

Lenten Midweek Service

Wednesday, March 20th

“Hear Our Penitential Cry”

Opening Hymn “In God, My Faithful God”

LSB 745

In God, my faithful God,
I trust when dark my road;
 Great woes may overtake me,
 Yet He will not forsake me.
My troubles He can alter;
His hand lets nothing falter.

My sins fill me with care,
Yet I will not despair.
 I build on Christ, who loves me;
 From this rock nothing moves me.
To Him I will surrender,
To Him, my soul’s defender.

If death my portion be,
It brings great gain to me;
 It speeds my life’s endeavor
 To live with Christ forever.
He gives me joy in sorrow,
Come death now or tomorrow.

O Jesus Christ, my Lord,
So meek in deed and word,
 You suffered death to save us
 Because Your love would have us
Be heirs of heav’nly gladness
When ends this life of sadness.

“So be it,” then, I say
With all my heart each day.
 Dear Lord, we all adore You,
 We sing for joy before You.
Guide us while here we wander
Until we praise You yonder.

Call to Worship

- P The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to examine our souls,
C For we have not only met temptation, we have felt its grip.
P The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to mend our ways,
C For we have not only committed sin, we have felt its sting.
P The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to rend our hearts,
C For we have not only witnessed forgiveness, we have felt its power. O come, let us worship the Lord!

The Passion of Our Lord: Calvary

- P O Lord, have mercy on us.
C Thanks be to God.

Response

- P Lord Jesus, we walk with You through the valley of the shadow of death.
C Let us find our life in You, O Lord.
P Banished from the Garden of Eden for our rebellion,
C We long for the garden of Paradise.
P O Lord, You are the Christ.
C Remember us in Your kingdom.
P We come to hear You speak of Your love for us.
C You have the words of eternal life. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 38

O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath! For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me. My wounds stink and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my sides are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart. O Lord, all my longing is before you; my sighing is not hidden from you. My heart throbs; my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me. My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my nearest kin stand far off. Those who seek my life lay their snares; those who seek my hurt speak of ruin and meditate treachery all day long. But I am like a deaf man; I do not hear, like a mute man who does not open his mouth. I have become like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes. But for you, O LORD, do I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer. For I said,

“Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!” For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever before me. I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin. But my foes are vigorous, they are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully. Those who render me evil for good accuse me because I follow after good. Do not forsake me, O LORD! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Hymn “O Christ, You Walked the Road”

LSB 424

O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand’ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation’s pow’r
And fought our ancient foe.

No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung’ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.

No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.

When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.

O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand’ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation’s hour
To fight our ancient foe.

Sermon

*Pastor Chris Vossler
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sanford*

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray:

God of all seasons, in Your pattern of things there is a time for keeping and a time for losing, a time for building up and a time for pulling down. In this season of Lent as we journey to the cross, help us to discern in our lives what we must lay down and what we must take up, what we must end and what we must begin. Give us grace to lead a disciplined life, in glad faithfulness and with the joy that comes from a closer walk with Christ.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn "Savior, When in Dust to Thee"

LSB 419

Savior, when in dust to Thee
Low we bow the_adoring knee;
When, repentant, to the skies
Scarce we lift our weeping eyes;
O, by all Thy pains and woe
Suffered once for us below,
Bending from Thy throne on high,
Hear our penitential cry!

By Thy helpless infant years,
By Thy life of want and tears,
By Thy days of deep distress
In the savage wilderness,
By the dread, mysterious hour
Of the_insulting tempter's pow'r,
Turn, O turn a fav'ring eye;
Hear our penitential cry!

By Thine hour of dire despair,
By Thine agony of prayer,
 By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
 Piercing spear, and torturing scorn,
By the gloom that veiled the skies
O'er the dreadful sacrifice,
 Listen to our humble sigh;
 Hear our penitential cry!

By Thy deep expiring groan,
By the sad sepulchral stone,
 By the vault whose dark abode
 Held in vain the rising God,
O, from earth to heav'n restored,
Mighty, reascended Lord,
 Bending from Thy throne on high,
 Hear our penitential cry!
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