

TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLENDORA  
March 3, 2021  
Return from Betrayal

**As We Gather**

In the Transfiguration hymn “Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory,” hymnwriter Thomas Troeger portrays the days of the Lord’s Passion as that time when Jesus’ disciples are to be “following the Savior Through the valley to the cross and . . . testing faith’s resilience Through betrayal, pain, and loss” (*LSB* 416:2). The weekly reading of the Gospel account of Holy Week reveals how the disciples do and do not meet the challenges of following their Lord. The witness of Scripture also shows how in every situation Jesus remains faithful to His own even in the face of betrayal, pain, and loss. The season of Lent gives us the opportunity to reflect on our discipleship and to test the resiliency of our faith as well.

Our guest preacher this evening is Pastor Alex Hoffmeyer of Salem Lutheran Church, Coloma. Pastor Hoffmeyer has served at Salem since his graduation from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 2017. He grew up in Mundelin, IL and met his wife Leah while they were students at Valparaiso University. Married in 2017, the Hoffmeyers will be welcoming their first child early April. Welcome Pastor Hoffmeyer!

**PREPARATION**

**436 Go to Dark Gethsemane**

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter’s pow’r;  
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
- 2 Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
- 3 Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,  
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.  
“It is finished!” hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb, Where they laid His breathless clay;  
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?  
Christ is ris’n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

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**Invocation**

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

**Opening Sentences** *Joel 2:13; Titus 2:13b–14; 2 Timothy 2:11, 13*

- P Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**  
P Jesus Christ gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness  
C **and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.**  
P The saying is trustworthy for: If we have died with Him, we will also live with Him;  
C **if we are faithless, He remains faithful—for He cannot deny Himself.**

**Exhortation** *LSB 184*

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**  
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**Confession of Sins**

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**  
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

**430 My Song Is Love Unknown**

- 1 My song is love unknown, My Savior’s love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown, That they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I, That for my sake  
My Lord should take, Frail flesh and die?

- 2 He came from His blest throne, Salvation to bestow;  
But men made strange, and none, The longed-for Christ would know.  
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,  
Who at my need, His life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew His way, And His sweet praises sing;  
Resounding all the day, Hosannas to their King.  
Then “Crucify!” Is all their breath,  
And for His death, They thirst and cry.
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
Themselves displease, And ’gainst Him rise.
- 5 They rise and needs will have, My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful He, To suff’ring goes  
That He His foes, From thence might free.
- 6 In life no house, no home, My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb, But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav’n was His home  
But mine the tomb, Wherein He lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.  
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise  
I all my days, Could gladly spend!

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### Salutation

- P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray.  
O God, who gives strength to the weak and light to those who are in darkness, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, that through Him we may know You. By Your Spirit, direct our lives so that we never betray our Lord or turn away from following Him throughout our lives. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior.
- C **Amen.**

### WORD

#### First Reading *2 Samuel 15:12; 17:1–4*

- P A reading from Second Samuel, the fifteenth and seventeenth chapters.

<sup>12</sup>And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David’s counselor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.

<sup>1</sup>Moreover, Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Let me choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. <sup>2</sup>I will come upon him while he is weary and discouraged and throw him into a panic, and all the people who are with him will flee. I will strike down only the king, <sup>3</sup>and I will bring all the people back to you as a bride comes home to her husband. You seek the life of only one man, and all the people will be at peace.” <sup>4</sup>And the advice seemed right in the eyes of Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm *Psalm 41*

- P Blessèd is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him;
- C **the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessèd in the land; You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**
- P The Lord sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.
- C **As for me, I said, “O Lord, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!”**
- P My enemies say of me in malice, “When will he die and his name perish?”
- C **And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**
- P All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.
- C **They say, “A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.”**
- P Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- C **But You, O Lord, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!**
- P By this I know that You delight in me:  
my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- C **But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever. Blessèd be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.  
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.**



By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C **Help us, good Lord.**

L In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C **Help us, good Lord.**

L We poor sinners implore You

C **to hear us, O Lord.**

L To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

L To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

L To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our [*president*] and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

L To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

L Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C **we implore You to hear us.**

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **have mercy.**

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **have mercy.**

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C **grant us Your peace.**

L O Christ, C **hear us.** L O Lord,

C **have mercy.** L O Christ, C **have mercy.**

L O Lord, C **have mercy. Amen.**

### 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.**

### Closing Collect

P Let us pray.

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

### Blessing

P The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit be and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

### 433 Glory Be to Jesus

1 Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood, From His sacred veins!

2 Grace and life eternal, In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!

3 Blest through endless ages, Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment, Did the world redeem!

4 Abel's blood for vengeance, Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus, For our pardon cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting, Wafts 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!

**Acknowledgments**

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