

FROM PASSEVER TO PASSION



+ MIDWEEK OF LAETARE +

Wednesday, 17 March A+D 2021 · 7:00 P.M.



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
420 W. Breitung Ave., Kingsford, MI 49802
(906) 774-1844

www.ourredeemerkingsford.org

Rev. Matthew D. Ruesch, Pastor
(906) 396-7401 · pastor@ourredeemerkingsford.org

Renee Wilson, Secretary
secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org

+ TODAY WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION +



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

+ ABOUT OUR MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES +

In 1 Corinthians 5:7, St. Paul says, "Christ, our Passover Lamb" has been sacrificed. He makes the explicit connection between the Passover meal of Old Testament Israel and the suffering and death of Jesus Christ on the cross. Just prior to His Passion and Death, Jesus himself used the Passover meal to institute a "new testament in His blood."

For our Midweek Lenten Series this year, we will examine connections between the account of the first Passover in Exodus 12. There, the Lord God sent a final plague upon the land of Egypt—the death of the firstborn—and delivered Israel out of their slavery.

We will follow each of those readings with a reading from The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This reading will be a "conflation" or "harmonization" of the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. It will compile all four Gospel accounts together into one account of our Lord's Passion, beginning with the institution of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening and culminating with Christ's burial at the end of the day on Friday.

One of the most well-known Passion harmonizations was compiled in the 16th century by Johannes Bugenhagen: colleague, friend, and pastor to Martin Luther himself. Throughout the history of Lutheranism, there is a long tradition of hearing from such Passion histories. I pray that it will be a blessing to you as it has blessed numerous Lutherans over the past 500 years!

+ MIDWEEK OF LAETARE +
Wednesday, 17 March A+D 2021 · 7:00 P.M.

Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four, pg. 203

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

HYMN OF INVOCATION

“What Wondrous Love Is This” LSB 543

Stand

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 203

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

KYRIE

LSB 204

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:21-28

²¹Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and kill the Passover lamb. ²²Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. ²³For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you. ²⁴You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. ²⁵And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. ²⁶And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ ²⁷you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the LORD’s Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

²⁸Then the people of Israel went and did so; as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

IV. The Praetorium

When they had bound Jesus, they led him from Caiaphas to the hall of judgment and gave him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor. It was early. They themselves did not go into the judgment hall, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.

Pilate then went out to them, and said, "What charge do you bring against this man?"

They answered and said to him, "If he were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Then Pilate said to them, "Take him, then, and judge him according to your law."

The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." So the word of Jesus was fulfilled, signifying by what death he should die.

The charges they brought against him were: "We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."

Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered him, "Do you say this for yourself, or did others say it to you about me?"

Pilate answered, "Do you take me for a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have given you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then my servants would have fought that I should not be given over to the Jews; but now my kingdom is not of this world."

Pilate therefore said to him, "Are you a king then?"

Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. I was born and I came into the world that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone that is of the truth hears my voice."

Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them, "I find no fault in this man."

The chief priests kept laying one charge after another against him, but he answered not a word. Pilate questioned him again, saying, "Do you answer nothing? See how many charges they lay against you." Jesus answered him not a word. Pilate was utterly amazed. He said to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no case against this man."

They pressed their charges more vehemently: "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judaea, beginning from Galilee to this place."

When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. When he learned that he belonged in Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him on to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem for those days.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was delighted, for he had long wished to see him because of what he had heard of him, and he hoped to see him do a miracle. He questioned Jesus repeatedly, but he gave him no answer. The chief priests and scribes stood there and vehemently accused him. Herod and his soldiers mocked him. They put a splendid robe on him and sent him back to Pilate.

Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that same day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You have brought this man before me as one subverting the people. See now, I have examined him before you and have found nothing in this man guilty of any of your charges against him, and neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Mark this, he has done nothing worthy of death. I will have him punished and release him."

Now at the feast it was the governor's custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner whom they asked for. They had then a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. He was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection in the city. Pilate knew

that it was out of malice that the chief priests handed Jesus over. Therefore he said to them, “Do you want me to release for you Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?”

The chief priests and elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

Pilate asked them again, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?”

And they cried out all together, saying, “Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas.”

While Pilate was sitting in the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message: “Do not have anything to do with that man; I have suffered much over him today in a dream.”

Again Pilate addressed them, for he wished to release Jesus. He said to them, “What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ? What shall I do with him whom you call the King of the Jews?”

They all cried out, “Crucify him!”

Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found no guilt worthy of death in him; I will therefore punish him and let him go.”

They cried out all the louder, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers of the governor led him away into the praetorium. They gathered the whole band of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a purple robe on him. When they had woven a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and a reed in his right hand, and they knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. They knelt down and did him homage.

Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I bring him out to you that you may know I find him not guilty.” So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!”

When the chief priests and officers saw him, they cried, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I do not find him guilty.”

The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”

When Pilate heard this, he was more afraid and went again into the judgment hall and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to crucify you, and I have power to release you?”

Jesus answered, “You would not have any power at all over me, unless it had been given to you from above. For that reason he who handed me over to you has the greater sin.”

This prompted Pilate to go on trying to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar.”

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement or, in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*. It was the Preparation of the Passover, about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your king!”

They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!”

Pilate said unto them, “Shall I crucify your king?”

The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but rather a riot was under way, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this man; see to it yourselves.”

Then all the people responded, “His blood be on us and on our children.”

Then Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, gave sentence that it should be as they demanded. He released to them Barabbas for whom they asked, the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder. He had Jesus flogged and then gave him over to their will to be crucified. The soldiers mocked him, stripped him of the purple robe, put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him.

Stand

APOSTLES’ CREED

LSB 207

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Lamb” LSB 547

Sit

SERMON

“The Stricken Lamb” Exodus 12:21-28

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Sit

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Stand

PREFACE

LSB 208

SANCTUS

LSB 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 209

LORD’S PRAYER

LSB 209

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 209

PAX DOMINI

LSB 209

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

“O Living Bread from Heaven” LSB 642

Stand

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 212

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

BENEDICTION

LSB 212

HYMN TO DEPART

“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy” LSB 434

+ SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE +

ELDER

ORGANIST

Tonight, 3/17

Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.

David M.

Digital Music

Next Wednesday, 3/24

Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.

Dana B.

Digital Music

