

Maundy Thursday

Trinity Lutheran Church
April 9, 2020

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought.
Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God in the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, all my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford by Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply while I live and when I die.

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

Prayer Catena

Pastor: **The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him.** *Nahum 1:7*

People: **Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.** *Hebrews 4:16*

Pastor: The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles.

People: **The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all.** *Psalm 34: 17-19*

Pastor: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

People: **And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.** *Philippians 4:6-7*

The Scripture Lessons

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; ² O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. ³ If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. ⁶ My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. ⁷ O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. ⁸ He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Please Rise For The Holy Gospel

Luke 22:39-53

³⁹ Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." ⁴¹ He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, ⁴² "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." ⁴³ An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. ⁴⁴ And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. ⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. ⁴⁶ "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" ⁴⁹ When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? ⁵³ Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour – when darkness reigns."

The Nicene Creed

Pastor: We remember back to our own Baptism as we confess the Creed together. Do you renounce the devil and all of his evil works and all of his wicked ways?

People: **I do renounce them!**

Pastor: In whom do you believe?

People: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died for his own creatures' sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face while His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.

Sermon

Pastor David J Bolte

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. 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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: **Amen!**

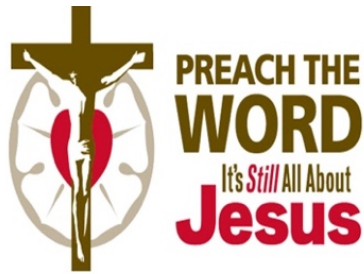
Of The Glorious Body Telling

Of the glorious body telling, O my tongue, its myst'ries sing,
And the blood, all price excelling, which the world's eternal King,
In a noble womb once dwelling, shed for this world's ransoming.

Giv'n for us, for us descending, of a virgin to proceed
With us all in converse blending, scattered He the Gospel seed,
Til His sojourn drew to ending, which He closed in wondrous deed.

At the last great supper lying circled by His chosen band,
Meekly with the law complying, first He finished its command;
Then, immortal food supplying, gave Himself with His own hand.

Word made flesh, by word ordaining very bread His flesh to be;
We, in wine Christ's blood obtaining, and, if senses fail to see,
Faith alone will wake this straining to behold the mystery.



Maundy Thursday

Luke 22:39-53 Psalm 130

April 9, 2020

Pastor Dave Bolte

When you look at the artwork of Jesus praying in the *Garden of Gethsemane*, it is portrayed as a peaceful, serene setting with soft moonlight shining down on him. It's almost as if Jesus has no worries on His heart, and He is having a quiet conversation with His Heavenly Father.

**HOWEVER THAT IS NOT HOW
THE SCRIPTURES PORTRAY IT!**

In the *Garden of Gethsemane*, Jesus is in



Which picture better describes Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane?

great distress; His soul is in sheer agony; His mind is being tormented; He feels the coldness of death drawing near; His body is suffering; and His prayer is full of anguish. This is where Jesus' suffering for our sin truly begins; this is where Jesus' physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual struggle intensifies beyond our comprehension. Jesus is beginning to drink *the Cup of God's wrath*. He is on the verge of "*tasting death*" for all of us. He is *offering up loud cries and tears* to His Father in Heaven. The Gospel of Luke captures the intensity of Jesus' prayer in the *Garden of Gethsemane* in **one verse**:

*And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly;
and His sweat became like great drops of blood
falling down to the ground.*

Luke 22:44

We will never know the full intensity of Jesus' prayer that night in the *Garden of Gethsemane*; we cannot fully understand the depths of His suffering as He was praying; nor the agony of His soul¹. **But we do know that He was there for us;** that He would get up from this prayer with full confidence and trust in the Father's will for Him. The *Garden of Gethsemane* was the turning point for Jesus. From here to the cross, He is at peace, fully obeying the will of His Father. He would do the work of salvation for us: He would continue to suffer, and then die, for our sins and our eternal salvation. *Jesus is the Savior of the world!*

There are two key things to remember about Jesus praying in the *Garden of Gethsemane*.

First, Jesus' prayer in the *Garden of Gethsemane* is an example of His *active obedience* to God's Law on our behalf². Jesus was perfectly obedient to God at all times and in all things – living a perfect and holy life according to God's Law and the Ten Commandments. His perfect, obedient, holy, and sinless life is “credited” to you through faith. God now considers and declares you to be perfect, obedient, holy, and sinless in His sight because of Christ's “active” obedience.

¹ We can never fully remove the veil of mystery that hangs over this prayer. Jesus prays that the suffering might be averted for Him, and yet He had become Incarnate for the very purpose of enduring this woe. With our poor, imperfect powers of comprehension we can merely say that Jesus stands before us as a true human being and that the weight of the suffering which was approaching was so terrific that He saw nothing but this crushing burden, and prayed accordingly. [Luke Arndt](#), p. 447

² The **Active Obedience of Christ** is that “during His entire life, Jesus kept the Law fully and perfectly, not for Himself, but for us.” [A Summary of Christian Doctrine](#), Koehler p. 112 Hebrews 5:7-9 uses the *Garden of Gethsemane* as an example of His *Active Obedience* for us. This is part of His “training” to be our Great High Priest.

We can also learn a key thing about prayer from the *Garden of Gethsemane*. Because Jesus suffered terribly in the *Garden of Gethsemane*, He is now able to help you in your time of intense prayer. Jesus sympathizes with you; He understands pain and suffering; He knows the feeling of unanswered prayer. He promises to help you!

Look at the first two verses of Psalm 130 (*see insert*)

- 1 Out of the depths *I cry to you, O LORD!*
- 2 O Lord, *hear my voice!*
Let your ears be attentive
to *the voice of my pleas for mercy!*

This prayer could have been said by Jesus Himself in the *Garden of Gethsemane*. It's an intense prayer of pain and suffering. Maybe you have prayed prayers like that. Because Jesus suffered terribly in the *Garden of Gethsemane*, He is now able to help you in your time of intense prayer. He promises to help you, and to even pray for you.

Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is *interceding* for us. Romans 8:34

Because Jesus suffered terribly in the *Garden of Gethsemane*, He is now able to help you in your time of intense prayer. Jesus sympathizes with you; He understands pain and suffering; He knows the feeling of unanswered prayer. He promises to help you!

Shortly after Jesus prays, He is betrayed by Judas and arrested by Jewish guards in the *Garden of Gethsemane*. His disciples will flee and run for their lives. Peter will deny the Lord 3 times, Jesus Himself will be beaten, flogged and spit on, He will stand silently before condescending King Herod, Jesus will speak the truth to corrupt Pontus Pilate, Jesus will be led through the streets of Jerusalem like a common criminal to a hill called Golgatha --- where He will be cruelly crucified. Six hours later, the Son of God will die in the darkness . . . *for us and our salvation*. He has finished His work. He has suffered and died for us and our salvation.

We remember that Jesus suffering terribly in the Garden of Gethsemane; that He drank from the *cup of God's wrath* on the cross so we never have to. Instead of the *Wrath of God*, we get the *Grace, Love, and Mercy of God*. Amen!

Psalm 130

- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!
- 2 O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!
- 3 If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
- 4 But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.
- 5 I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
- 6 my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.
- 7 O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.
- 8 And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.