

MIDWEEK OF LENT 2

MALCHUS

AS WE GATHER

All four Gospels record the event in Gethsemane when the ear of the high priest's servant is cut off. Only John gives us names—Peter and Malchus. Our attention now is drawn to Gethsemane that night when Judas betrays Jesus as Peter cuts off the ear of Malchus. The chief priests, scribes, Judas, and Peter all seek power and control of the situation. Jesus—the only one with true power and authority—lays it down, as He also does with His life itself. In His resurrection, Jesus will take up His life again, reclaiming His power, control, and authority, which extends throughout the earth and heavens.

HYMN

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth” (*LSB* 438)

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** As we continue our Lenten journey, we find those who witnessed His power,
- C** **who experienced His authority and control over all things.**
- P** Even the high priest's servant, Malchus, points us to Jesus and His love for us.
- C** **Malchus witnessed Jesus laying aside His power and control.**
- P** Jesus allowed Himself to be arrested, put on trial, crucified, and killed.
- C** **Jesus laid down His life for us on the cross,**
- P** and Jesus took up His life again on Easter morning.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** While Jesus laid aside His power and control for us and our salvation, we admit that we sometimes seek to have more power, control, influence, and authority in sinful pride. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him and ask for forgiveness, renewal, and restoration.
- C** **Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You with sins of pride and for not trusting You in all things. We have sinned against You in thoughts, words, and actions. Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive us, and help us to rely on You for everything, in the name of Jesus.**
- P** Almighty God, in His merciful power, has given Jesus Christ to die and rise for you.

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Because of Jesus, Your sins are forgiven. As a called and ordained 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.

C Amen. We are forgiven and freed to live under Christ’s power and authority.

PSALM

- P** May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us,
**C that Your way may be known on earth,
Your saving power among all nations.**
- P** Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!
**C Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for You judge the peoples with equity and
guide the nations upon earth.**
- P** Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!
**C The earth has yielded its increase; God,
our God, shall bless us.**
- P** God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear Him!
**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.**

HYMN

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” (*LSB* 451)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

P The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the fifty-third chapter.

¹Who has believed what they heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For 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.

³He 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.

⁴Surely He has borne our griefs

and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed Him stricken,

smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵But He was wounded for our transgressions;

He was crushed for our iniquities;

upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

and with His stripes we are healed.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

P The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, the first chapter.

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the church of God that is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with His disciples. ³So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to Him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?” ⁵They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am He.” Judas, who betrayed Him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, “I am He,” they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷So He asked them again, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” ⁸Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He. So, if you seek Me, let these men go.” ⁹This was to fulfill the word that He had spoken: “Of those whom You gave Me I have lost not one.” ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) ¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given Me?”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” (*LSB* 436)

SERMON

OFFERING

HYMN

“Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing” (*LSB* 421)

KYRIE

P Lord, have mercy.

C Christ, have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy.

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.**

PRAYERS

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace and salvation, for reconciliation
and unity, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For endurance and encouragement, let us
pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our weak souls, that they be nourished by
God's Word and Sacraments, let us pray to
the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all whom God has given authority on this
earth, that they use what God has given with
humility in the knowledge that the Lord
gives and the Lord takes away, let us pray to
the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all whom God has given authority in His
Church, that they might follow Christ's
example of service and love, let us pray to
the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church, that God might give her days of peace and unity, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have reason to rejoice, that God might increase their joy so that it spreads to many others, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all those who are sick, injured, or recovering, [*especially . . .*], that God might place His healing hand upon them and restore them to health, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all those who grieve the death of loved ones, [*especially . . .*], that God may comfort them with the power and hope of the resurrection to eternal life, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, 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 from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; 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

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father,
the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and
preserve you.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Abide With Me” (*LSB* 878 vs. 1,6)