

MIDWEEK OF LENT 5

MARCH 24, 2021

RETURN TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD

In the conclusion of his First Letter to his co-worker Timothy, Paul encourages his young friend with a shared vision of what is to come as God fulfills all things. He writes of “the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which He will display at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords” (1 Timothy 6:14–15). As Jesus stood before Pilate, who seemed to have the full authority of life and death over Him, our Savior knew who He was and what His kingdom was and is and will be. “My kingdom is not of this world,” Jesus stated (John 18:36a). With the psalmist, we affirm, “The LORD will reign forever” (Psalm 146:10). The very best and most blessed time under His gracious kingship is yet to be!

OPENING HYMN: 426 WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
 sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

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P O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C 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.
 Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

+ PSALMODY +

PSALM

Psalm 25:1-7

¹ To You, | O LORD,*

I lift | up my soul.

² **O my God, in You I trust;**

let me not be | put to shame;*

let not my enemies exult | over me.

³ Indeed, none who wait for You shall be | put to
shame;*

they shall be ashamed who are wantonly |
treacherous.

⁴ **Make me to know Your ways, | O LORD;***

teach me | Your paths.

⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me,

for You are the God of my sal- | vation;*

for You I wait all the | day long.

⁶ **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your |
steadfast love,***

for they have been | from of old.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans-
| gressions;*

according to Your steadfast love remember
me,

for the sake of Your goodness, | O LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, Your kingdom is not like the kingdoms of this world. Instead of force, You reign by grace; instead of corruption, You reign by the truth; instead of favoritism, You reign by serving all. Help us not to fall into the ways of the kingdoms of this world, but to welcome Your gracious reign in our lives; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OFFICE HYMN: 432 IN SILENT PAIN THE ETERNAL SON



1 In si - lent pain the e - ter - nal Son Hangs der - e - lict and still;
2 He died that we might die to sin And live for righ - teous - ness;
3 For strife He came to bring a sword, The truth to end all lies;



In dark - ened day His work is done, Ful - filled, His Fa - ther's will.
The earth is stained to make us clean And bring us in - to peace.
To rule in us, our pa - tient Lord, Un - til all e - vil dies:



Up - lift - ed for the world to see He hangs in strang - est vic - to - ry,
For peace He came and met its cost; He gave Him - self to save the lost;
For in His hand He holds the stars, His voice shall speak to end our wars,



For in His bod - y on the tree He car - ries all our ill.
He loved us to the ut - ter - most And paid for our re - lease.
And those who love Him see His scars And look in - to His eyes.

+ READINGS +

READING

Isaiah 53:1-3

P A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-third chapter.

¹ Who has believed what they heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been
revealed?

² For He grew up before Him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
He had no form or majesty that we should look at
Him,

and no beauty that we should desire Him.

³ He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

P A reading from First Timothy, the second chapter.

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications,
prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made
for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high
positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet

life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave Himself as a ransom for all, ⁷ which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 18:28-38

P A reading from St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

²⁸ Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. ²⁹ So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰ They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered Him over to you." ³¹ Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." ³² This was to fulfill the

word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death He was going to die.

³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about Me?” ³⁵ Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You over to me. What have You done?” ³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But My kingdom is not from the world.” ³⁷ Then Pilate said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.” ³⁸ Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in Him.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

LENT RESPONSORY

LSB, p. 231

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

SERMON HYMN: 439 O DEAREST JESUS, WHAT LAW HAST THOU BROKEN

Verses 11-15 ONLY



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

- 11 But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!
- 12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.
- 13 Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to harm me
Nor death alarm me.
- 14 But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great meekness
Nor shame my weakness.
- 15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

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SERMON

OFFERING

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

LSB, p. 233

- C** Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB, p. 233

- 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.

COLLECTS

- P** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

COLLECT FOR LENT

P Faithful God, through the ancient prophets You call us to return to You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Let these Lenten days be a time when, remembering how You relentlessly return to us in mercy, we return also to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

COLLECT AT EVENING

P As the darkness of nighttime comes, remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been of old. Remember not our transgressions of the day. And raise us up in the morning ready to serve in Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB, p. 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

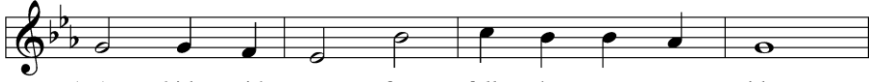
BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

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 Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: 878 ABIDE WITH ME



1 A - bid e with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bid e with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bid e with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bid e with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bid e with me.

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Acknowledgments

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