

Pastor: O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: O Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Be our light in darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: O Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

People: O Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promise, we are bold to pray:

Communion (page 179 right column)

Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord watch over you and protect you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen

Hymn: LSB 433 (vs. 1, 2, 5, 6) "Glory Be to Jesus"



“Turn Away Your Eyes” **Thursday, March 18th**

Hymn: LSB 437 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

Pastor: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

People: Amen.

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the Lord.

People: to sing praise to Your name, O Most High;

Pastor: to herald Your love in the morning,

People: Your truth at the close of the day.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen

People: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen

People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 53:4-5

Call to Worship

Pastor: For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written:

People: “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”

Pastor: Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for

People: “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Pastor: But the law is not of faith, rather

People: “The one who does them shall live by them.”

Pastor: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us – for it is written. .

People: Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.”

Pastor: so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.”

(Galatians 3:10-14)

Prayer of the Day

Passion Reading

+ Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers of the governor led Him away into the praetorium. They gathered the whole band of soldiers around Him. They stripped Him and put on Him a purple robe. When they had woven a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and a reed in His right hand, and they knelt before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. They knelt down and did Him homage.

+ Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I bring Him out to you that you may know I find him not guilty.” So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!”

+ When the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

Pilate said to them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I do not find Him guilty.”

The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.”

+ When Pilate heard this, he was more afraid and went again into the judgement hall and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to crucify you, and I have power to release you?” Jesus answered, “You would not have power at all over me, unless it has been given to you from above. For that reason he who handed me over to you has the greater sin.”

+ This prompted Pilate to go on trying to release Him, but the Jews cried out, “If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar.”

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgement seat in a place that is called the Pavement or, in Hebrew, Gabbatha. It was the Preparation of the Passover, about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your king!”

They cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!”

Pilate said unto them, “Shall I crucify your king?”

The chief Priest answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”

+ When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but rather a riot was under way, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this man; see to it yourselves.”

Then all the people responded, “His blood be on us and on our children.”

+ Then Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, gave sentence that it should be as they demanded. He released to them Barabbas for whom they asked, the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder. He had Jesus flogged and then gave Him over to their will to be crucified. The soldiers mocked Him, stripped Him of the purple robe, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him.

Hymn: LSB 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

**1 Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish,
Of Your suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.**

**2 Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.**

SERMON: “Can I look now?”

Prayers For the Body of Christ

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

People: listen to my cry. *(Psalm 102:1)*

Pastor: Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

People: hide me in the shadow of Your wings. *(Psalm 17:8)*

Pastor: In righteousness I shall see You;

People: when I awake, Your presence will give me joy. *(Psalm 17:15)*