

**SERMON TEXT** Psalm 6:1-10 NIV *For the director of music. With stringed instruments. According to sheminith. A psalm of David. O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath. 2 Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony. 3 My soul is in anguish. How long, O LORD, how long? 4 Turn, O LORD, and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love. 5 No one remembers you when he is dead. Who praises you from the grave? 6 I am worn out from groaning; all night long I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears. 7 My eyes grow weak with sorrow; they fail because of all my foes. 8 Away from me, all you who do evil, for the LORD has heard my weeping. 9 The LORD has heard my cry for mercy; the LORD accepts my prayer. 10 All my enemies will be ashamed and dismayed; they will turn back in sudden disgrace.*

(SERIES) INTRODUCTION **Lent in many ways is a journey.** We journey with our Lord to the cross and deal with the forgiveness of our sins. Each week we will hear a portion of the reading of the Passion story of our Lord, and we will reflect upon our Lord's death and what that means to sinners like you and me. That reflection is a familiar part of Lent.

#### **THIS SEASON IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**LENT** is a season of intense preparation for Easter. It is also a time for deep meditation and reflection on the Word of God. We reflect on Holy Baptism and its basis in the death and Resurrection of Christ. We remember that although Baptism happened in time, still our Baptism plays a powerful and meaningful role in our everyday lives. As we daily contemplate our sins in the mirror of God's Law, we remember the covenant God made to us in Baptism: A covenant that He would be faithful in forgiving our sins unto everlasting Life.

As we daily return to Baptism in repentance and faith, we continue the cycle of the Christian life which will ultimately find its culmination in the final resurrection from the dead. *"...do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through Baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."* (Romans 6)

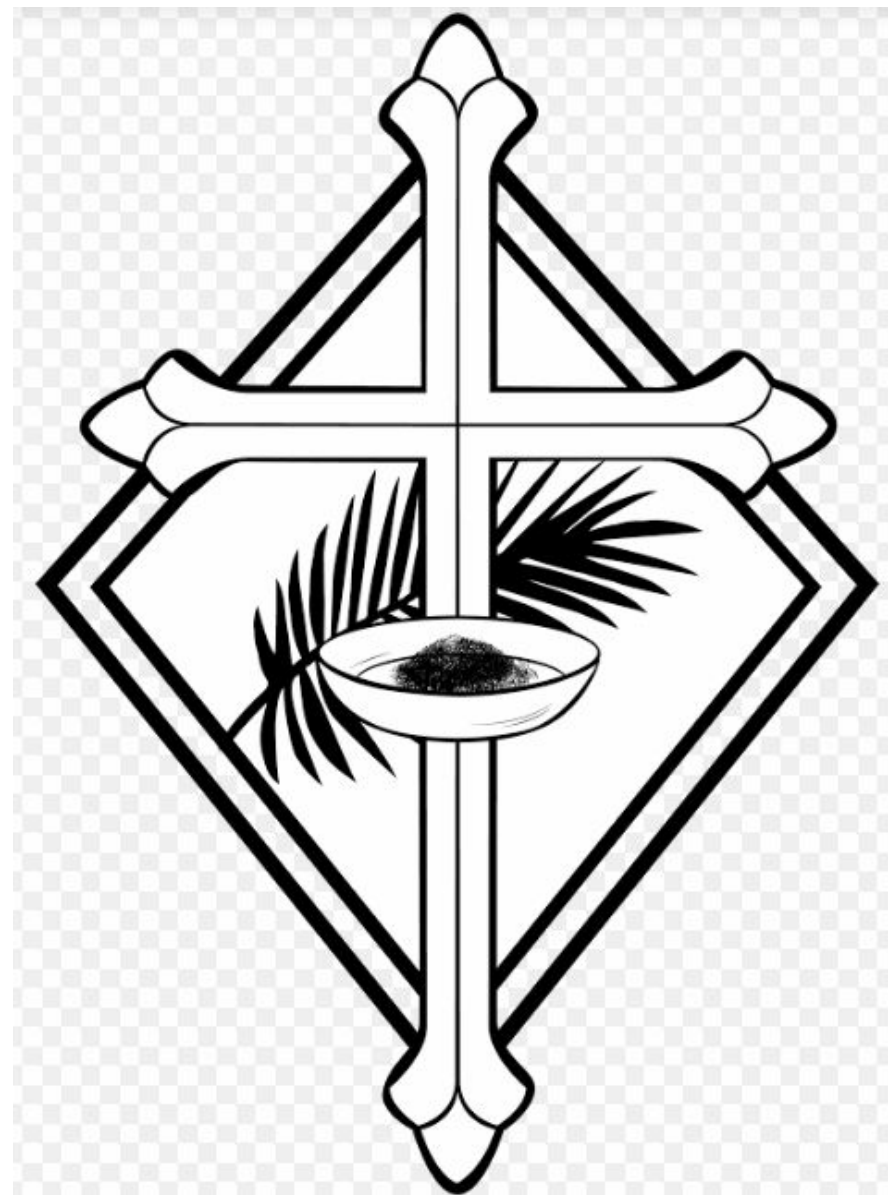
The liturgical color for the Lent season is **purple** which symbolizes penitence and self-discipline.

