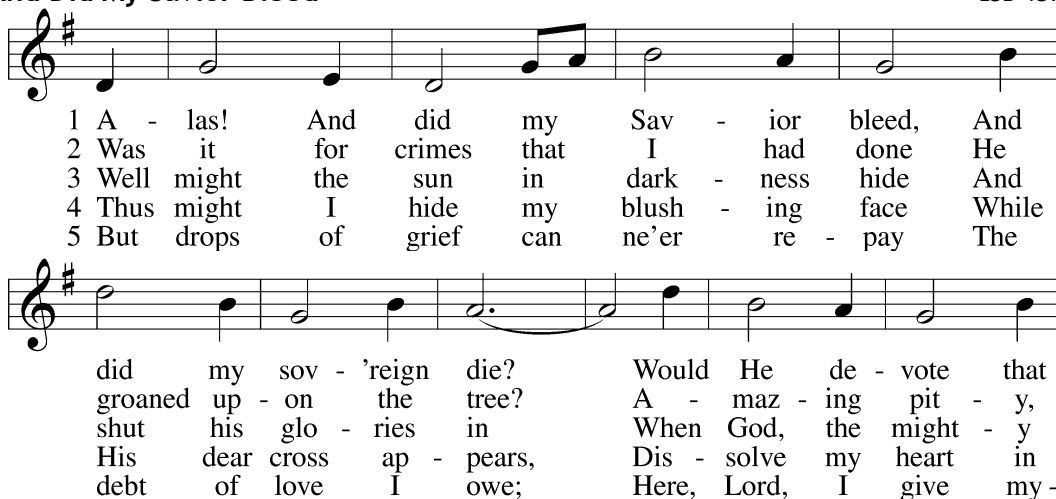
²²And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**


Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

LSB 437



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
 2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And
 4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While
 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,
 shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y
 His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in
 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!
 mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.
 thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.
 self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Catechism (During these Lenten services we will review Luther's Small Catechism's sections on the Creed and Holy Baptism.)

The First Article

Creation

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

God Loved the World So That He Gave

LSB 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all
 5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus saves your



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 soul from death; That is the firm - est ground of faith.

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opfer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Responsive Prayer

L Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
 C have mercy and hear us.

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.

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

- L Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
 C **and grant us Your salvation.**
 L Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness;
 C **and let Your saints shout for joy.**
 L Lord, keep this nation under Your care,
 C **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
 L Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
 C **for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.**
 L Let the peoples praise You, O God;
 C **let all the peoples praise You!**
 L For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
 C **and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.**
 L Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 C **and renew a right spirit within me.**
 L Hear my prayer, O Lord;
 C **let my cry come to You.**
- L Let us pray.
 O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Additional petitions and prayers may be offered here.

Evening

- C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Benedicamus

- L Let us bless the Lord.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

Blessing

- L The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C Amen.

The Day Thou Gavest

LSB 886

1 The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
2 We thank Thee that Thy Church, un-sleep-ing
3 As o'er each con-ti-nent and is-land
4 The sun, that bids us rest, is wak-ing
5 So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall nev-er,

The dark-ness falls at Thy be-hest;
While earth rolls on-ward in-to light,
The dawn leads on-an-oth-er day,
Thy saints be-neath the west-ern skies,
Like earth's proud em-pires, pass a-way;

To Thee our morn-ing hymns as-cend-ed,
Through all the world her watch is keep-ing,
The voice of prayer is nev-er si-lent,
And hour by hour, as day is break-ing,
Thy king-dom stands and grows for-ev-er,

Thy praise shall sanc-ti-fy our rest.
And nev-er rests by day or night.
Nor dies the strain of praise a-way.
Fresh hymns of thank-ful praise a-rise.
Till all Thy crea-tures own Thy sway.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–93, alt.

Tune: Clement C. Scholefield, 1839–1904

Text and tune: Public domain

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LENTEN SERVICES

Lent Midweek Services Wednesdays -- 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Theme: A Ransom For Many – The story of Christ's suffering and death
as told in the Gospel of Mark, chapters 14-15.

2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20



Palm Sunday, March 24, 10 a.m.

Maundy Thursday March 28, 7 p.m. with Lord's Supper

Good Friday, March 29, 7 p.m.

Easter Sunrise, March 31, 7 a.m.

Resurrection of Our Lord Festival Worship, March 31, 10 a.m. with Lord's Supper