

GOOD FRIDAY NOONTIME REFLECTION

April 10, 2020

12:15 P. M.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Seymour, Indiana

Welcome to Worship! We take a few moments in the middle of our day to reflect on the life of Jesus, whose whole life was dedicated to us. During this hour of the day He hung upon a cross, so that we would have life with Him now and forever.

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THE INVOCATION

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM ISAIAH 53

L: He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;

C: As one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised and we esteemed Him not.

L: Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

C: yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

L: But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;

C: Upon Him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with His stripes we are healed.

L: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way;

C: and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

All: Merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways. We have followed too often the desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Spare us, O God, and grant, for His sake, that we may live a Godly, righteous, and sober life to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

L: Christ, who knew no sin, also stood accused in your place, accepted your guilty verdict, and took upon Himself your death sentence. Therefore, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Your sins are forgiven, for Jesus' sake!

C: Amen.

THE COLLECT

L: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You carried our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in You now and in the world to come, where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

THE EPISTLE: Romans 5:18-21

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 23:26-49

And as they led [Jesus] away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do

these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

THE MESSAGE

THE PRAYERS

L: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Prince of Peace. When You were mocked, You did not respond with harsh words. When You were tormented, You did not react in anger. When You were nailed to the cross, You prayed for forgiveness for those who caused You to suffer. Give to us the virtues of gentleness, patience, and a forgiving spirit, that we may repay evil with good. Teach us also to love our enemies, and as children of the heavenly Father, to live in peace with all people.

C: Amen.

L: Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, You endured not only spiritual anguish but also physical pain on the cross in our place. We thirst for the healing that only You can provide. When we find ourselves in the midst of suffering, give us peace and patience to endure the pains and anxieties that come our way. Bring to our minds the image of the cross and all that You endured there for us. Give us the strength to bear our burdens through the power and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, You gave Your life on the cross as our substitute. You took upon yourself the wrath of God that we deserved because of our sin. You commended Your spirit into the loving hands of Your heavenly Father. Give us the grace to trust in You for all things. And when our last hour comes, grant us peace, so that we may face death with confidence, knowing that we also will dwell forever with You in the loving arms of our Father in heaven.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER and BENEDICTION

Leader: Vicar Ronchetto