During the penitential season of Lent we omit the *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* and the *Alleluias* from the Divine Service. They will return to use again on Easter Morning.

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Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL   
 Ash Wednesday  (LENT Begins) Prepare A Fast  
 Save Me in Love, LORD  March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 ✠ 4:30 pm



*Historic Church Year Symbol for Ash Wednesday: Beginning of Lent*  
*(A rendering of the prophet Joe 2:12-19) Declare a fast.*

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# OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

6920 N Socrum Loop Road / (North) Lakeland, FL 33809 USA

Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: [www.osllakeland.org](http://www.osllakeland.org)

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

\* A.R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 \* Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

## March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 ✱ Ash Wednesday = Prepare a Fast


**WELCOME to Our Savior!** We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long time), we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! **God bless you.**

**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP** Printed here and in **black** (ELH) Hymnary **p.120**

Service		
Opening Hymn	287 (6v)	Jesus, I Will Ponder Now
Hymn of the Day	240 (3v)	Jesus, Refuge of the Weary
Evening Hymn	561 (8v)	<i>Sing 1-2,7-8</i> Abide With Me, Fast Falls

### Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays after Quinquagesima Sunday

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Exodus 14:1-31	Exo. 15:1-21	Exo. 15:22-16:36	Exo. 17:1-16	Exo. 19:1-25	Exo. 20:1-23
Mark 10:1-31	Mark 10:32-52	Mark 11:1-33	Mark 12:13-44	Luke 4:14-44	Luke 5:12-39

**PROPERs for ASH WEDNESDAY**  (START OF LENT) **MAR 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**INTROIT** I will cry to God Most High, to God who performs all things for me. Yes, in the shadow of Your wings I make my refuge, until these calamities are past. Be merciful to Me, O God, be merciful to me, for my soul trusts in You. ...from **Psalm 57**

**COLLECT** Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing that You have made and You forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, who worthily lament our sins and acknowledge our wretchedness, may obtain from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever, **C: ♪ A- -men.**

**GRADUAL C: Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for my soul trusts in You. He will send from heaven and save me from the accusation of him who would swallow me up.** ...from **Psalm 103**

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS *(printed on inside back page 6 of the bulletin)*

OT **Joel 2:12-19** The Lord calls His people to *true* repentance.  
Ep. **II Corinthians 5:20-6:10** Do not receive God's Grace in vain.  
Go. **Matthew 6:16-21** Do the Father's Will for the *right* reasons.

