



PSALMS OF THE PASSION

LENTEN SERIES

Second Midweek Lenten Service

March 8, 2023, 6:30pm

Officiant: Pastor Micah Plocher

Organist: John Baumann

Special Music: Men's Choir



Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

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Pastors: John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Principal: Benjamin Springer

Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)

This Lenten Sermon Series allows us to consider the way the Psalms direct us to meditate on the passion of Christ. Each chosen Psalm enables the preacher to enter into three worlds with the text: the world of the Psalm, the world of Christ's life and passion, and the world of the believer.

~Hymn 253, vv. 1, 3, 5, 6 *Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray*

~**Confession of Sin**— *Admitting our sinfulness to God* (ELH p. 120)

P: Dearly beloved! We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

C: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~**Versicles** — *Opening prayers* (ELH pp. 120-121)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪ And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord. 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: forevermore. Amen.

~**Psalmody Psalm 116** (ELH p. 121)

P: I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy.

C: Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live.

P: The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came over me; I was overcome by distress and sorrow.

C: Then I called on the name of the Lord: "Lord, save me!"

P: The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

C: The Lord protects the unwary; when I was brought low, He saved me.

P: Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.

C: For you, Lord, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears,

my feet from stumbling,

P: That I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

C: I trusted in the Lord when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";

P: In my alarm I said, "Everyone is a liar."

C: What shall I return to the Lord for all His goodness to me?

P: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

C: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

P: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His faithful servants.

C: Truly I am your servant, Lord; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.

P: I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord.

C: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people,

P: In the courts of the house of the Lord— in your midst, Jerusalem.

ALL: 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, forever more. Amen.

~Men's Choir *To Thee My Heart I Offer*

(arr. Ralph Schultz)

~Passion History Reading

(from the Gospel According to St. Matthew)

~Responsory

(ELH p. 122)

P: O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: ♪ Thanks be to You, O Lord!

~Chief Hymn 331, vv. 1, 4, 9, 10 *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

~Sermon Text

(EHV)

Psalm 31:1-8 In you, LORD, I have taken refuge. Let me never be put to shame. In your righteousness deliver me. Turn your ear toward me. Hurry! Rescue me! Be a rock where I take refuge, a fortified place that saves me. Yes, you are my rocky cliff and my stronghold. For the sake of your name you will lead me and guide me. You will pull me out of the net that they hid for me, because you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit. You have redeemed me, O LORD, the God of truth. I hate those who keep worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD. I will be glad and rejoice in your mercy, because you saw my affliction. You knew the distress of my soul. You have not left me in the hand of the enemy. You have made my feet stand in a wide-open space.

~Sermon Theme

"A Spacious Place"

~Hymn 282 *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

~Lenten Prayer

~Versicle

(ELH p. 122)

P: Let my prayers rise before You as incense:

C: ♪ **And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

~Nunc Dimittis — “Now I Depart”

(ELH p. 81-82; Lk 2:29-32)

C: ♪ **Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. 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, forevermore. Amen.**

~Kyrie — “Lord, Have Mercy”

(ELH p. 124)

C: ♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

~Lord’s Prayer

(ELH p. 125)

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 pow’r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

~Collect — *Evening prayer*

(ELH p. 126-127, II)

P: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us in the end of the day, in the end of our life, and in the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair when death shall come. Abide with us and with all the faithful through time and eternity.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

~Benedicamus — *Call for blessing*

(ELH p. 127; Ps 103:2)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

~Benediction — *Final blessing for God’s people*

(ELH p. 127)

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.**

~Hymn 565 *All Praise to Thee, My God This Night*

