

ST. JOHN'S AND PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCHES  
**HOME WORSHIP SERVICE BULLETIN**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020**

*Due to the precautions involving the spreading of COVID-19, services at our churches have been suspended. In place of these services, you are encouraged to use this bulletin and the recorded sermon and hymn mp3s for your home worship.*

**Opening Hymn 155 "Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing"**

*(Play the mp3 tune for 153)*

1. Sweet the moments, rich in blessing, Which before the cross we spend,  
Life and health and peace possessing From the sinner's dying Friend.
2. Here we rest in wonder, viewing All our sins on Jesus laid;  
Here we see redemption flowing From the sacrifice He made.
3. Here we find the dawn of heaven While upon the cross we gaze,  
See our trespasses forgiven, And our songs of triumph raise.
4. Oh, that, near the cross abiding, We may to the Savior cleave,  
Naught with Him our hearts dividing, All for Him content to leave!
5. Lord, in loving contemplation Fix our hearts and eyes on Thee  
Till we taste Thy full salvation And we unveiled glory see.

**Reader:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Group: Amen.**

**R:** Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

**All: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.**

**R:** Rejoice, dear repentant sinners! Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who was sacrificed to take away the sin of the world. Because of His atoning sacrifice on the cross of Calvary, we are forgiven.

**G: The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. Amen.**

**Prayer**

**R:** Gracious Redeemer, grant Your blessing to us during this Lenten season. Let us see the pains of body and agony of soul that were Yours, and help us to realize that our sins were also responsible for them. May we by faith always see You as our Substitute, Who bore the burden of our sin and guilt perfectly, so that we now stand pure and sinless in God's holy eyes.

**G: Hear us, for Your love's sake. Amen.**

**The Passion History Reading – Part V -- The Humble King**

*(read by the Reader, or take turns with family members)*

So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. Then the soldiers of the governor led Jesus away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together and gathered around Him the whole garrison.

And they stripped Him, and put a scarlet robe on Him, clothing Him in purple. And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and worshiped Him, mocking Him.

They saluted Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head with it. And they struck Him with their hands. And when they had mocked Him, Pilate went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know I find no fault in Him." Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.

And Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!" Therefore when the chief priests and



officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."

Therefore when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid; and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" Jesus answered, "You

could have no power at all against Me, unless it had been given to you from above; therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."

When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha.

Now it was the preparation day of the Passover; and about the sixth hour (about 6:00am; Roman time). And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!"

Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

And so Pilate delivered Jesus to their will. He delivered Him to them to be crucified. The soldiers took Jesus' purple robe off Him, and put His own clothes on Him. They took Jesus, and led Him out to crucify Him; and He, bearing His cross, went out. Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming from the country. On him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus.

And a great multitude of the people followed Him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children, for indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts which never nursed'. Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us', and to the hills, 'Cover us'. For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And they brought Him to the place called Calvary, in Hebrew Golgatha, which is the Place of a Skull. And when they had come there, they gave Him sour wine mingled with myrrh and gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink; He did not take it.

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH - ALL**

*(from the Formula of Concord – on Justification by Faith)*

"We unanimously believe, teach, and confess the following about the righteousness of faith before God. A poor sinful person is justified before God, that is, absolved and declared free and exempt from all his sins and from the sentence of well-deserved condemnation, and is adopted into sonship and inheritance of eternal life, without any merit or worth of his own. This happens without any preceding, present, or subsequent works, out of pure grace, because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Christ alone. His obedience is credited to us for righteousness. These treasures are brought to us by the Holy Spirit in the promise of the holy Gospel. Faith alone is the only means through which we lay hold on, accept, apply, and take them for

ourselves. This faith is God's gift, by which we truly learn to know Christ, our Redeemer, in the Word of the Gospel and trust in Him. We trust that for the sake of His obedience alone we have the forgiveness of sins by grace, are regarded as godly and righteous by God the Father, and are eternally saved."

#### **Sermon**

*Play the audio recording Pastor Naumann sent with this service bulletin.*

Matthew 2:13-20 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." 14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: 18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more." 19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead."

Theme: "Herod: The King Who Couldn't Kill Jesus"

#### **Prayers**

**Lord God, give me strength and willingness to say with your Son, "Not my will but your will be done." Make me cheerful and trusting to bear whatever you let happen to me. From your hand I am willing to take the good and the bad, the joy and the sorrow. Keep me from sin, gracious Father, and comfort me with your kind Word.**

**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.**

**I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

**Reader:**

May the blessing of the eternal God be upon us: his light to guide us, his presence to shelter us, his peace to unite us.

**Group: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn 179 "On My Heart Imprint Thine Image"**

*(Play the mp3 tune for 179)*

1. On my heart imprint Thine image,

Blessed Jesus, King of Grace,

That life's riches, cares, and pleasures

Have no power Thee to efface.

This the superscription be:

Jesus, crucified for me,

Is my life, my hope's Foundation,

And my Glory and Salvation.

Amen.