**2017-LENT MIDWEEK SERMONS THEME: PENITENTIAL PSALMS (OF THE )PASSION**  
TONIGHT (ASH WED, "WE ARE BEGGARS, ALL ) **"SAVE ME LORD, IN YOUR LOVE"**

## Historic Lessons for Ash ✱ Wednesday (40 days pre-Easter)

### Old Testament

**Joel 2:12-19 NIV** 'Even now,' declares the LORD, 'return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.' 13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity. 14 Who knows? He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing – grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God. 15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. 16 Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. 17 Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the temple porch and the altar. Let them say, 'Spare Your people, O LORD. Do not make Your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' 18 Then the LORD will be jealous for His land and take pity on His people. 19 The LORD will reply to them: 'I am sending you grain, new wine and oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

### Epistle

**II Corinthians 5:20-6:10** We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made Him Who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 6:1 As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. 2 For He says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the Day of Salvation. 3 We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. 4 Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; 5 in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; 6 in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; 7 in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; 8 through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; 9 known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; 10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

### Gospel

**Matthew 6:16-21** "When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, Who is unseen; and your Father, Who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. 19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

✱ p.6 ✱

The **VERSICLE** *P: ♪ Let my prayers rise before you as incense:*

**C: ♪ And the lifting up of my hands-- As the ev'ning sacrifice.**

The **NUNC DIMITTIS** ("Lord, let us Depart in Peace"...music on page 124)

**C: ♪ 1. Lord, now You let Your servant ... de-part in peace:**  
Accord-... ..-ing to You Word.

**2. For mine eyes have seen... Your Sal-va-tion;**  
Which You have prepared before the face... of all peo-ple.

**3. A-- Light to light- ... -en the Gen-tiles:**  
And the glory of Your... .. peo-ple Isra-el.

**4. Glory be to the Father ... and to the Son / And to... the Holy Ghost;**

**5. As it was in the beginning, is now, and... ever shall be / Forev-... er-more, A-men.**

**KYRIE ELEISON** (*Lord Have Mercy*) **C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. -**  
Christ, have mercy upon us. - Lord, have mercy upon us.

The **LORD'S PRAYER** (*Congregation and Pastor pray together*)

**C: ♪ Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hal-low-ed be- Thy Name--;**  
Thy Kingdom come-, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heav-en;  
Give us this day our dai-ly 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.

**C: ♪ A- - -men.**

The (Evening) **COLLECT** (*Pastor prays, Congregation: ♪ Amen*)

*P: Let us pray: O God, from Whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works proceed, Give Your servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your Commandments, And also that we, being defended by You from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, Who lives -- and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God now and forever.*

**C: ♪ A- - -men.**

The **BENEDICAMUS** *P: ♪ Let us bless the Lord. C: ♪ Thanks be to God.*

The **BENEDICTION** *P: ♪ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the love of God, And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: ♪ A- - -men.*

**CLOSING HYMN** *Abide With Me ELH #561 vv1-2,7-8 HFLyte EVENTIDE*

**1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide; - The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.**  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, - Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

**2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;**  
Change and decay in all around I see. O Thou, who changest not, abide with me!

**7. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.**  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

**8. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes, / Shine through the gloom, and point me to**  
the skies. / Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;

**IN LIFE, IN DEATH, O LORD, ABIDE WITH ME! AMEN.**

**Silent Prayer** (Candles out.) You may be seated. ~ p.5 ~ *FELLOWSHIP.*



## I. The Service of Vespers *ELH p.120*



**OPENING HYMN: "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" ELH #287 (6 verses) JESU,**

**1. Jesus, I will ponder now - On Thy holy Passion;**  
With Thy Spirit me endow - For such meditation.

Grant that I in love and faith - May the image cherish  
Of Thy suffering, pain, and death, - That I may not perish.

**2. Make me see Thy great distress, - Anguish, and affliction,**  
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness - And Thy crucifixion;  
Make me see how scourge and rod, - Spear and nails, did wound Thee,  
How for man Thou died, O God, - Who with thorns had crowned Thee.

**3. Yet, O Lord, not thus alone - Make me see Thy Passion,**  
But its cause to me make known - And its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin - Wrought Thy deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause hath been - Of Thy crucifixion.

**4. Grant that I Thy Passion view - With repentant grieving**  
Nor Thee crucify anew - By unholy living.  
How could I refuse to shun - Every sinful pleasure  
Since for me God's only Son - Suffered without measure?

