

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
“It Happened at Pilate’s Judgment Hall”
March 21, 2021
9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “Grace” arr. Bill Ingram, Joel Raney - Trinity Bell
“My Song is Love Unknown” by Charles Callahan - Carla Barrows, Organ
“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” arr. Joel Raney - Trinity Bells

WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

INVOCATION

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

- 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!

OPENING HYMN “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” LSB 685, vs. 1, 2

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

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!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

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!

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.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING. Exodus 14:22-29

R The Old Testament Reading is from the 14th Chapter of Exodus.

R And 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. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And 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, clogging 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."

Then 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." So 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. The 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. But 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. (ESV)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Romans 6:1-11

- R** The Epistle Reading is from the 6th Chapter of Romans.
- R** What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We 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.

For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We 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. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (ESV)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

VERSE LSB 157

- C** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 27:11-23

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 27th Chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

- P** Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." But when He was accused by the chief priests and elders, He gave no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" But He gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered Him up. Besides, 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.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let Him be crucified!” And he said, “Why, what evil has He done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let Him be crucified!” (ESV)

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

C 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Haley Davisson, Director of Youth and Children’s Ministries

MESSAGE HYMN “My Song Is Love Unknown” LSB 430, vs. 1, 2, 3, 5

ALL: My song is love unknown,
My Savior’s love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh and die?

SOLO: *He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend,
My friend indeed,
Who at my need
His life did spend!*

SOLO: *Sometimes they strew His way
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!"
Is all their breath,
And for His death
They thirst and cry.*

ALL: They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He
To suff'ring goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.

MESSAGE. "It Happened at Pilate's Judgment Hall" Pastor Michael P. Dorn

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

☐ 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.

OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING. "Covenant Prayer" by Karen Marroli. Ensemble

*Creator, we belong to You, and You dwell within our hearts.
Though the road be rough, we will follow You with the strength Your grace imparts.
Though we be brought high, though we be brought low, though we journey far from home,
Let us always seek to grow in love, no matter where we roam.
Now let us reach out with loving hands to accept, affirm, embrace
Ev'ry child of God throughout the world and shower them with grace.
And let us reach out with grateful hearts and praise our God above
Through our acts of light and justice as we warm the world with love.
Creator, let us understand that our covenant with You is a covenant with humankind
To honor and pursue the road of Christ, through rocky fields, to the broken and unshod.*

*Let us heal with love, for each soul we meet is a precious child of God.
Now let us reach out with loving hands to accept, affirm, embrace ev'ry child of God
Throughout the world and shower them with grace.*

*And let us reach out with grateful hearts and praise our God above
Through our acts of light and justice as we warm the world with love, with love.*

*Now let us reach out with loving hands to accept, affirm, embrace ev'ry child of God
Throughout the world and shower them with grace.*

*And let us reach out with grateful hearts and praise our God above
Through our acts of light and justice as we warm the world with love,
As we warm the world with love.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

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.

CLOSING HYMN. "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" LSB 437

ALL: Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

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

SOLO: *Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died
For His own creatures' sin.*

ALL: Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

ALL: 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.

POSTLUDE Offertory on "Martyrdom" by Hugh S. Livingston, Jr. . . . Carla Barrows, Organ

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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