

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE #6

3:15 & 6:30 PM Services

March 24, 2021



ST. JOHN—ST. JAMES

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

March 24, 2021 Midweek Lenten Service #6

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 Brutality

Opening Hymn:

O Dearest Lord, Thy Sacred Head

Christian Worship, Hymn # 118

C Verse 1

♪ **O dearest Lord, thy sacred head
With thorns was pierced for me;
Oh, pour thy blessing on my head
That I may think for thee.**

C Verse 2 ♪ **O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands**

**With nails were pierced for me;
Oh, shed thy blessing on my hands
That they may work for thee.**

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

6. JESUS' DEATH ON THE CROSS

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:

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Christian Worship, Hymn # 105



Verse 1

♪ **O sacred head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded,
With thorns your only crown,
O sacred head, no glory
Now from your face does shine;
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call you mine.**



Verse 2

♪ **Men mock and taunt and jeer you,
They smite your coun-te-nance,
Though mighty worlds shall fear you
And flee before your glance.
How pale you are with anguish,
With sore abuse and scorn!
Your eyes with pain now languish
That once were bright as morn.**

Matthew 27:27-31

“Hands of Brutality” *(Soldiers)*

²⁷ Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. ³⁰ They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. ³¹ After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

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.

G **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Christian Worship, Hymn # 127

G Verse 1 **♪** **Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;
Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he.
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.**

G Verse 2 **♪** **Tell me, as you hear him groaning,
Was there ever grief like his?
Friends through fear his cause disowning,
Foes insulting his distress,
Many hands were raised to wound him,
None would intervene to save,
But the deepest stroke that pierced him
Was the stroke that Justice gave.**

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

G Verse 3

♪ **If you think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great,
Here you see its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed;
See who bears the awful load—
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.**

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 is Holy Week. There will not be a service on Wednesday, but we will have a special service on Maundy Thursday (6:30pm), another special service on Good Friday (3:15pm and 6:30pm) and also services on Easter Sunday—Sunrise (6:00am) and Festival (8:00am and 10:15am). There will be a light Easter breakfast as well. We'd love to have you join us for each of these special opportunities to gather with the believers at SJSJ!

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