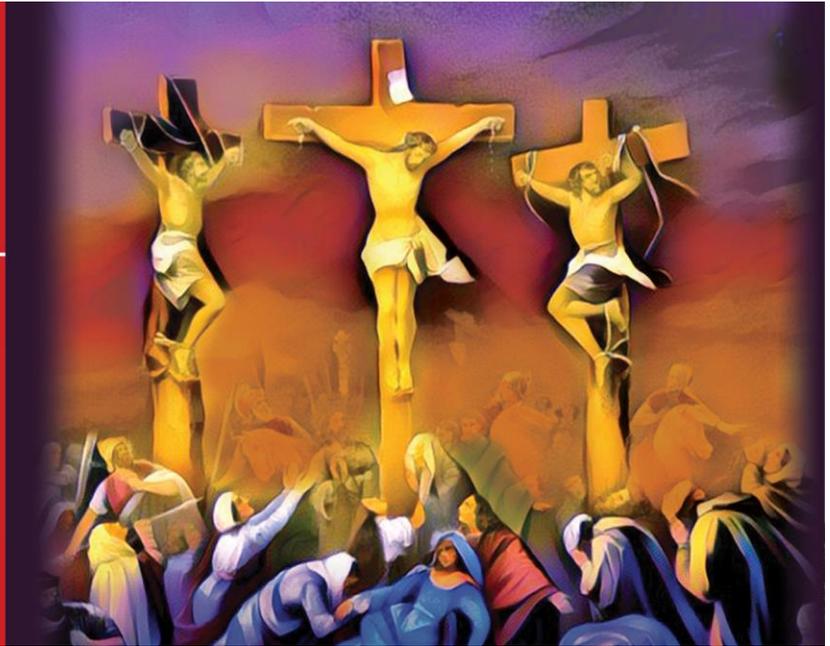


WELCOME!



Mid-week
Lenten Service



MIDWEEK—LENT 6

APRIL 6, 2022

**congregation stands*

WELCOME

WITNESSES TO CHRIST—PONTIUS PILATE

AS WE GATHER

Pontius Pilate, a witness to Christ, consented to order Jesus' execution. Pilate may wash his hands and proclaim his own innocence in the death of Jesus, but Pilate is guilty. Pilate is caught between a rock and a hard place. Instead of doing what is right, Pilate has Jesus' flesh ripped, shredded, dressed in purple, and crowned with thorns. His hard heart is complicit in the death of Christ. While it may be an uncomfortable thought, Pilate's failures make us examine our own complicity in the evil of others. How have we deceived ourselves in proclaiming innocence? How have we been pressured into allowing evil to occur? Thanks be to God that our journey to the cross shows us Jesus' forgiveness.

OPENING HYMN

LORD, WHOSE LOVE THROUGH HUMBLE SERVICE

LSB 848



1 Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser-vice Bore the weight of
2 Still Your chil-dren wan-der home-less; Still the hun-gry
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, Till Your love's re-
4 Called by wor-ship to Your ser-vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

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Tune: Public domain

*INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

*OPENING SENTENCES

P As we continue our Lenten journey, we meet the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate.

C **Pilate condemns Jesus to death by crucifixion.**

P Pilate tries to release Jesus,

C **but the crowds demand Barabbas.**

P Pilate washes his hands of Jesus' blood,

C **but Pilate is still guilty. Pilate caves to blackmail.**

P Pilate cares more about keeping his position

C **than he does about executing an innocent man.**

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Pilate can proclaim his own innocence and justify himself all he wants. He is still guilty. He is still a selfish sinner with a hardened heart who is complicit in the death of not only an innocent man, but of the sinless Son of God. We might be tempted to point a finger at Pilate to justify ourselves, but truth be told, we, too, struggle with hardened hearts. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him with repentant hearts and seek His forgiveness. Together we confess:
- C **Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You in what we have done and in all that we have failed to do. 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. We do not seek to wash our hands of these sins, Lord, but we seek Your forgiveness. We seek Your washing and renewal through the blood of Christ.**
- P Almighty God, in His grace and mercy, has given His only Son, Jesus, to die and rise for our forgiveness and our salvation. As a called and ordained servant of our crucified and risen Lord, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen. We are washed clean and forgiven by the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ!**

PSALM

Psalm 26

- P Vindicate me, O LORD,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
- C **Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and my mind.**
- P For Your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in Your faithfulness.
- C **I do not sit with men of falsehood,
nor do I consort with hypocrites.**
- P I hate the assembly of evildoers,
and I will not sit with the wicked.
- C **I wash my hands in innocence
and go around Your altar, O LORD,**
- P proclaiming thanksgiving aloud,
and telling all Your wondrous deeds.
- C **O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house
and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- P Do not sweep my soul away with sinners,
nor my life with bloodthirsty men,
- C **in whose hands are evil devices,
and whose right hands are full of bribes.**
- P But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity;
redeem me, and be gracious to me.
- C **My foot stands on level ground;
in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 11:17–21

P The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, the eleventh chapter.

¹⁷Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.' ¹⁸And when they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. ¹⁹And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. ²¹But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, declares the Lord GOD."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 4:1–6

P The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, the fourth chapter.

¹Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ²But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SERIES HYMN

BEHOLD! THE LAMB OF GOD," JOHN SAID

CANTOR, VS 1, 3



1 "Be - hold! The Lamb of God," John said, "Who
3 Christ's glo - ry is not seen by those Who



takes all sin a-way.” This Lamb is Christ, who
view God’s Word as dross, For world - ly wis - dom



in our stead For sin would mute - ly pay.
nev - er knows How gain could come from loss.



“Be - hold your King!” by Pi - late scourged; Sin’s
Yet, this the glo - ry of the Christ: His



hell - ish sum on Him con - verged,
per - fect life He sac - ri - ficed,



While “Cru - ci - fy!” the hate - ful urged, Their
His fin - ished work for all suf - ficed— Debt



Sav - ior to be - tray.
can - celed on the cross.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Tune: John L. Bell

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*HOLY GOSPEL

John 19:1–16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the nineteenth chapter.

C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you

that you may know that I find no guilt in him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." ⁸When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." ¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus,

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON WITNESSES TO CHRIST—PONTIUS PILATE

LAMB OF GOD

LSB 550



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
 2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
 brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
 rod, And to be called a lamb of God.



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958

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OFFERING

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*KYRIE

- P Lord, have mercy.
C **Christ, have mercy.**
P Lord, have mercy.

*PRAYERS

After each petition:

- P let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

*BENEDICAMUS

- P Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

*BENEDICTION

- P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
C **Amen.**

HYMN TO DEPART

DRAWN TO THE CROSS

LSB 560



- 1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
 bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Join us for Holy Week and Easter Worship!



Palm Sunday—Sunday, April 10

8:00am* and 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion



Maundy Thursday—Thursday, April 14

6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion



Good Friday—Friday, April 15

6:30pm* Worship



Easter—Sunday, April 17

8:00am* and 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion

9:15am Food and fellowship; no Sunday school; no adult Bible class

*livestream at www.trinityloneoak.org