

LENT 3

MARCH 3, 2021

Order Of Worship

HYMN 98 (Verses 1-4): Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

**1 Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;
With your Spirit me endow for such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish
Of your suff'ring, pain, and death that I may not perish.**

**2 Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness and your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you,
How for them you died, O God, who with thorns have crowned you.**

**3 Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your passion,
But its cause to me make known and its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin wrought your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been of your crucifixion.**

**4 If my sins give me alarm and my conscience grieve me,
Let your cross my fear disarm; peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won by your holy passion.
If for me he slays his Son, God must have compassion!**

RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips.

Congregation: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

Pastor: Hasten to save me, O God.

Congregation: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening worship. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

THE PSALM: Psalm 37

Pastor: Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong

CONGREGATION: Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Pastor: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this;

CONGREGATION: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Pastor: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

CONGREGATION: Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

Pastor: For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

CONGREGATION: The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

Pastor: Lord God, in this changing world we look to you as our unchanging rock of refuge and hope. Hear us as we plead for your mercy, and grant us your saving grace and protection; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

THE PASSION HISTORY: Trial and Denial

HYMN: Jesus, Lover of My Soul

**1 Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide, Oh, receive my soul at last!**

**2 Other refuge have I none; Hangs my helpless soul on thee.
Leave, ah, leave me not alone; Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed; All my help from thee I bring.
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.**

**3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness,
False and full of sin I am; Thou art full of truth and grace.**

**4 Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.**

SERMON TEXT – John 18:4-11 Matthew 26:52-54

Strong and Steady Hands

John 18:4 Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?” 5 “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “I am he,” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) 6 When Jesus said, “I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground. 7 Again he asked them, “Who is it you want?: And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” 8 “I told you that I am he, Jesus answered, “If you are looking for me, then let these men go.” 9 This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: “I have not lost one of those you gave me.” 10 Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) 11 Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?”

Matthew 26:52 “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. 53 Do you think I cannot

call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

HYMN 444: If You But Trust in God to Guide You

**1 If you but trust in God to guide you
And place your confidence in him,
He'll give you strength and stand beside you
When days are dreary, dark, and dim.
For those who trust his changeless love
Build on the rock that does not move.**

**2 How can these anxious worries aid you,
These never ceasing moans and sighs?
Will not his wings of mercy shade you
Whenever troubled times arise?
Our cross and trials do but press
The heavier for our bitterness.**

**3 Be patient and await his leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content;
Then take what-e'er your Father's pleasure
And his discerning love have sent.
Doubt not; your inmost wants are known
To him who chose you for his own.**

**4 Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving,
Perform you duties faithfully,
And trust his Word; though undeserving,
You'll find his promise true to be.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted him indeed.**

PRAYER\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

The offering will be received as you are ushered out after the service in the fellowship hall so that offering plates are not passed.

BLESSING

HYMN 436: Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

**1 Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep, who your Father's flock does keep,
Save we wake and safe we sleep, guarded still by you.**

**2 In your promise firm we stand; None can take us from your hand.
Speak—we hear—at your command, we will follow you.**

**3 By your blood our souls were bought; by your life salvation wrought;
By your light our feet are taught, Lord, to follow you.**

**4 Father, draw us to your Son; we with joy will follow on
Till the work of grace is done, there to live with you.**

**5 We, in robes of glory dressed, join th' assembly of the blest,
Gathered to eternal rest in the fold with you.**