



The High Priest's Courtyard

MIDWEEK—LENT 5

MARCH 29, 2023

**congregation stands*

AS WE GATHER

Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" Matthew 27:22

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C **Amen.**
- P Let us ever walk with Jesus.
- C **To see the depths of his love.**
- P To behold the gift of his forgiveness.
- C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**
- P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.
- C **We walk with Jesus to Pilate's judgment hall.**
- P To hear about Jewish leaders, a prisoner named Barabbas and even Pilate's wife.
- C **It all boils down to three words—innocent, guilty and free.**
- P Faithful Lord, with me abide.
- C **I shall follow where you guide!**

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- P Forgive me, Father, though I don't like to admit it, I am a sinner, much like Barabbas—
- C **A rebel and a wretch.**
- P Born dead in transgressions and sins.
- C **Lost and without hope.**
- P Doomed to perish.
- C **Blinded by the god of this age.**
- P My finest deeds are still soiled with sin.
- C **And all my righteous acts are like unclean rags.**
- P I am Barabbas.
- C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

- P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That's why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally.
Faithful Lord, with me abide
- C **I shall follow where you guide!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY*OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Exodus 14:22–29

²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus

were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 27:11–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

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

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?" ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream." ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" ²³And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN

LSB 430, vs. 1, 2, 3, 5

SERMON

PLACES OF THE PASSION: PILATE'S JUDGEMENT HALL

OFFERING

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P If the Son sets you free.

C **You will be free, indeed!**

P Dear Lord Jesus, free us for larger hearts toward the lost, more mercy for doubters and lavish love for

all people. May our spouses feel cherished and appreciated, our children secure and our loved ones treasured and valued.

C **Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

*BLESSING

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to Pilate's judgment hall, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.

C **Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

HYMN TO DEPART

ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED

LSB 437

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

Join us for Holy Week and Easter Worship



Maundy Thursday—Thursday, April 6

5:00pm Seder Meal; please reserve by April 2 in the church narthex

6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion



Good Friday—Friday, April 7

6:30pm* Worship



Easter—Sunday, April 9

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



Holy Week and Easter Invitations in the narthex

Who can **YOU** invite to Holy Week and Easter activities? Pick up an invitation in the narthex to help start the conversation about worshipping our Savior who died and rose for us.