

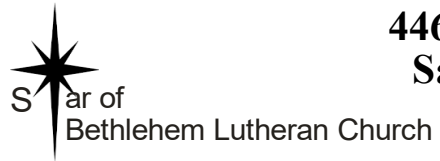
**LENT**

**Midweek  
2**

**HIS  
FINAL  
STEPS**

**... led to a dinner celebration ...**





4465 South Blosser Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Office: 805-937-0339  
www.starlutheran.org  
Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Wednesday, March 1, 2023 7:00 p.m.*

**LENTEN Vespers      Lent Midweek 2**

## Evening Prayer Vespers

**OPENING HYMN: # 420:1-3,5 “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”**

♪ **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.**

**Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction,  
bonds and stripes and wretchedness and your crucifixion;  
make me see how scourge and rod,  
spear and nails did wound you,  
how for them you died, O God,  
who with thorns had crowned you.**

**Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your passion,  
but its cause to me make known and its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin wrought your deep affliction;  
this indeed the cause has been of your crucifixion.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**If my sins give me alarm and my conscience grieve me,  
let your cross my fear disarm; peace of conscience give me.  
Help me see forgiveness won by your holy passion.  
If for me he slays his Son, God must have compassion!**



**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.

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 138

M: I will thank you with all my heart.

C: **Before the gods I will make music for you.**

M: I will bow down toward your holy temple. I will give thanks to your name because of your mercy and because of your truth.

C: **Yes, you made your word even greater than your name.**

M: By day I called, and you answered me.

C: **You have made my soul strong.**

M: All the kings of the earth will thank you, LORD,

C: **when they have heard the message from your mouth.**

M: Then they will sing about the ways of the LORD,  
**C: because the glory of the LORD is great.**

M: Indeed the LORD is exalted, but he sees the lowly,  
**C: and he recognizes the proud from a distance.**

M: If I walk surrounded by danger, you keep me alive in spite of my enemies.  
**C: You stretch out your hand. You save me with your right hand.**

M: The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me. LORD, your mercy endures forever.  
**C: Do not let go of the works of your hands.**

M: Lord, we bow down to you in thankful praise. You have made your ways known to both lowly and great on the earth. You have not abandoned the work of your hands, but instead you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

### **LESSON ONE**

**The Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. Jesus said to his disciples, “You know that after two days it will be the Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”**

**Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas. They plotted together how to arrest Jesus in some deceitful way and kill him. But they said, “Not during the Festival, or else there might be a riot among the people.”**

**Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve. He went away and spoke with the chief priests and officers of the temple guard about how he could betray Jesus to them. They were glad and agreed to give him money. He promised to do it and was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them away from the crowd.**

**On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?” He sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and there a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Wherever he enters, tell the owner of the house that the Teacher says, ‘Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”**

**They went and found things just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. When the hour had come, Jesus reclined at the table with the twelve apostles. He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”**

**A dispute arose among the disciples about which of them was considered to be greatest. But he told them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who have authority over them are called Benefactors. But it is not to be that way with you. Instead, let the greatest among you become like the youngest, and the one who leads like the one who serves. For who is greater, one who reclines at the table or one who serves? Isn’t it the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have remained with me in my trials. I am going to grant a kingdom to you, just as my Father granted to me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”**

**Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved those who were his own in the world, he loved them to the end.**

**By the time the supper took place, the Devil had already put the idea into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus.**

**Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God. He got up from the supper and laid aside his outer garment. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.**

**He came to Simon Peter, who asked him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”**

**Jesus answered him, “You do not understand what I am doing now, but later you will understand.”**

**Peter told him, “You will never, ever, wash my feet!”**

**Jesus replied, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with me.”**

**“Lord, not just my feet,” Simon Peter replied, “but also my hands and my head!”**

**Jesus told him, “A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet, but his body is completely clean. And you are clean, but not all of you.” Indeed, he knew who was going to betray him. That is why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”**

**After Jesus had washed their feet and put on his outer garment, he reclined at the table again. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me Teacher and Lord. You are right, because I am. Now if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. Yes, I have given you an example so that you also would do just as I have done for you. Amen, Amen, I tell you: A servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”**

**He took a cup, gave thanks, and said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”**

**HYMN: # 422:2-4 “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”**

**This Lamb is Christ, the soul’s great friend,  
the Lamb of God, our Savior;  
him God the Father chose to send to gain for us his favor.  
“Go forth, my Son,” the Father said,  
“and free my children from their dread of guilt and condemnation.  
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,  
but by your passion they will share the fruit of your salvation.”**

**“Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I’ll bear what you command me.  
My will conforms to your decree; I’ll do what you have asked me.”  
O wondrous Love, what have you done!  
The Father offers up his Son, desiring our salvation.  
O Love, how strong you are to save!  
You make his bed within the grave who built the earth’s foundation.**

**From morn till eve, in all I do, I’ll praise you, Christ, my treasure.  
To sacrifice myself for you shall be my aim and pleasure.  
My stream of life shall ever be a current flowing ceaselessly,  
Your constant praise outpouring. I’ll treasure in my memory,  
O Lord, all you have done for me, your gracious love adoring.**

## **John 12:1-11**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, the hometown of Lazarus, who had died, the one Jesus raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>They gave a dinner for him there. Martha was serving, and Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with him.

<sup>3</sup>Then Mary took about twelve ounces of very expensive perfume (pure nard) and anointed Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

<sup>4</sup>But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was going to betray him, said, <sup>5</sup>“Why wasn't this perfume sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” <sup>6</sup>He did not say this because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief. He held the money box and used to steal what was put into it.

<sup>7</sup>Jesus replied, “Leave her alone. She intended to keep this for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>Indeed, the poor you always have with you, but you are not always going to have me.”

<sup>9</sup>A large crowd of the Jews learned that he was there. They came not only because of Jesus, but also to see Lazarus, whom he raised from the dead. <sup>10</sup>So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus too, <sup>11</sup>because it was on account of him that many of the Jews were leaving them and believing in Jesus.

## **HYMN: # 407 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

♪ When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

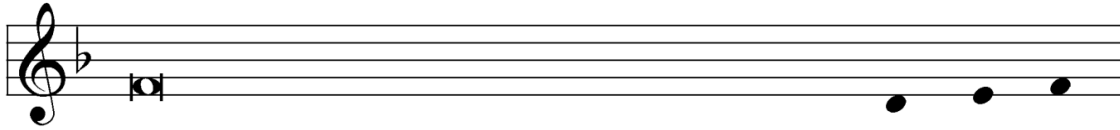
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God.  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a tribute far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.



## OFFERING



**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: # 794 “Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadow”**

**♪ Now rest beneath night’s shadow  
the woodland, field, and meadow;  
the world in slumber lies.  
But you, my heart, awaken,  
with prayer and song be taken;  
let praise to your Creator rise.**

**The rule of day is over  
and shining jewels cover  
the heaven's boundless blue.  
Thus I shall shine in heaven,  
where crowns of gold are given  
to all who faithful prove and true.**

**Lord Jesus, since you love me,  
O spread your wings above me  
and shield me from alarm.  
Though Satan would assail me,  
your mercy will not fail me;  
I rest in your protecting arm.**

**My loved ones, rest securely,  
for God this night will surely  
from peril guard your heads.  
Sweet slumbers may he send you  
and bid his hosts attend you  
and through the night watch o'er your beds.**