**5. If my sins give me alarm - And my conscience grieve me,**  
Let Thy cross my fear disarm, - Peace of conscience give me.  
Grant that I may trust in Thee - And Thy holy Passion.  
If His Son so loveth me, - God must have compassion.

**6. Grant that I may willingly - Bear with Thee my crosses,**  
Learning humbleness of Thee, - Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give Thee love for love! - Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heaven above - Sing Thy praise forever. Amen.



The **INVOCATION** (*Congregation please rise if you are able.*)

*P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son ✕, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.*

*P: Makes haste O God, to deliver me. C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.*

*P: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.*

**C: A broken spirit and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.**  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Ghost; As it was  
in the beginning, is now, And every shall be; forevermore. Amen.

## The CONFESSION OF SINS & ABSOLUTION

**CORPORATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION** (*Use ELH p.130-132 Form II*)

*P: I now ask you, in the presence of God, Who searches the heart:*

*Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserve His wrath and punishment?*

**C: I do so confess.**

✕ p.2 ✕

(continue, next page 3 ↗)

*P: Truly you should confess, for Holy Scripture declares: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."*

*Do you heartily **repent** of all your sins committed in thought, word and deed?*

**C: I do repent.**

*P: Truly you should repent, as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others.*

*Do you sincerely **believe** that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?*

**C: I do so believe.**

*P: Truly you should believe, for Holy Scripture declares: "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should **not** perish, but have everlasting life*

*Do you **promise** that by the power of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life?*

**C: I do so promise.**

*P: Truly you should promise, for Christ our Lord says: "Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

*Finally, Do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?*

**C: I do so believe.**

*P: Truly you should believe, for Christ our Lord says: "Whoever hears you, hears Me" and "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them."*

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### **The ABSOLUTION** (Form II. ELH p.132)

*P: Upon this your confession, By the authority of God and my holy office I declare to you the gracious forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

*May He Who has begun the good work in you perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you. Amen.*

**The INTROIT** (Spoken by the Pastor – see **page 1** for words.)

### **The VERSICLES** ELH, p. 120

*P: ♪ O Lord, open my lips. C: ♪ And my mouth will show forth Your praise.*

*P: ♪ Make haste, O God, to deliver me. C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord.*

**The GLORIA PATRI** C: ♪ **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and- to- the Holy Ghost. - As it was in the beginning; is now, and ever shall be, for-ev-er-more. - A-men.** (No Alleluia - Lent)

**The COLLECT** (Prayer for Ash Wednesday, words on **page 1** – Pastor prays.)

**C: Amen.** (after the Collect...) **The congregation may be seated.**

✠ p.3 ✠

## **II. The Service of The Word – 5. The Lektion** p.121

**EITHER** (bulletin p.6 Readings)

**Historic Lessons for Ash ✠ Wednesday** (40 days before Easter)

**OLD TESTAMENT:** Joel 2:12-19 Lord calls His people to *true* repentance.

**EPISTLE:** II Corinthians 5:20-6:10 Do not receive God's Grace in vain.

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 6:16-21 Do the Father's Will for the *right* reasons.

**OR**

**History of the Suffering & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ**  
according to Four Evangelists + The Wartburg Project Version ©2014.

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**FIRST READING** ✠ **The Preparation of the Passover Lamb**

**RESPONSORY** (After the readings)

*P: ♪ O Lord, have mercy upon us. C: ♪ Thanks be to You, O Lord!*

**APOSTLES' CREED** (Confession of Faith, on ELH p.46) **All say together:**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;**

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary;**

**Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;**

**He descended into Hell; the Third Day he Rose again from the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty**

**From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the body, and the Life ✠ everlasting.**

**Amen.** △ (Congregation may be seated for the next hymn.)

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**SERMON HYMN** *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary* ELH #240 (3 verses) O DU LIEBE

**1. Jesus, Refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,**

**Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above,**

**Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended, Gaze upon the sinner's fall!**

**Yet, upon the Cross extended, Thou didst bear the pain of all.**

**2. Do we pass that Cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,**  
**Though we see Thee wounded, bleeding, See Thy thorn-encircled brow,**

