



Christ Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod)
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Darkness veils Thine anguished face;
None its lines of woe can trace,
None can tell what pangs unknown
Hold Thee silent and alone.

Silent thro' those three dread hours,
Wrestling with the evil pow'rs,
Left alone with human sin,
Gloom around Thee and within,
Till th' appointed time is nigh,
Till the Lamb of God may die.

Hark the cry that peals aloud
Upward through the whelming cloud!
Thou, the Father's only Son,
Thou, His own Anointed One,
Thou dost ask Him, Can it be?
"Why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

Lord, should fear and anguish roll
Darkly o'er my sinful soul,
Thou, who once wast thus bereft
That Thine own might ne'er be left,
Teach me by that bitter cry
In the gloom to know Thee nigh.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Ho

P: Let us then in all penitence confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed"LSB 437

C: surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reel. You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from all mine enemies. You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

P: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go, and I will counsel you with My eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, and will not stay near you.

C: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER FROM SUNDAY

P: Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength.

C: By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may hurt the soul;

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

P: O God, our sin is a great burden we cannot bear.

**THE MATCHLESS GRACE NOT YIELD TO SIN
Nor wear its cruel fetters more!**

Almighty, true and just are Your judgments!"

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

SECOND READING

Matthew 10:28-33

²⁸ Jesus said, "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² So everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father who is in heaven.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

OFFERING

PRAYERS

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the whole Christian Church a world, and for all people in their various needs. For ours this Lenten season may be a time of true penitence as we celebrate our Lord's Easter victory, let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the Church around the world, that clergy and laity in their penitence, be confirmed in their commitment to Christ protected from error without and within, let us pray to the

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the nations, that God would raise up leaders with courage and guidance that they provide order in their societies, look after the poor and distressed and seek peace across their borders, let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who protect at home and abroad, for those who teach, those who learn, for those who tend the sick and injured, those talented in the arts, that God would guide and strengthen in their various callings so that they may humbly serve His people around them let us pray to the Lord

HYMN "Enslaved by Sin and Bound in Chains" TLH 141

**Enslaved by sin and bound in chains,
Beneath its dreadful tyrant sway,
And doomed to everlasting pains,
We wretched, guilty captives lay.**

**Nor gold nor gems could buy our peace,
Nor all the world's collected store
Suffice to purchase our release;**

P: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

If you are a confirmed member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation and would like to come forward with your family and friends during the distribution, please place your hands over your heart and you will receive a blessing.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "My Song Is Love Unknown" *LSB* 430

COLLECT FOR PEACE

P: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments

commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. I holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: God go with you on your penitential journey, before you path of service, above you so that you need not fear, and to move you to love and good works, and the blessing of Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN "Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing"

**Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross we spend,
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinners' dying Friend.**

**Here we rest in wonder, viewing
All our sins on Jesus laid;
Here we see redemption flowing
From the sacrifice He made.**

**Here we find the dawn of heaven
While upon the cross we gaze,
See our trespasses forgiven,
And our songs of triumph raise.**

Thank you to Ethan Wetmore, Reid Rayome, Brad Rogers, and Dan Hurlbert for their participation in this evening's Lenten drama.

Join us next Thursday evening at 6:30 as *Whose Cross Is It Anyway?* continues.

Whose Cross Is It Anyway? written by Mark & Karla Jensen.
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