

Midweek Lent 5 + March 20, 2024

March Verse of the Month – “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” – John 3:17

Welcome

685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB 685 sts. 1–2

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience

am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He

sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,

Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts

hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,

Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.

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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

- P** Let us ever walk with Jesus.
- C** To see the depths of his love.
- P** To behold the gift of his forgiveness.
- C** To gaze upon the heights of his grace.
- P** To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.
- C** We walk with Jesus to Pilate's judgment hall.
- P** To hear about Jewish leaders, a prisoner named Barabbas and even Pilate's wife.
- C** It all boils down to three words—innocent, guilty and free.
- P** Faithful Lord, with me abide.
- C** I shall follow where you guide!

Kneel for Confession

Confession and Forgiveness

- P** Forgiving Father, though I don't like to admit it, I am a sinner, much like Barabbas—
- C** A rebel and a wretch.

P Born dead in transgressions and sins.

C **Lost and without hope.**

P Doomed to perish.

C **Blinded by the god of this age.**

P My finest deeds are still soiled with sin.

C **And all my righteous acts are like unclean rags.**

P I am Barabbas.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide! As a Called and Ordained Servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you of all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Spirit. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C **I shall follow where you guide!**

Prayer of the Day

P Lord God, heavenly Father, you set Israel free from the chains of Egyptian bondage and you set Barabbas free from Roman execution; so set us free from every prison that shackles and binds us; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 14:22–29

²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 27:11–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” ¹⁸For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.” ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” ²²Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” ²³And he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

5:30pm Trinity Preschool Sings

Children's Message

547 The Lamb

LSB 547



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.
His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

Refrain



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

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Sermon

There will be an offering plate available on the back pew of the sanctuary. Thank you for your continued generous support of the Lord's work through our congregation.

The Prayers

P Onward in Christ's footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above, full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father's bidding. And so we pray. Dear Lord Jesus, you've freed us from the delusion of trying to earn and maintain a relationship with you; from the anxiety of wondering what you think about us; from the chains of condemnation and from fear of death. That's why we rejoice to say, "If the Son sets you free."

C You will be free, indeed!

P Dear Lord Jesus, only your mercy and grace can help us see, receive and trust our Gospel freedoms. Send us your Word and Spirit so that we live by the truth, "If the Son sets you free."

C You will be free, indeed!

P Dear Lord Jesus, free us from being arrogant, aggravated and annoyed with people. Turn our angry reactions into slower and kinder responses. Help us use fewer words and listen more. Send us your Word and Spirit so that we share this truth with the world, "If the Son sets you free."

C You will be free, indeed!

P Dear Lord Jesus, unshackle the chains of our lingering doubts and insecurities. Empower us to throw off the grave-clothes of shame and feelings of failure. Heal our wounds and free us from bitterness. Send us your Word and Spirit so that we reflect this truth, "If the Son sets you free."

C You will be free, indeed!

P Dear Lord Jesus, free us for larger hearts toward the lost, more mercy for doubters and lavish love for all people. May our spouses feel cherished and appreciated, our children secure and our loved ones treasured and valued.

C Jesus let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.

The 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.**

Closing Sentences

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to Pilate's judgment hall, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.

C Let us ever walk with Jesus!

Benediction

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

C Amen.

437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

LSB 437



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y
His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in
debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.
thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.
self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

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