**Yet Thy sinless death hath brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;**

**Only what Thy grace hath taught us Calms the sinner's stormy breast.**

**3. Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for Thee!**

**May our eyes be ever turning To Thy cross of agony**

**Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,**

**GRAVEN IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER - DWELL THE CROSS, THE CRUCIFIED!**

**SERMON Text:** Psalm 6 **We Are Beggars All #1: "SAVE ME IN YOUR LOVE"**

*After the Sermon* **The OFFERING** (We gather our offerings for the LORD)

✠ p.4 ✠

**ASHWEDNESDAY Psalm 6 “SAVE ME IN YOUR UNFAILING LOVE” 03.01.17 OSL**  
**SERIES OVERVIEW** *This sermon introduces the series and sets the tone of the dual journey of Christ to the Cross and our own daily journey of faith through confession and absolution. It uses **Psalm 6** as the text and reflects on how God worked in/on David and how He works on each one of us through Law and Gospel.*

**INTRODUCTION** Our text for tonight is (the Psalm for AW) **Psalm 6**.

**TEXT Psalm 6:1-10 NIV** For the director of music. With stringed instruments. According to sheminith. A psalm of David. **O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath. 2 Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony. 3 My soul is in anguish. How long, O LORD, how long? 4 Turn, O LORD, and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love. 5 No one remembers you when he is dead. Who praises you from the grave? 6 I am worn out from groaning; all night long I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears. 7 My eyes grow weak with sorrow; they fail because of all my foes. 8 Away from me, all you who do evil, for the LORD has heard my weeping. 9 The LORD has heard my cry for mercy; the LORD accepts my prayer. 10 All my enemies will be ashamed and dismayed; they will turn back in sudden disgrace.**

**(SERIES) INTRODUCTION** **Lent in many ways is a journey.** We journey with our Lord to the cross and deal with the forgiveness of our sins. Each week we will hear a portion of the reading of the Passion story of our Lord, and we will reflect upon our Lord's death and what that means to sinners like you and me. That reflection is a familiar part of Lent.

It would be easy to make a journey like that as far as the journey goes. A trip down memory lane. A stroll through the story of Jesus' death. But Lent in the Church really has two focuses: First, it is a time to reflect on Christ's Passion and death. Second, it is a time of learning and spiritual renewal through the Word of God. In the Early Church it was during Lent that those preparing for Baptism received their final instructions in the faith before being baptized. So what we will be doing this Lent is hearing about Christ's Passion and death, and about what that has to do with who we are as Christians who need confession and absolution.

Take a look once again at Psalm 6, which we prayed a few minutes ago. This is a psalm of David belonging to a group we call the penitential psalms. The word *penitence* or *penitential* is related to another very Lutheran word: **repentance**. (But) What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from your sins and turning to Christ for forgiveness. Repentance, then, is ultimately a gift from God, because only God can turn

the sinners heart toward Him. It reminds me of Luther's words about **Baptism in the Small Catechism**:

*What does such Baptizing with water indicate?* It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

This process of contrition and repentance is daily, not once. Law and Gospel. Sin and forgiveness. This is the cycle of the Christian life. That is why we continue to repent and receive absolution. That is why we go to the Lord's Supper week after week. It is about living the Christian life, not simply knowing right answers.

This is what God is going to teach us in the Penitential Psalms. In **Psalm 6** David begins by lamenting that it seems like God has abandoned him. Law. God is angry with David, and so David prays that God will have mercy on him because he is weak and troubled.

