

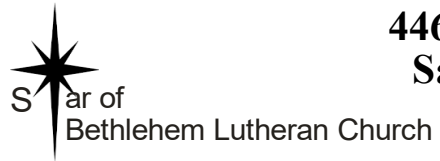
**LENT**

**Midweek  
3**

**HIS  
FINAL  
STEPS**

**... led to his Father's house ...**





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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Wednesday, March 8, 2023 7:00 p.m.*

**LENTEN Vespers      Lent Midweek 3**

## Evening Prayer

### Vespers

**OPENING HYMN: # 402 “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 torment 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.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**Lift we, then, our voices, swell the mighty flood;  
louder still and louder  
praise the precious blood!**



**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 8

M: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

C: **Set this glory of yours above the heavens.**

M: From the lips of little children and nursing babies you have established strength because of your foes,

C: **to put a stop to the enemy and the avenger.**

M: Whenever I look up at your heavens, the works of your fingers,

C: **the moon and the stars, which you have set in place—**

M: what is man that you remember him,

C: **the son of man that you pay attention to him!**

M: Nevertheless, you make him suffer need, apart from God for a while,

**C: but you crown him with glory and honor.**

M: You make him the ruler over the works of your hands.

**C: You put everything under his feet:**

M: O LORD, our Lord,

**C: how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

M: God our Father, we praise your name for the marvelous universe you have created, and we pray for humility to understand our role in it. Show us that your Son is the only man who can rule this world with true wisdom and power. Give us full confidence that all things are under the control of Christ, who lives and rules with you and the Holy Spirit as one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

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

**While they were reclining and eating, Jesus said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.” They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?”**

**He said to them, “It is one of the Twelve, one who is dipping bread with me in the dish. Indeed, the Son of Man is going to go just as it has been written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”**

**After saying this, Jesus was troubled in his spirit and testified, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: One of you will betray me.”**

**The disciples were looking at each other, uncertain which of them he meant. One of his disciples, the one Jesus loved, was reclining at Jesus’ side. Simon Peter motioned to him to find out which one Jesus was talking about. So leaning back against Jesus’ side, he asked, “Lord, who is it?”**

**Jesus replied, “It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread, after I have dipped it in the dish.” Then he dipped the piece of bread and gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.**

**As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. So Jesus told him, “What you are about to do, do more quickly.”**

**None of those reclining at the table understood why Jesus said this to him. Because Judas kept the money box, some thought that Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the Festival,” or to give something to the poor. As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night.**

**After Judas left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify the Son in himself and will glorify him at once.”**

**While they were eating, on the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, “Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**

**“Dear children, I am going to be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.**

**“A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”**

**Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?”**

**Jesus answered, “Where I am going you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.”**

**Peter asked, “Lord, why can’t I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you!”**

**Jesus replied, “Will you really lay down your life for me? Simon, Simon, pay attention: Satan has asked to have you all, so that he may sift you as wheat. But I prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have returned to me, strengthen your brothers.”**

**Peter answered him, “Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.”**

**Jesus said to him, “Amen I tell you: Tonight, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”**

**Peter said to him, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you.” And all the disciples said the same.**

**He said to them, “When I sent you out without money bag, traveler’s bag, and sandals, did you lack anything?”**

**“Nothing,” they said.**

**Then he told them, “But now, let the one who has a money bag take it, and likewise a traveler’s bag. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘He was counted with transgressors.’ Indeed, what is written about me is going to have its fulfillment.”**

**They said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.”**

**He said to them, “That is enough.”**

**Then Jesus said to them, “This night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”**

**After they sang a hymn, Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, to the Mount of Olives, where there was a garden called Gethsemane. He and his disciples went into it. Now Judas, who was betraying him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples.**

**When he reached the place, Jesus told his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray. Keep praying that you may not enter into temptation.”**

**Then he took Peter, James, and John along with him and began to be troubled and distressed. He said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow, even to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch.”**

**He withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours be done.”**

**When he rose from prayer, he went to the disciples and found them sleeping as a result of sorrow. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Were you not strong enough to keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”**

**He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to pass from me unless I drink it, may your will be done.” Again he returned and found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what they should answer him.**

**He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time. He said the same words as before.**

**An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. As he was in agony, he prayed more fervently. His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.**

**Then he returned to his disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise. Let us go. Look, my betrayer is near!”**

**HYMN: # 398 “Not All the Blood of Beasts”**

**♪ Not all the blood of beasts on Israel’s altars slain  
could give the guilty conscience peace or wash away the stain.**

**But Christ, the heav’nly Lamb, takes all our sins away,  
a sacrifice of nobler name and richer blood than they.**

**In faith I place my hand on that dear head divine,  
as penitently here I stand and lay on him my sin.**

**My soul looks back to see the burden you did bear  
when hanging on the cursed tree; I know my guilt was there!**

**Believing, we rejoice to see the curse remove;  
we bless the Lamb with cheerful voice  
and sing his bleeding love.**

**MESSAGE: Matthew 21:12-17**

**<sup>12</sup>Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all those who were selling and buying in the temple. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. <sup>13</sup>He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it a den of robbers!”**

**<sup>14</sup>The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. <sup>15</sup>But when the chief priests and the experts in the law saw the wonders he performed and heard the children calling out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant.**



<sup>16</sup>They said to him, “Do you hear what they are saying?”  
“Yes,” Jesus told them, “Have you never read, From the lips of little children and nursing babies you have prepared praise?”  
<sup>17</sup>He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

**HYMN: # 524 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”**

♪ Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

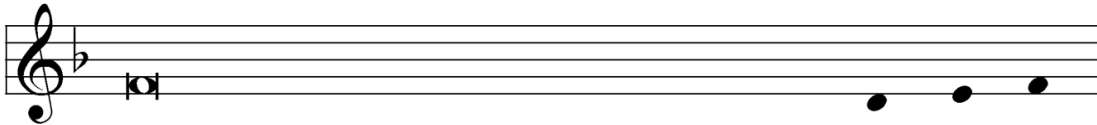
The Lord, our Savior, reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail,  
he rules o’er earth and heav’n;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Our Lord and judge shall come  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

**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:



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: # 786 "Now the Day Is Over"**

♪ Now the day is over, night is drawing nigh;  
 shadows of the evening steal across the sky.

Jesus, give the weary calm and sweet repose;  
 with your tend'rst blessing may my eyelids close.

Comfort ev'ry suff'rer watching late in pain;  
 those who plan some evil, from their sin restrain.

Through the long night watches may your angels spread  
 their bright wings above me, watching round my bed.

When the morning wakens, then may I arise  
 pure and fresh and sinless in your holy eyes.