



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH
HOWARDS GROVE, WI
MARCH 24, 2021



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**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship during these times: We offer distanced seating on one side of the sanctuary. We also encourage compliance for all who are able to wear a face covering to honor God's representatives in our state government. Surfaces such as door handles are cleaned between Sunday services. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which should be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

Communion is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with a pastor.

DVDs: DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you request one.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE

Hands of Passion: *Whether they were lifted to bless God's chosen people or to stone God's chosen prophets, hands in the Bible are rarely noticed but always in action. Our series explores the many roles hands played during the Passion History, from waving palm branches to nailing our Savior to the cross.*

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary | 108

- 1 **Jesus, Refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above,
Oh, how oft your eyes, offended, Gaze upon a sinner's fall!
Yet, upon the cross extended, You endured the pain of all.**
- 2 **Dare we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
As we see you wounded, bleeding, See your thorn-encircled brow?
Since your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest,
Only what your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.**
- 3 **Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for you!
May our eyes be ever turning To behold your cross anew,
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified!**

Please stand.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?

C: The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. (Psalm 24:3-4)

M: But our iniquities have separated us from our God; our sins have hidden his face from us, so that he will not hear.

C: For our hands are stained with blood, our fingers with guilt. Our lips have spoken lies, and our tongue mutters wicked things. (Isaiah 59:2-3)

M: When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

M: Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

C: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" - and you forgave the guilt of my sin. (Psalm 32:3-5)

M: Jesus was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;

C: The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

M: As a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

SOLO

And Can It Be?

And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be? And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his pain?

For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be, that
Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace; emptied
himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race; 'tis mercy all,
immense and free; for O my God, he died for me!

And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be? No condemnation now I
dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine! Alive in him, my living Head, and
clothed in righteousness divine, bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim
the crown, through Christ my own.

Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord Jesus, you humbled yourself to death on a cross that we might be
exalted to eternal life. Lead us ever to plead for your mercy that we may
by faith receive all that you promise to lowly sinners, for you live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 32

Lord, have mercy!

Refrain

Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O Lord;

re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

Psalm tone

*

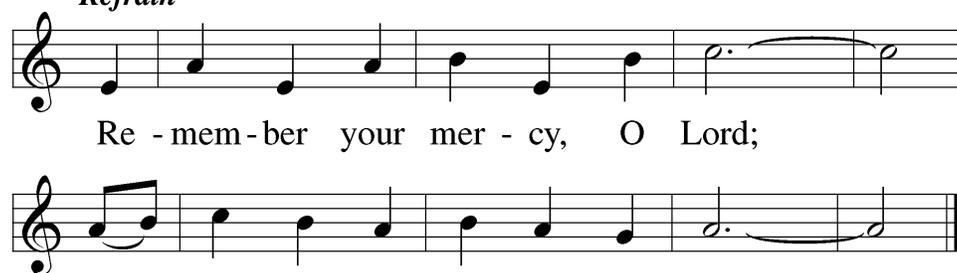
Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,*
whose sins are covered.

When I kept silent, your hand was heavy upon me;*
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you*
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"*
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Refrain



Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O Lord;
re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

You are my hiding place;*
you will protect me from trouble.

Many are the woes of the wicked,*
but the LORD'S unfailing love surrounds those who trust in him.

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

Silence for meditation on the psalm.

PSALM PRAYER

M: Let us pray. Gracious Father in heaven, in countless ways we have transgressed against you. But you have been merciful to us and have forgiven the guilt of our sin. Surround us with your unfailing love that we may rejoice in your great goodness now and forever; through you Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Jesus was crucified and died.

¹⁶The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. ¹⁷They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. ¹⁸And they began to call out to him, "Hail, king of the Jews!" ¹⁹Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. ²⁰And 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.

²¹A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. ²²They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). ²³Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get.

²⁵It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS.

²⁷They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰come down from the cross and save yourself!" ³¹In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! ³²Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

³³At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

³⁵When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah."

³⁶Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down,” he said.

³⁷With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

³⁸The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”

⁴⁰Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome. ⁴¹In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

⁴²It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. ⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

HYMN OF THE DAY

When O’er My Sins I Sorrow | **109**

- 1** When o’er my sins I sorrow, Lord, I will look to you
And hence my comfort borrow That you were slain for me.
Your precious blood was offered For me, oh, most unworthy,
To take away my guilt.
- 2** Oh, what a marv’lous off’ring! Behold, the Master spares
His servants, and their suff’ring And grief for them he bears.
Our God comes down from heaven; For me, his guilty creature,
He deigns as man to die.

**3 My manifold transgression Henceforth can harm me none
Since Jesus' bloody passion For me God's grace has won.
His blood my debt has canceled; Of hell and all its torments
I am no more afraid.**

**4 Therefore I will forever Give thanks continually,
O Jesus, loving Savior, For what you did for me.
I'll spend my breath in praises For your sad cry, your suff'rings,
Your wounds, your guiltless death.**

SERMON TEXT

Luke 18:9-14

Pray Properly in Lent

I. With hands empty

II. With hands full

⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴ "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Please stand.

SERMON RESPONSE

O Dearest Lord, Thy Sacred Head | 118 vv. 2,4

**2 O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands With nails were pierced for me;
Oh, shed thy blessing on my hands That they may work for thee.**

**4 O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart With spear was pierced for me;
Oh, pour thy Spirit in my heart That I may live for thee.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

C: I thank you my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, you dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

In the Hour of Trial | 116

- 1 In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me
Lest by base denial I unworthy be.
When you see me waver, With a look recall,
Nor for fear or favor Ever let me fall.**
- 2 With forbidden pleasures Should this vain world charm
Or its tempting treasures Spread to work me harm,
Bring to my remembrance Sad Gethsemane
Or, in darker semblance, Cross-crowned Calvary.**

- 3 **Should your mercy send me Sorrow, toil, and woe,
Or should pain attend me On my path below,
Grant that I may never Fail your cross to view;
Grant that I may ever Cast my care on you.**
- 4 **When my life is ending, Though in grief or pain,
When my body changes Back to dust again,
On your truth relying, Through that mortal strife,
Jesus, take me, dying, To eternal life.**

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

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PIANIST: Kayla Sprenger

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Nack, Lisa Specht, Ione Prange

USHERS: Dennis Eirich, Wallace Gierach, Mark Kolosovsky, Bill Maas, Aaron Maas

Holy Week Worship Services

Maundy Thursday 6:30pm

Good Friday 1:00pm and 6:30pm

Easter Sunday 7:00am, 9:00am, and 11:00am