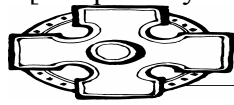
Where does this start for you? What does this tell you about God? Well, it first of all tells you that **God hates sin**, and that when you sin, God hates you. Does that sound harsh? You bet! God's Law is very harsh. As the psalmist writes in **Psalm 5**, *“You hate all evildoers” (Psalm 5:5)*. The Law doesn't wink at sin. **You and I may try to wink at sin**. Yes, our sin is bad, but let's just ignore it. This is like saying, *“My cancer isn't that bad; it's just on the top of my skin.”* You can't ignore sin. Sooner or later it will dig in and do it's work of destruction. But let's go on to **verse two of Psalm 6**. *“Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing; heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.”* David prays that the Lord will be gracious to him and heal him. Like **blind Bartimaeus**, or the **Canaanite woman**, David is not going to let God off the hook just like God won't let David off the hook. You see, David knows God's true character. He hates for a time but loves for eternity.

**CONCLUSION** This Lent we are taking a journey together. We are taking a journey together to the Cross of Jesus Christ. On this journey we are going to learn about God's mercy for lost sinners like you and like me. We are going to hear about God's gift of forgiveness that He gives in confession and absolution. For some of you, this will be a journey that you've taken before many times. But for most, this may be a new journey, or at least a new path on this same journey. Confessing your sins, not generically but specifically, is a hard thing. So hard, in fact, that many will never even try it. But I am here today to hold up God's gift of forgiveness to you, and everything He has to give in His Son, Jesus Christ.

***The Lord has heard my cry for mercy; the Lord accepts my prayer (Psalm 6:9). IJ'N, Amen. SDG***



**History of the Suffering & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ**  
**according to the Four Evangelists + harmonised by Dr. Johann Bugenhagen**  
**compiled from the New King James Version ©1979, 1980, 1982 by**  
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[compiled by M. DeGarmeaux]



**The First  
Sunday In Lent**

**FIRST READING   ✕   The Preparation of the Passover Lamb**

And it was near the feast of unleavened bread, which is called Passover. And Jesus said to His disciples: *You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be betrayed, to be crucified.*

Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled together in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and plotted that they might take Jesus by trickery and kill Him, for they feared the people. But they said: Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people. Now when Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to Him, having an alabaster flask of very costly fragrant oil, and she broke the flask and poured it on His head as He sat at the table. When His disciples saw this, they were indignant, saying: To what purpose is this waste? For this fragrant oil could have been sold for more than 300 denarii and given to the poor, and they criticised her sharply. But when Jesus was aware of it, He said to them: *Let her alone; why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a good work for Me. For you have the poor with you always, and when you wish, you may do them good, but Me you do not always have. She has done what she could. For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial. Assuredly I say to you, wherever this Gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her.* And Satan entered Judas surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the Twelve, and he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them, and he said: What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you? When they heard it, they were glad, and they gave him 30 pieces of silver. And from that time he sought an opportunity to betray Him in the absence of the multitude. Now on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover must be killed, the disciples came to Jesus and said to Him: Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover? And He sent Peter and John and said: *Go into the city; behold, when you enter, a man will meet you, who is carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he enters and say to the owner of the house: The Master says to you: My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house. Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples? And he will show you a large furnished upper room; there make ready.* They went and found it as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And in the evening He came and sat at the table with the Twelve Apostles and said to them: *With desire I have desired to eat the Passover with you before I*

*suffer. For I tell you that I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.*

And He took the cup, gave thanks and said: *Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I tell you: I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes on the day when I will drink again with you in My Father's kingdom.*

And while they ate in the night that He was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to His disciples and said: *Take, eat, this is My Body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.* In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, gave it to them and said: *Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.* And they all drank from it.

Now before the Feast of Passover, which is on the same evening, when Jesus knew that His hour had come, that He should depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own, who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper, laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dried them with the towel, with which He had girded Himself.

Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him: Lord, are You washing my feet? Jesus answered and said to him: *What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.* Peter said to Him: You shall never wash my feet! Jesus answered him: *If I do not wash you, then you have no part with Me.* Simon Peter said to Him: Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. Jesus said to him: *He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.* For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said: You are not all clean.

So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments and sat down again, He said to them: *Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord and you say well, for so I am; I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly I say to you: A servant is not greater than his master, nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, happy are you if you do them. I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scriptures might be fulfilled: He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me. Now I tell you before it comes, that when it comes to pass, you may believe that I am He. Most assuredly, I say to you: He who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.*