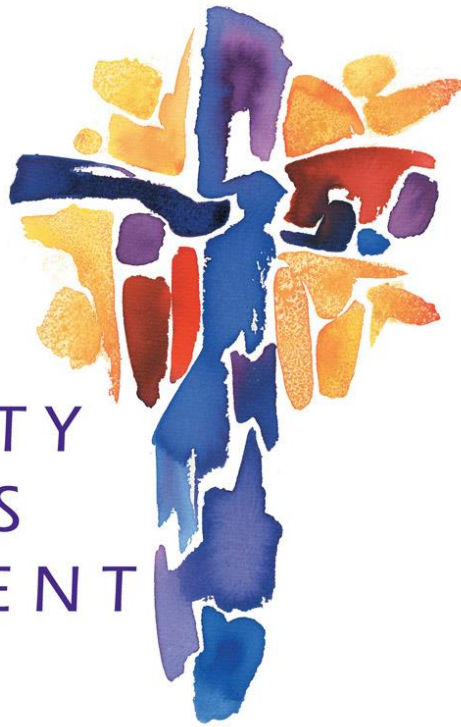


THE
FORTY
DAYS
of LENT



RETURN
to the
LORD
YOUR
GOD

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
March 22, 2017 Lenten Service

EVENING PRAYER (page 52)

OPENING HYMN: #115 "He Stood Before the Court" *STAND*

M: O Lord, open my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

M: Hasten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. 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.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU (Psalm 141)



C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing



up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I



call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I



cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

PSALM 38

Refrain



Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Psalm tone



O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger*
or discipline me in your wrath.

For your arrows have pierced me,*
and your hand has come down upon me.

My guilt has overwhelmed me*
like a burden too heavy to bear.

Refrain

All my longings lie open before you, O LORD;*
my sighing is not hidden from you.

I wait for you, O LORD;*
you will answer, O Lord my God.

Come quickly to help me,*
O Lord my Savior.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

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Silence for meditation.

M: Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Passion History of Our Lord

Matthew 26:57-75

⁵⁷ Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸ And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹ and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶² And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that

these men testify against you?”⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.”⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy.”⁶⁶ What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.”⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him,⁶⁸ saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.”⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you mean.”⁷¹ And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”⁷² And again he denied it with an oath: “I do not know the man.”⁷³ After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.”⁷⁴ Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed.⁷⁵ And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

Seasonal Response: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

HYMN: “Long Has Satan Long Been Spinning”

Tune: “Comfort, Comfort All My People”

1 Long has Satan long been spinning
Bonds to wrap 'round Jesus' hands!
Forcefully would sin be pinning
Our dear Lord with hellish bands!
Heaven itself is bound in chains!
God's own Son will suffer pains!
Now a captive He is counted
With disgrace and shame surrounded.

2 Jesus stands in great dishonor,
Bound and beaten, spit upon,
Shame and scandal, and no honor
From the wicked powers anon!
Peter soon forgets His need
Fearing his own death indeed;
Leaves the Prince of Life, his Savior,
Promise broken, faith doth waver!

3 By the fire he stands and trembles,
Trying just to keep him warm
But God's lovingkindness crumbles
In his heart and breast and arm.
Questioned by the lowly maid
If he knew the Man betrayed,
Three times he denied to know Him
Even with an oath disowned Him.

4 Soon the rooster crows, announcing
Passing night and coming dawn.
Peter still knows not his sinning
On the path too far he's gone.
Swearing, cursing, oaths he makes
Jesus' friendship he forsakes
Even as he doth disown him,
Jesus casts His eyes upon him.

5 Annas, scoundrel, was not sleeping,
Wide awake, when they did walk
In his house with Jesus creeping
As a Dove before the hawk
Then to Caiaphas they came
Where they brought more grief and shame;
Power and time for Him was taken,
All with evil hatred waken.

6 If for truth's sake they now take me,
If I'm treated scornfully,
If they still with tongues forsake me,
If they beat me mockingly,
Let me still believing see
All the scorn Thou bor'st for me

Insult, shame, and wicked mock'ry
For my everlasting glory.

SERMON: "Turn to Jesus; He Longs to Forgive You"

Sermon Text: Luke 23:32-34

³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

STAND

SONG OF MARY (Magnificat)(page 57)



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-



joic - es in God my Sav - ior, for he has looked with fa - vor



on his low - ly ser - vant. From this day all gen - er - a - tions



will call me bless - ed. The Al - might - y has done great



things for me, and ho - ly is his name. He has mer - cy on




those who fear him in ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the




proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y




from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.



He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich



he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the



help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his



prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,



to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*) (page 59)

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



C: Thanks be to God.

C: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



C: A - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part



ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen



your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry



peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



C: A - men.

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CLOSING HYMN: #123 “Lord Jesus Christ, You Set Us Free”

Officiant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Organist: Mrs. Jan Jacobi