

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE #2

3:15 & 6:30 PM Services

February 24, 2021



ST. JOHN—ST. JAMES

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

February 24, 2021 Midweek Lenten Service #2

AS WE GATHER

In the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

My heavenly Father, I thank you through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, for graciously keeping me through this day. Forgive me all the sins that I have done against you, and graciously keep me through this night. I commend my body and soul and all things into your hands. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the devil may have no power over me. Amen.

(Luther's Evening Prayer)

WELCOME

HANDS OF THE PASSION—Hands of Repentance

Opening Hymn:

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Christian Worship, Hymn # 98

C Verse 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 suff'ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.**

C Verse 5

♪ **Grant that I your passion view With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to you By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?**

PLEASE STAND

OPENING PRAYER

M O Lord, open my lips.

C **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

M Hasten to save me, O God.

C **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

selected Psalms

M The Old Testament tells us how King David hid his sin and did not confess it. In Psalm 32 David reflected upon his unconfessed sins in his prayer to God: *“When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.’ And you forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found.”* (Psalm 32:3-6) Invited by God’s grace, let us also join the faithful to pray and confess our sins to the LORD:

C “In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God. Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am in distress. But I trust in you, LORD; I say, ‘You are my God.’ My times are in your hands. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.”
Amen. (Psalm 31:1,2,5,9,14-16)

LET OUR PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

Psalm 141

C Verse 1  **Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
Hear my voice when I call to you.
Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

(Silent reflection and confession of personal sins while music plays softly.)

C reprise  **Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

ABSOLUTION

M Indeed, the LORD is faithful. He hears and answers the prayers of his repentant people. In his unfailing love, God our heavenly Father, has given his one and only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I announce the grace of God to you. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M We call on you, our God, for you will answer us. Show us the wonders of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you. Keep us as the apple of your eye and hide us in the shadow of your wings; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Psalm 17:6-8)

C **Amen.**

BE SEATED

Passion History

2. JESUS' AGONY OF SOUL IN GETHSEMANE

Lesson Response:

M All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C **By his wounds we are healed.**

Hymn of the Day:

Christian Worship, Hymn # 124

Savior, When in Dust to You



Verse 1

♪ **Savior, when in dust to you
Low we bow in homage due,
When repentant, to the skies
Scarce we lift our weeping eyes;
Oh, by all your pains and woe
Suffered once for us below,
Bending from your throne on high,
Hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!**



Verse 3

♪ **By your hour of dire despair,
By your 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 my humble sigh,
Hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!**

Luke 18:9-14

“Hands of Repentance” (*Tax Collector*)

⁹To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

¹³“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

¹⁴“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

PLEASE STAND

CLOSING PRAYER

M In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

C **Christ, have mercy.**

M For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

(Prayer continues on the next page.)

M For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

C **Thanks be to God.**

M In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord:

C **Amen.**

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.**

BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

Jesus Sinners Does Receive

Christian Worship, Hymn # 304

C Verse 1

♪ **Jesus sinners does receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve—
Jesus sinners does receive.**

C Verse 5

♪ **I, a sinner, come to you
With a penitent confession.
Savior, show me mercy, too;
Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve—
Jesus sinners does receive.**

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

G Verse 6

♪ **Oh, how blest it is to know,
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe—
Jesus sinners does receive.**

BE SEATED

GUEST PREACHER

Our sincere thanks to Pastor Henzi for leading us in worship and sharing God's Word with us this evening.

Next week we welcome Pastor Thomas Fricke also from Trinity, Brillion preaching on Mark 14:55-65 with the theme:

“THE HANDS OF THE PASSION: Hands of Hypocrisy”

Thanks also to organist for our services today—Mrs. Charmaine Wagner.