



## **Jesus' Lenten Mountain to Climb Three The Spirit Anointed Christ for Mercy....To Heal the Brokenhearted**

*The first week of Lent was the time when candidates for Holy Baptism were intently preparing to be baptized at the Vigil of Easter. We, too, in this season of Lent prepare ourselves to remember our Baptism at Easter as we ritually “pass over” with Jesus from death to new life. During this Lenten season we will remember Jesus’ Baptism, His anointing with the Holy Spirit, and His words in Luke 4: that He was anointed to show and to be mercy. As His people—hearing Him proclaim God’s Word and being God’s Word as Prophet; seeing Him sacrifice Himself on a cross and knowing that He intercedes for us as Priest; and knowing that we live under Him as King in righteousness and purity—we will be reminded of our also climbing the Mountains of Mercy with Jesus in our own works of mercy.*

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**HYMN:** 168 “Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”

### **INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, the 40 days of Lent are set aside as a time to take a look at our walk with God. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times, the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, instruction, and humble repentance, born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws life and hope from it. Sometimes our hearts believe upon Him so we can confess Him with our lips when we are broken and feel abandoned and separated from Him. In our service tonight, we continue to focus on God’s mercy in Christ, who was anointed as our Prophet, Priest, and King, and who proclaims the mercy of God in Word and deed. We take this time to remind ourselves that as Christ has given us mercy, we are to be merciful. Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lenten season for us, that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth. Because God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power as Prophet, Priest, and King, all kings will bow down to Jesus the Christ and all the nations will serve Him. The broken hearted will rejoice in His mercy.

**People: For He will deliver the broken hearted, a bruised reed He will not break and a smoldering wick of faith He will not snuff out.**

Pastor: Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds.

**People: Praise be to His glorious name forever.**

Pastor: May the whole earth be filled with His glory.

**People: Amen.**

### **CONFESION**

Pastor: Praise be to Your name, O Jesus, Prophet, Priest, and King of all kings, forever and ever. The marvelous things of Your mercy include Your sinless life, Your death in our place, and Your spectacular resurrection from the dead.

**People: We who have broken hearts cry out to You.**

Pastor: We, like all people since Adam and Eve, have fallen into sin and stand in need of Your forgiveness.

**People: We who are broken hearted cry out to You.**

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Pastor: O Christ, our King, we confess to You that we have not done the right things You want us to do. We confess that often our broken hearts keep us from doing the good things we can and should do for others.

**People: We who are broken hearted cry out to You.**

Pastor: Forgive us, Lord.

**People: For Your sake, O Christ, forgive us.**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy, give us Your peace.

**People: Amen.**

### ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our Prophet came to heal broken hearts, our Priest died to bring us into His kingdom, and our King will give us new hearts of flesh and not of stone. In the name of Jesus and by the power of His cross and His authority, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh, ordained to preach healing to broken hearts, forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, our King, who has called us through Your anointed one Jesus Christ to be kings and priests unto you: Teach us to bear one another's burdens and the burdens of our country and the poor around the world. Open our eyes to see the woes of our land, the despair in the lives of many, and the broken hearts that afflict Your people and those who do not yet know You. Give to us also a vision of our world as You would have it be and as You alone can fashion it. Make us Your servants, even when our hearts are breaking or are broken, to work while it is day before the night comes when no one can work and give us Your strength and mercy until You have worked our work of compassion, that generations yet unborn may praise Your name. We ask this for Jesus Christ's sake.

**People: Amen**

**HYMN: "Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing" [LSB 421]**

By Johann Heermann, 1585-1647

1. Jesus, grant that balm and healing  
In Thy holy wounds I find,  
Every hour that I am feeling  
Pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil thought within  
Tempt my treacherous heart to sin,  
Show the peril, and from sinning  
Keep me ere its first beginning.

4. Every wound that pains or grieves me,  
By Thy stripes, Lord is made whole;  
When I'm faint, Thy Cross revives me,  
Granting new life to my soul.  
Yea, Thy comfort renders sweet  
Every bitter cup I meet;  
For Thy all-atonning Passion  
Has procured my soul's salvation.

3. If the world my heart entices  
On the broad and easy road  
With its mirth and luring voices,  
Let me think upon the load  
Thou didst carry and endure  
That I flee all thoughts impure,  
Banishing each wild emotion,  
Calm and blest in my devotion

5. O my God, my Rock and Tower,  
Grant that in Thy death I trust,  
Knowing Death has lost his power  
Since Thou trod'st him in the dust.  
Savior, let Thine agony  
Ever help and comfort me;  
When I die, be my Protection,  
Light and Life and Resurrection.

**OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 34 with Doxology**

Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away. I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.**

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

**I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.**

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Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

**This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.**

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

**Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**

Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

**The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

**What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good?**

Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

**Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.**

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.

**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.**

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.**

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

**He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.**

Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

**The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

### EPISTLE: 2 Cor. 4:7–18

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence.

For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

### HOLY GOSPEL: Matt. 27: 45–50, Luke 4:16–21

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink.

But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

Luke: And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

## **THE SERMON**

**OFFERING:** *We will sing the Doxology as our gifts are brought forward to the altar.*

**PRAYER:** *The Litany – see last page of the service*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN:** "When to Our World the Savior Came" [LSB 551]

1 When to our world the Saviour came  
the sick and helpless heard his name,  
and in their weakness longed to see  
the healing Christ of Galilee.

3 His praises then were heard and sung  
by opened ears and loosened tongue,  
while lightened eyes could see and know  
the healing Christ of long ago.

5 His sovereign purpose still remains  
who rose in power, and lives and reigns;  
till every tongue confess his praise,  
the healing Christ of all our days.

2 That good physician! Night and day  
the people thronged about his way;  
and wonder ran from soul to soul,  
'The touch of Christ has made us whole!'

4 Of long ago: yet living still,  
who died for us on Calvary's hill;  
who triumphed over cross and grave,  
his healing hands stretched forth to save.