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INSTRUMENTS OF THE PASSION:



THE SEAMLESS GARMENT



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 7:00 p.m.

LENTEN Vespers Lent 5

Evening Prayer

Vespers

OPENING HYMN: # 112 “There Is a Fountain”

♪ **There is a fountain filled with blood—Immanuel was slain—
And sinners who are washed therein Lose ev’ry guilty stain,
Lose ev’ry guilty stain.**

**The dying thief rejoiced to see That fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he, Washed all my sins away,
Washed all my sins away.**

**Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood
Shall never lose its pow’r
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved and sin no more, Be saved and sin no more.**

**E’er since by faith I saw the stream
Your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die.**

Please stand for last verse:

**When this poor lispings, stamm’ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I’ll sing your pow’r to save,
I’ll sing your pow’r to save.**



M: O Lord, o - pen my lips.



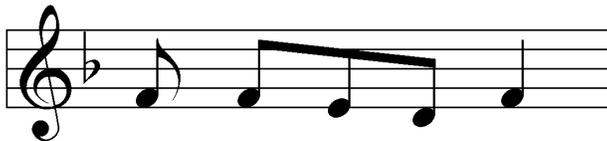
C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



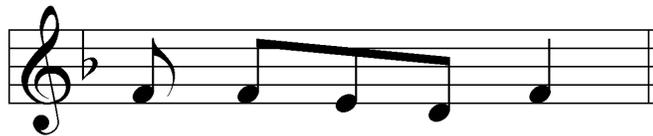
M: Has - ten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so 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.**

Please be seated.



C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift-ing



up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I



call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I



cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

PSALM 25

Refrain



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.

Psalm tone



To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;*
in you I trust, O my God.

Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love,*
for they are from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;*
according to your love remember me,
for you are good, O LORD.

Refrain

Turn to me and be gracious to me,*
for I am lonely and afflicted.

Look upon my affliction and my distress*
and take away all my sins.

Guard my life and rescue me,*
for I take refuge in you.

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.

Refrain

M: Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

PASSION READING 5 – TO CALVARY

MINISTER: “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked Pilate, the governor. With one voice the crowd cried out:

CONGREGATION: “**Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!**”

MINISTER: Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder. Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting,

CONGREGATION: “**Crucify him! Crucify him!**”

MINISTER: For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore, I will have him punished and then release him.” But the Jews kept shouting,

CONGREGATION: “**If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar.**”

MINISTER: When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge’s seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement. It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews: “Here is your king.” But they shouted,

CONGREGATION: “**Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!**”

MINISTER: “Shall I crucify your king?” Pilate asked.

CONGREGATION: “**We have no king but Caesar,**” the chief priests answered.

MINISTER: When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. He said: “I am innocent of this man’s blood. It is your responsibility!”

CONGREGATION: “**Let his blood be on us and on our children!**”

MINISTER: Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. They stripped him and put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. Falling on their knees they paid homage to him.

CONGREGATION: And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

MINISTER: As they led him away, they seized Simon of Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them:

“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’

Then, ‘they will say to the mountains: “Fall on us!” and to the hills: “Cover us!””

For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. There they crucified him, along with the criminals – one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said,

CONGREGATION: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

MINISTER: And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate:

CONGREGATION: “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”

MINISTER: Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

HYMN # 103 “Glory Be to Jesus”

♪ **Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood From his sacred veins.**

**Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;
Blest be his compassion, Infinitely kind.**

**Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream
Which from endless torments Did the world redeem.**

**Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies,
But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.**

**Oft as earth exulting Lifts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.**

**Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!**

MESSAGE: John 19:23,24

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

“Let's not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let's decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said,

**“They divided my garments among them
and cast lots for my clothing.**

Hymn: # 376 (vv. 1,2,4,5) “Jesus, your Blood and Righteousness”

**♪ Jesus, your blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.**

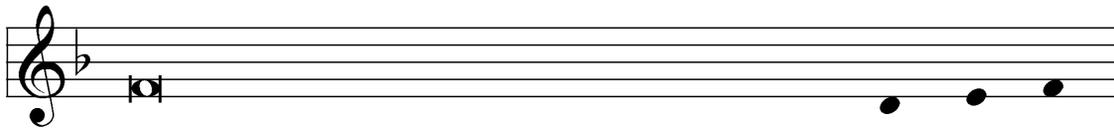
**Bold shall I stand in that great day—
Who can a word against me say?
Fully through you absolved I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.**

**Lord, I believe were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
You have for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.**

**When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
E'en then this shall be all my plea:
Jesus has lived and died for me.**

OFFERING

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*



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



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

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: A - men.

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.

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part



ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen



your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry



peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

CLOSING HYMN: # 592 “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

♪ **All praise to thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
Beneath thine own almighty wings.
Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and thee
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.**

**Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die so that I may
Rise glorious at the awe-full day.
Oh, may my soul on thee repose
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
To serve my God when I awake.**

**When in the night I sleepless lie,
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No pow'rs of darkness me distress.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**