

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



The Glory of the Cross is Hidden in the
Savior's Promises

Good Friday

March 29, 2024



“Learning and sharing the gospel of Christ the Prince of Peace.”

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Evangelical Lutheran Church
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LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

Behold the Hidden Glory of the Cross!

God has shown us in the life and teaching of his Son the true way of blessedness. He has also shown us in His suffering and death that the path of love may lead to the cross, and the reward of faithfulness may be a crown of thorns. May God give us grace to learn these hard lessons! May we take up our cross and follow Christ in the strength of patience and the constancy of faith; and may we have such fellowship with Him in His sorrow that we may know His strength and peace and see, even in our darkest hour of trial and anguish, the beauty of eternal light!

| | | |
|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| February 21 | It is Hidden in the Savior's Solitude | Luke 18:31-34 |
| February 28 | It is Hidden in the Savior's Rejection by His Own | Matthew 26:57-68 |
| March 6 | It is Hidden in the Savior's Rejection by the World | John 18:33 - 19:1 |
| March 13 | It is Hidden in the Savior's Stumbling | Mark 15:18-21 |
| March 20 | It is Hidden in Powerful Words | Luke 23:32-43 |
| March 28 | It is Hidden in the Savior's Feast (Holy Thursday) | Matthew 26:26-30 |
| March 29 | It is Hidden in the Savior's Promises (Good Friday) | John 19:31-37 |

420 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 st. 1

1 Je - sus, I will pon-der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
with your Spir - it me en - dow for such med - i - ta - tion.
Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish
of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death that I may not per - ish.

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

Stand

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

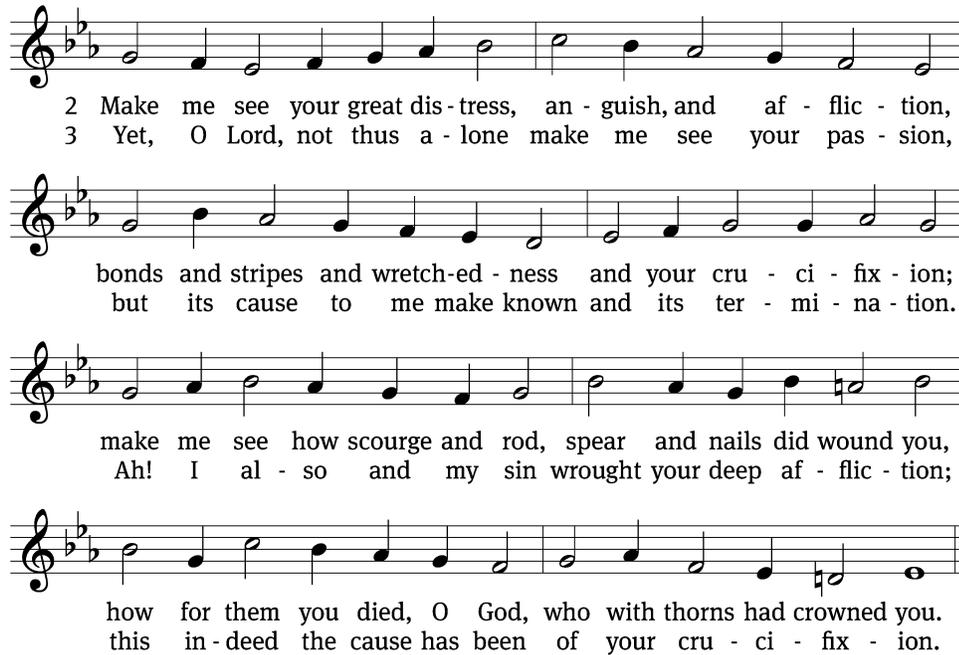
Scripture

Ephesians 2:1–3

¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

420 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 sts. 2-3



2 Make me see your great dis-tress, an-guish, and af-flic-tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a-lone make me see your pas-sion,
bonds and stripes and wretch-ed-ness and your cru-ci-fix-ion;
but its cause to me make known and its ter-mi-na-tion.
make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you,
Ah! I al-so and my sin wrought your deep af-flic-tion;
how for them you died, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
this in-deed the cause has been of your cru-ci-fix-ion.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626-1681
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
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Scripture

Galatians 3:10

¹⁰For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.”

420 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 st. 4



4 Grant that I your pas-sion view with re-pent-ant griev-ing;
let me not bring shame to you by un-ho-ly liv-ing.
How could I re-fuse to shun ev-'ry sin-ful plea-sure
since for me God's on-ly Son suf-fered with-out mea-sure?

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626-1681
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
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Scripture

James 4:8–10

⁸Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Absolution

CW 154

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

420 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 st. 5



5 If my sins give me a - larm and my con-science grieve me,
let your cross my fear dis - arm, peace of con-science give me.
Help me see for - give - ness won by your ho - ly pas - sion.
If for me he slays his Son, God must have com - pas - sion!

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

Text and tune: Public domain

Be seated

¹³See, my servant will act wisely;
he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

¹⁴Just as there were many who were appalled at him—
his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being
and his form marred beyond human likeness—

¹⁵so he will sprinkle many nations,
and kings will shut their mouths because of him.
For what they were not told, they will see,
and what they have not heard, they will understand.

¹Who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²He grew up before him like a tender shoot,
and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

⁴Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.

⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin,
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

¹¹After he has suffered,
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,
because he poured out his life unto death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Choir

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Second Reading

Hebrews 7:26–28

²⁶Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

¹⁷Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”

²²Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

²³When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

²⁴“Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.”

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

“They divided my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment.”

So this is what the soldiers did.

²⁵Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” ²⁷and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” ²⁹A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. ³⁰When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

420 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

CW 420 st. 6

6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; help me bear my cross - es,
learn - ing hum - ble - ness from you, peace mid pain and loss - es.



May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,
that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

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

Sermon

The Glory of the Cross is Hidden in the Savior's Promises

John 19:31–37

³¹Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³²The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. ³⁵The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. ³⁶These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken," ³⁷and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced."

Stand

Bidding Prayer

Let us pray for the whole Church, that our gracious Father would defend her from the devil and keep her faithful to her Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your saving name to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Protect us from the assaults of the evil one and help us remain faithful to your Word so that in every adversity, we may stand firm in our faith and give ourselves fully to our Savior's work, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in the public ministry and for all people of God.

Almighty and everlasting God, you rule over all things for the good of your people. Preserve us from divisive spirits and false teachers. Give your servants the grace to proclaim Christ joyfully in word and deed so that all who hear them may come to know their Savior better and be strengthened for their lives of service, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who are being instructed in the Word, that they remain firm in the simple faith of Baptism.

Almighty and everlasting God, you make us your own dear children by the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Give strength to all who are buried with Christ in Baptism, that each day they may die to sin and rise again to live new and holy lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our earthly government, our rulers, and all who are in authority.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have established earthly government to keep a measure of order in this dying world and to protect us from the disorder of sin. Give to all rulers the wisdom to govern well and to all citizens the desire to obey them, so that we may live peaceful lives in all godliness and holiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray that our gracious Father would protect us and our communities from the many earthly calamities that threaten us.

Almighty and everlasting God, on all sides we are surrounded by danger from wars and famine, from disease and pestilence, with the devil begrudging us every minute of our lives. Protect us from all these miseries so that your name may still be glorified in them and so that we may safely pass through them to your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who are outside the Church, that they may come to know the one, true God and Jesus Christ, whom he has sent.

Almighty and everlasting God, your Son was lifted up on the cross so that he might draw all people to himself. Through the proclamation of your gospel, mercifully gather a people that are your very own, that we may join together around your throne in glory to praise and thank you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our enemies and for all those who hate us.

Almighty and everlasting God, no one can harm us without grieving you, whose name we bear. We ask that you change the hearts of those who work against us and who hate us without reason. Give them repentance and faith so that they may be glad with us and find joy in your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for all who suffer under cross and trial.

Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our grief and to carry our sorrows. Help those who are suffering for your name's sake and who are struggling against temptation, that they may not be overwhelmed with sadness but find relief in your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask in the words he has taught us:

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.

Be Seated

Offering

Our offerings are freely given as a response to God's gracious outpouring of love upon us.

Dialogue of the Cross

We glory in your cross, O Lord,

and we praise your holy resurrection,

for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

May God be gracious to us and bless us

and make his face shine on us—

so that your ways may be known on earth

your salvation among all nations.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.
**May God bless us still,
so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

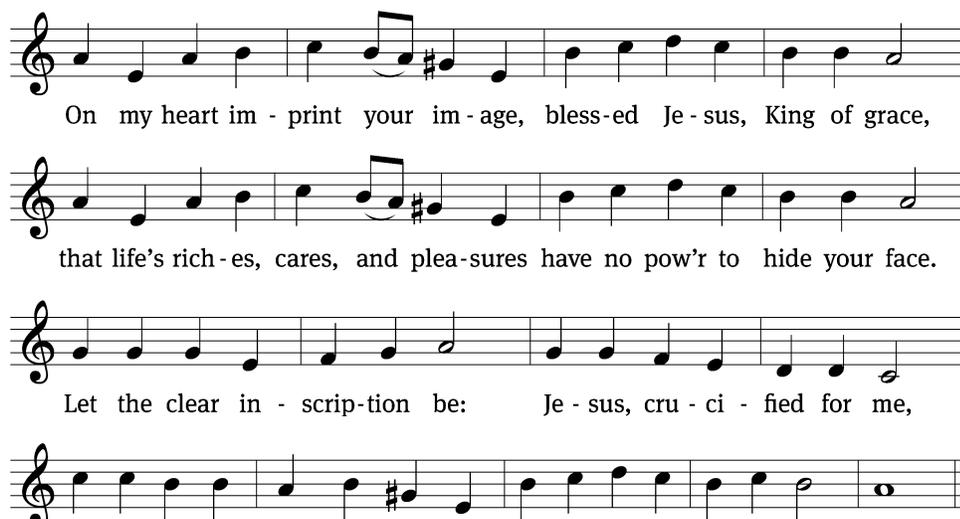
We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

Brief silence

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

405 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

CW 405



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless-ed Je - sus, King of grace,
that life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures have no pow'r to hide your face.
Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,
is my life, my hope's foun-da - tion, and my glo-ry and sal-va - tion.

Text: tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.; Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.
Tune: Johann B. König, 1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

The minister exits the chancel.

Worshippers may remain for prayer and meditation before exiting silently.

Acknowledgments

Good Friday: Service of Remembrance of the Cross from Christian Worship
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