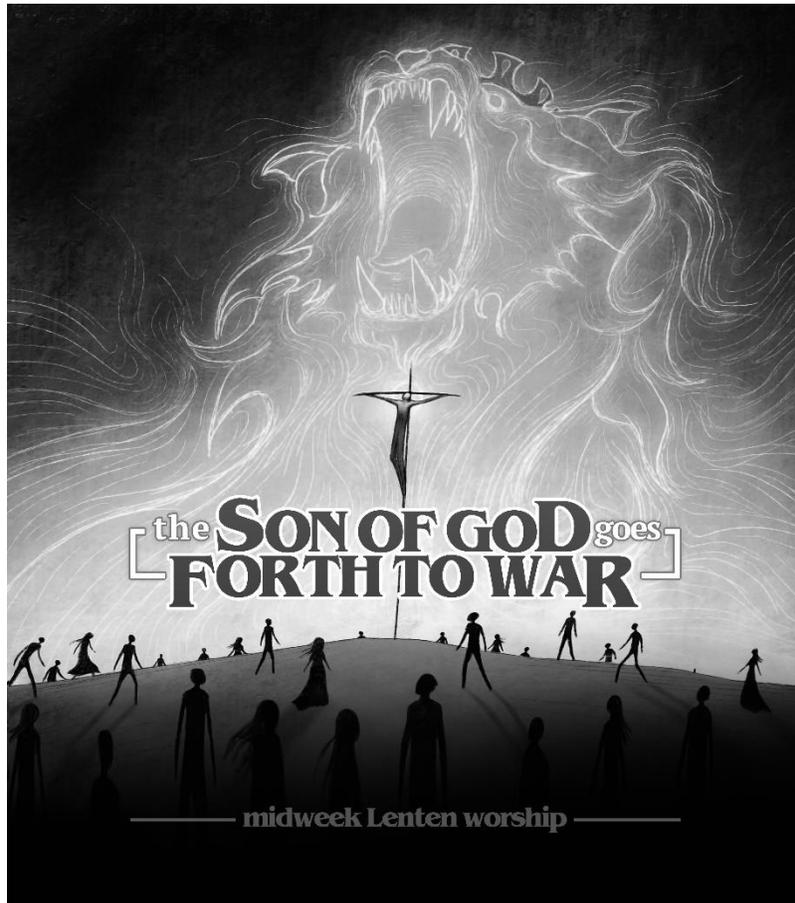


Mid-Week Lenten Services

March 18, 2020



Grace Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, MI

The Son of God Goes Forth to War

Skirmishes

592

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night For all the
 2 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as
 3 When in the night I sleep - less lie, My soul with



bles - ings of the light. Keep me, oh, keep me,
 lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die so
 heav'n - ly thoughts sup - ply; Let no ill dreams dis -



King of kings, Be - neath thine own al - might -
 that I may Rise glo - rious at the awe -
 turb my rest, No pow'rs of dark - ness me



y wings. For - give me, Lord, for thy dear
 full day. Oh, may my soul on thee re -
 dis - tress. Praise God, from whom all bless - ings



Son The ill that I this day have
 pose And may sweet I sleep mine eye - lids
 flow; Praise him, all crea - tures here be -

done, close, low; That Sleep Praise with that him the shall a - bove, world, me ye more vig - 'rous heav'n - ly and thee make host;

I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
To serve my God when I a - wake.
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, abr., alt.
Tune: EVENING HYMN (LMD) Charles F. Gounod, 1818–93, adapt.

- M: In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden. Amen.
- C: **O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy, and in your faithfulness, come to my relief. Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you. Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.**

Silence for private confession.

M: Jesus says to his people: “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.” His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

Prayer

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word

keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalm 31

M: In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;

C: deliver me in your righteousness.

M: Be my rock of refuge,

C: a strong fortress to save me.

M: Into your hands I commit my spirit;

C: redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

M: My times are in your hands;

C: save me in your unfailing love.

M: How great is your goodness,

C: which you have stored up for those who fear you.

M: You heard my cry for mercy

C: when I called to you for help.

Psalm Prayer

M: Father, when your Son hung on the cross, he cried out to you in agony and grief. You gave him the strength to endure so that death might be destroyed and life restored. Have mercy on us all our days and preserve us in true faith unto life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confirmation Essays

The Only Way of Salvation

Joseph Barabas

Work of God the Son

Jonah Eggert

The Passion History of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Lesson Three

Simon Peter and another disciple kept following Jesus. That disciple was known to the high priest, so he went into the high priest's courtyard with Jesus. But Peter stood outside by the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out and talked to the girl watching the door and brought Peter in.

