



OUR SAVIOR'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



REFLECTIONS
on
REPENTANCE



Removing Our Guilt

March 26, 2025

Welcome

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 sts. 1-2, 4-5

Please rise for v. 5



1 Je - sus, I will pon-der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,
4 Grant that I your pas-sion view with re - pent - ant griev - ing;
5 If my sins give me a - larm and my con-science grieve me,



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;
let me not bring shame to you by un - ho - ly liv - ing.
let your cross my fear dis - arm, peace of con-science give me.



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,
How could I re - fuse to shun ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure
Help me see for - give - ness won by your ho - ly pas - sion.



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.
since for me God's on - ly Son suf - fered with - out mea - sure?
If for me he slays his Son, God must have com - pas - sion!

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.
Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life. **Amen.**

Glory Be to Jesus

CW 402



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal in that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for venge - ance plead - ed to the skies,



poured for me the life - blood from his sa - cred veins.
blest be his com - pas - sion, in - fi - nite - ly kind.
which from end - less tor - ment did the world re - deem.
but the blood of Je - sus for our par - don cries.

- 5 Oft as earth exulting lifts its praise on high,
angel hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices, swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent., abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.
Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–1876
Text and tune: Public domain

Passion History

Lesson 3

Presider: Simon Peter and another disciple kept following Jesus. That disciple was known to the high priest, so he went into the high priest's courtyard with Jesus.

All: But Peter stood outside by the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out and talked to the girl watching the door and brought Peter in.

Women: The servants and guards were standing around a fire of coals that they had made because it was cold.

Men: While they warmed themselves, Peter was standing with them, warming himself too.

Presider: One of the servant girls of the high priest came there. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked directly at him and said, "You were also with Jesus the Galilean."

All: But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, "I don't know what you are talking about. Woman, I do not know him."

Women: When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, "This is one of them. This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Men: Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, "I do not know the man."

All: After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, "Surely you are also one of them, because even your accent gives you away. You are a Galilean!"

Men: Then he began to curse and to swear, "I do not know this man you are talking about! I do not know the man!"

Presider: At that very moment, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the Lord's word, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today you will deny me three times." He went outside, broke down, and wept bitterly.

Women: The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

All: Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I always taught in a synagogue or at the temple, where all the Jews gather. I said nothing in secret. Why are you questioning me? Ask those who heard what I told them. Look, they know what I said.”

Men: When he said this, one of the guards standing there hit Jesus in the face. “Is that how you answer the high priest?” he demanded.

Presider: “If I said something wrong,” Jesus answered, “testify about what was wrong. But if I was right, why did you hit me?”

All: The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. They found none, even though many false witnesses came forward.

Men: Finally two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’”

Women: Yet even on this point, their testimony did not agree.

All: The high priest stood up and said to him, “Have you no answer? What is this that these men are testifying against you?”

Presider: But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I place you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!”

Men: Jesus said to him, “It is as you have said. But I tell you, soon you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Presider: Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, you have just heard the blasphemy! What do you think?”

Women: They answered, “He is deserving of death!”

All: Then some began to spit on him. They covered his face, struck him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy to us, Christ! Who hit you?”

Men: The guards also took him and beat him. And they went on saying many other blasphemous things against him.

Presider: As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both chief priests and experts in the law.

All: They brought Jesus into their Sanhedrin and said, “If you are the Christ, tell us.”

Men: But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer me or release me. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

All: They all said, “Are you then the Son of God?”

Presider: He said to them, “I am what you are saying.”

Men: Then they said, “Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from his own mouth!”

Women: Then the chief priests with the elders and experts in the law, together with the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision.

Men: They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

Presider: Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders and said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.”

All: But they said, “What is that to us? That’s your problem.”

Women: He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself.

Presider: The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money.”

Men: They reached a decision to buy the potter’s field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners.

Women: So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

Men: They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord commanded me.

Presider: Early in the morning, the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. They did not enter the Praetorium themselves, so that they would not become ceremonially unclean. (They wanted to be able to eat the Passover meal.) So Pilate went out to them and said, “What charge do you bring against this man?”

Women: They answered him, “If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.”

Presider: Pilate told them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.”

All: The Jews said, “It’s not legal for us to put anyone to death.” This happened so that the statement Jesus had spoken indicating what kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled.

Men: They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.”

Women: Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Presider: “It is as you say,” Jesus replied.

All: The chief priests accused him of many things. When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

Men: Pilate questioned him again, “Are you not going to answer anything? See how many charges they are bringing against you!”

Women: But Jesus still did not answer anything, so Pilate was amazed.

All: Pilate went back into the Praetorium and summoned Jesus. He asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Presider: Jesus answered, “Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you about me?”

All: Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?”

Presider: Jesus replied, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But now my kingdom is not from here.”

Men: “You are a king then?” Pilate asked.

Presider: Jesus answered, “I am, as you say, a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

Men: “What is truth?” Pilate said to him.

All: After he said this, he went out again to the Jews and told them, “I find no basis for a charge against him.”

Women: But they kept insisting, “He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here.”

Presider: When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

Women: When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time he had wanted to see him, because he had heard many things about him.

Men: He hoped to see some miracle performed by him. He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer.

All: The chief priests and the experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing him.

Women: Herod, along with his soldiers, treated him with contempt and ridiculed him. Dressing him in bright clothing, Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate.

Presider: Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other.

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

CW 409

- 1 Jesus, refuge of the weary,
 blest Redeemer, whom we love,
fountain in life's desert dreary,
 Savior from the world above,
often have your eyes, offended,
 gazed upon the sinner's fall;
yet, upon the cross extended,
 you endured the pain of all.

- 2 Dare we pass that cross unheeding,
 breathing no repentant vow,
as we see you wounded, bleeding,
 see your thorn-encircled brow?
Since your sinless death has brought us
 life eternal, peace, and rest,
only what your grace has taught us
 calms the sinner's deep distress.

3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning
with more fervent love for you!
May our eyes be ever turning
to behold your cross anew,
till in glory, parted never
from the blessed Savior's side,
graven in our hearts forever
dwell the cross, the Crucified!

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–1498; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–1896, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Psalm 51:8-9

Removing Our Guilt

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness.
Let the bones you have crushed celebrate.
⁹Hide your face from my sins. Erase all my guilty deeds.

Thank Offering & Friendship Register

Members of Our Savior's give generous and free will gifts to honor the Lord and support our ministry of the gospel. Guests are welcome to give but should not feel obligated to do so.

As the offering is gathered, please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed down the pew.

Please Stand

Prayer of the Church, Lord's Prayer, and Blessing

God, our Father, by the sacrifice of your Son you reconciled the world to yourself.

We thank you for the precious gift of forgiveness. Refresh us with the joy of salvation, that we may walk in the way of peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Renew our minds and wills, that daily we may speak your word of peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Go in peace. Christ Jesus has set you free.

Thanks be to God.

Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

CW 794 sts. 3-4

3 Lord Je - sus, since you love me, O spread your
4 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, for God this

wings a - bove me and shield me from a - larm.
night will sure - ly from per - il guard your heads.

Though Sa - tan would as - sail me, your mer - cy will not
Sweet slum - bers may he send you and bid his hosts at -

fail me; I rest in your pro - tect - ing arm.
tend you and through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517
Text and tune: Public domain

Serving in Worship Today

Minister ~ Pastor Andy Ewald, Immanuel, Mosinee
Organist ~ Joel Davidson

Reflections on Repentance

Midweek Lent #5, Wednesday, April 2nd:
Presiding Minister: Pastor Andrew Buschkopf (Mountain of the Lord)
“Relying on God’s Grace.”

Acknowledgments

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