



WITHC WITHOUT YOU

JESUS GOES TO THE CROSS

Christ Our Redeemer
Pastor Tom Engelbrecht

Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2021

PSALM 51

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. ² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. ⁶ Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. ¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. ¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. ¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise. ¹⁸ May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

HYMN

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

CW 98 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



Je - sus, I will pon - der now On your ho - ly pas - sion;
Make me see your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,



With your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And your cru - ci - fix - ion;



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound you,



Of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
How for them you died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned you.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are

called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

Pastor: Most holy and merciful Father,

Congregation: We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,

**By our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed
By what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

P: We have not love you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

P: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

P: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

P: Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

P: Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

P: Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

P: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

P: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

P: For what we think or say that is at variance with your will,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who desire to receive the sign of ashes come forward. Baptized children may come forward at their parents' discretion. The minister applies ashes to the back of the hand in the form of a small cross, saying: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

After all who desire have received ashes, we continue:

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world

P: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

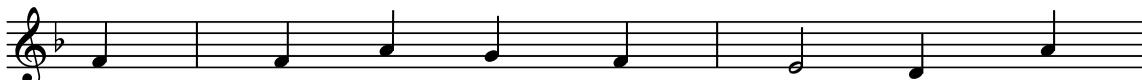
C: Amen.

PASSION HISTORY—In the Upper Room

SERMON HYMN

"When O'er My Sins I Sorrow"

CW 109 Text, Tune: Public Domain Setting: ©1983 Bruce R. Backer



When o'er my sins I sor - row, Lord,
 Oh, what a mar - v'lous of - f'ring! Be -
 My man - i - fold trans - gres - sion Hence -
 There - fore I will for - ev - er Give



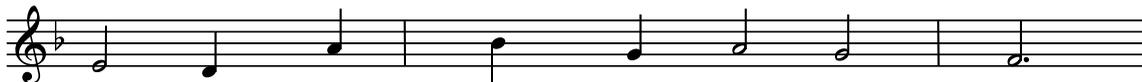
I will look to you And hence my com - fort
 - hold, the Mas - ter spares His ser - vants, and their
 - forth can harm me none Since Je - sus' blood - y
 thanks con - tin - ual - ly, O Je - sus, lov - ing



bor - row That you were slain for me. Your
 suf - f'ring And grief for them he bears. Our
 pas - sion For me God's grace has won. His
 Sav - ior, For what you did for me. I'll



pre - cious blood was of - fered For me, oh, most un -
 God comes down from heav - en; For me, his guilt - y
 blood my debt has can - celed; Of hell and all its
 spend my breath in prais - es For your sad cry, your



- wor - thy, To take a - way my guilt.
 crea - ture, He deigns as man to die.
 tor - ments I am no more a - fraid.
 suf - f'rings, Your wounds, your guilt - less death.

SERMON TEXT

Mark 14:1-11

¹ Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. ² “But not during the festival,” they said, “or the people may riot.”

³ While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

⁴ Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, “Why this waste of perfume? ⁵ It could have been sold for more than a year’s wages and the money given to the poor.” And they rebuked her harshly.

⁶ “Leave her alone,” said Jesus. “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷ The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. ⁸ She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. ⁹ Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

¹⁰ Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. ¹¹ They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

With and Without You: Reclining at the Table

PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: 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.

CLOSING HYMN

"Abide with Me"

CW 588:1, 2, 6, 7 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide.
Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



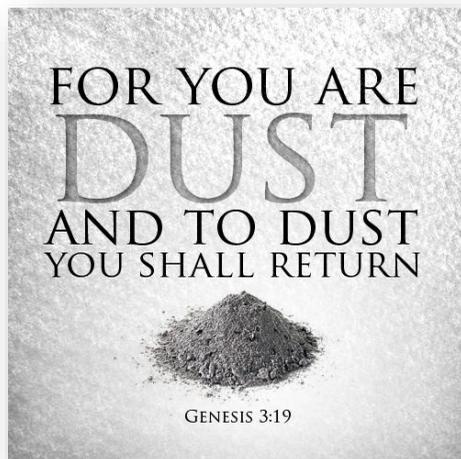
The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
Earth's joys grow dim; its glor - ies pass a - way.
Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

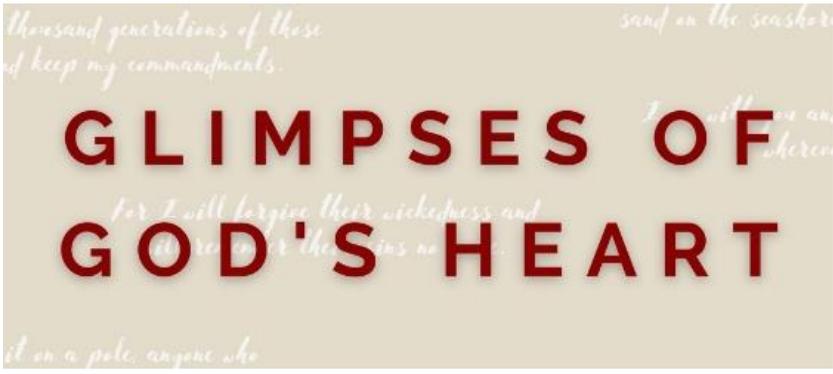


When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;



Help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me!
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me!
I tri - umph still if thou a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me!





Sundays in Lent: We are about to enter the season of the church year where we focus on our Savior's path to the cross for us and for our salvation. The Wednesday services during Lent focus on the Passion, or suffering, of Jesus. The Sunday

worship services in Lent are designed to be little glimpses of the victory that Jesus won on Easter. Our Sunday worship during Lent is going to focus on the "Glimpses of God's Heart" from some of the most familiar and important verses of the Old Testament. Join us during Lent to catch a glimpse of God's heart as he shows his providing care, his accessibility, jealousy (in a good way!), grace, forgiveness and humility. Services are at 8a and 10:30a.



Midweek Lent Services: Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 17, we will be having our midweek Lent services leading up to Holy Week and Easter. As Jesus made his way to the cross on our behalf he was always fully present in his suffering by his Word and action. He truly came to be "with us" as he suffered and died. At the same time, he was also "without us," carrying out the will of his Heavenly Father alone as his disciples slept, betrayed, fled and denied him, and as the world rejected, despised and mocked him so that he could suffer and die for us. Join us for the Ash Wednesday service at 5p and 7p, and the rest of the midweek Lent services at 7p.