The servants and guards were standing around a fire of coals that they had made because it was cold. While they warmed themselves, Peter was standing with them, warming himself too. One of the servant girls of the high priest came there. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked directly at him and said, "You were also with Jesus the Galilean."

But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, "I don't know what you are talking about. Woman, I do not know him."

When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, "This is one of them. This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, "I do not know the man."

After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, "Surely you are also one of them, because even your accent gives you away. You are a Galilean!"

Then he began to curse and to swear, "I do not know this man you are talking about! I do not know the man!"

At that very moment, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the Lord's word, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today you will deny me three times." He went outside, broke down, and wept bitterly.

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I always taught in a synagogue or at the temple, where all the Jews gather. I said nothing in secret. Why are you questioning me? Ask those who heard what I told them. Look, they know what I said."

When he said this, one of the guards standing there hit Jesus in the face. "Is that how you answer the high priest?" he demanded.

"If I said something wrong," Jesus answered, "testify about what was wrong. But if I was right, why did you hit me?"

The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. They found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'" Yet even on this point, their testimony did not agree.

The high priest stood up and said to him, "Have you no answer? What is this that these men are testifying against you?" But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I place you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!"

Jesus said to him, "It is as you have said. But I tell you, soon you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, you have just heard the blasphemy! What do you think?"

They answered, "He is deserving of death!" Then some began to spit on him. They covered his face, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who hit you?" The guards also took him and beat him. And they went on saying many other blasphemous things against him.

As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both chief priests and experts in the law. They brought Jesus into their Sanhedrin and said, "If you are the Christ, tell us."

But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer me or release me. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

They all said, "Are you then the Son of God?"

He said to them, "I am what you are saying."

Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from his own mouth!" Then the chief priests with the elders and experts in the law, together with the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders and said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? That's your problem."

He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money." They reached a decision to buy the potter's field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners. So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, and they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord commanded me.

Early in the morning, the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. They did not enter the Praetorium themselves, so that they would not become ceremonially unclean. (They wanted to be able to eat the Passover meal.) So Pilate went out to them and said, "What charge do you bring against this man?"

They answered him, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Pilate told them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law."

The Jews said, "It's not legal for us to put anyone to death." This happened so that the statement Jesus had spoken indicating what kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled.

They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."

Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

"It is as you say," Jesus replied.

The chief priests accused him of many things. When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

Pilate questioned him again, "Are you not going to answer anything? See how many charges they are bringing against you!"

But Jesus still did not answer anything, so Pilate was amazed.

Pilate went back into the Praetorium and summoned Jesus. He asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus replied, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But now my kingdom is not from here."

"You are a king then?" Pilate asked.

Jesus answered, "I am, as you say, a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

"What is truth?" Pilate said to him.

After he said this, he went out again to the Jews and told them, "I find no basis for a charge against him."

But they kept insisting, "He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here."

When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time he had wanted to see him, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle performed by him. He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing him. Herod, along with his soldiers, treated him with contempt and ridiculed him. Dressing him in bright clothing, Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other.

Seasonal Response

C: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

Hymn:

LENT

116

In the Hour of Trial



1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me
2 With for - bid - den plea - sures Should this vain world charm
3 Should your mer - cy send me Sor - row, toil, and woe,
4 When my life is end - ing, Though in grief or pain,



Lest by base de - ni - al I un - wor - thy be.
Or its tempt - ing trea - sures Spread to work me harm,
Or should pain at - tend me On my path be - low,
When my bod - y chang - es Back to dust a - gain,



When you see me wa - ver, With a look re - call,
Bring to my re - mem - brance Sad Geth - sem - a - ne
Grant that I may nev - er Fail your cross to view;
On your truth re - ly - ing, Through that mor - tal strife,



Nor for fear or fa - vor Ev - er let me fall.
Or, in dark - er sem - blance, Cross - crowned Cal - va - ry.
Grant that I may ev - er Cast my care on you.
Je - sus, take me, dy - ing, To e - ter - nal life.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: ST. MARY MAGDALENE (65 65 D) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

Sermon

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

Skirmishes

Prayers

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.

Evening Prayer

C: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. 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

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ †, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn:

LENT

103

Glory Be to Jesus



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
 2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
 3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
 4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies,
 5 Oft as earth ex - ult - ing Lifts its praise on high,



Poured for me the life - blood From his sa - cred veins.
 Blest be his com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind.
 Which from end - less tor - ments Did the world re - deem.
 But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.
 An - gel hosts re - joic - ing Make their glad re - ply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,
 Swell the mighty flood;
 Louder still and louder
 Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian hymn, 18th century, abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-78, alt.
 Tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN (65 65) Friedrich Filitz, 1804-76.

Presiding Minister & Preacher: Pastor David Schmidt, St. John, Dowagiac, MI
Organist: Mr. Nicholas Raith

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