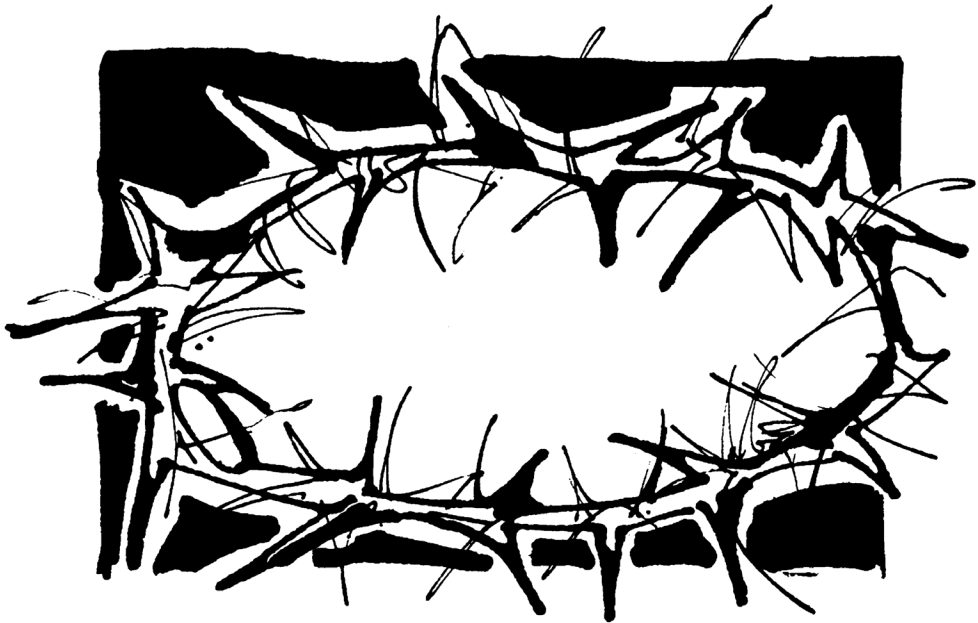


St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



LENTEN SERVICE

Lent Midweek Evening
March 20, 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.

Lent Midweek

March 20, 2024

Stand

616 Baptismal Waters Cover Me

LSB 616



1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me As I ap -
2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, His bod - y
3 Lord, may Your wound - ed hand im - part Your heal - ing
4 From Your own mouth comes forth a word; Your shep - herd
5 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me; Christ's wound - ed



proach on bend - ed knee; My Fa - ther's mer - cy
bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore Him
to my bro - ken heart; Your love a - lone can
speaks, but You are heard; Through him Your hand now
hand has set me free. Held in my Fa - ther's



here I plead, For griev - ous sins of thought and deed.
all my sin, My dark - est se - crets from with - in.
form in me A heart that serves You joy - ful - ly.
stretch - es out, For - giv - ing sin, de - stroy - ing doubt.
strong em - brace, With joy I praise Him for His grace.

Text: Kurt E. Reinhardt, 1969 Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742
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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 One 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.

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.**
- P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
- C **Amen.**
- P Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?
- C **Yes.**
- P 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

Colossians 1:15–23

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

²¹And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and

blameless and above reproach before him, ²³if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Mark 15:20–47

²⁰And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

²¹And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²²And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. ²⁵And it was the third hour when they crucified him. ²⁶And the inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” ²⁷And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!” ³¹So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

³³And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ³⁵And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.” ³⁶And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.” ³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.

⁴¹When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴²And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the Council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and

asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. ⁴⁵And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. ⁴⁶And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
 2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
 Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
 But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
 Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
 Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
 How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
 This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
 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.*)

Holy Baptism

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5–8)

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans, chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4)

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440



4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.
5 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science grieve me,
6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!
That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Responsive Prayer

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

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

L O Lord,
C **have mercy.**
L O Christ,
C **have mercy.**
L O Lord,
C **have mercy.**

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.

Versicles

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C let my cry come to You.

- L In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
 C **for You answer me.**
 L Hide Your face from my sins,
 C **and blot out all my iniquities.**
 L Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 C **and renew a right spirit within me.**
 L Cast me not away from Your presence,
 C **and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**
 L Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
 C **my lips will praise You.**
 L Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
 C **Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**
 L Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
 C **listen to my plea for grace.**
- L Let us pray.
 Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we
 may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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. Amen.

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.**

886 The Day Thou Gavest

LSB 886



1 The day Thou gavest, Lord, is end - ed,
 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

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Holy Week

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