MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP
February 28, 2024

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SERBIN, TX
I HAVE SINNED

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the subject of all the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments. But some passages say puzzling and seemingly impossible things about Him. Consider Psalm 41:4: “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You.” David, the writer of this psalm, was indeed a sinner who needed God’s gracious forgiveness. How puzzling it is that we would apply this confession of sin to our sinless Lord! But Paul writes, “For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). In your Baptism, your sinless Jesus has joined Himself to you and has fulfilled all the words that testify of Him.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stand

OPENING SENTENCES

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

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

Glorify 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.
To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame.

Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

Blessed is the one who considers the poor!

In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;

the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;

You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.

The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.

As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!”

My enemies say of me in malice, “When will he die and his name perish?”

And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.

All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

They say, “A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.”

Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!

By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.

But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever.

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

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.

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov’reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died
For His own creatures’ sin.
Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne’er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away:
’Tis all that I can do.

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2 SAMUEL 12:15B–23

A reading from Second Samuel, the twelfth chapter.

The LORD afflicted the child that Uriah’s wife bore to David, and he became sick. David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, “Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us. How then can we say to him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm.” But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, “Is the child dead?” They said, “He is dead.” Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate. Then his servants said to him, “What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive; but when the child died, you arose and ate food.” He said, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, ‘Who knows whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’ But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.”

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

1 PETER 2:19–25

A reading from First Peter, the second chapter.

This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Stand
A reading from St. John, the first chapter.

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because He was before me.’ I myself did not know Him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel.” And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him.”

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

LENT RESPONSORY

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

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

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

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

HYMN: "UPON THE CROSS EXTENDED"

1 Upon the cross extended
See, world, your Lord suspended.
Your Savior yields His breath.
The Prince of Life from heaven
Himself has freely given
To shame and blows and bitter death.

2 Come, see these things and ponder,
Your soul will fill with wonder
As blood streams from each pore.
Through grief beyond all knowing
From His great heart came flowing
Sighs welling from its deepest core.

3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You?
Who has so sore abused You
And caused You all Your woe?
We all must make confession
Of sin and dire transgression
While You no ways of evil know.
4 I caused Your grief and sighing
   By evils multiplying
      As countless as the sands.
   I caused the woes unnumbered
   With which Your soul is cumbered,
      Your sorrows raised by wicked hands.

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,
   Your head with thorns surrounded,
      You died to ransom me.
   The cross for me enduring,
   The crown for me securing,
      You healed my wounds and set me free.

6 Your cords of love, my Savior,
   Bind me to You forever,
      I am no longer mine.
   To You I gladly tender
   All that my life can render
      And all I have to You resign.

7 Your cross I place before me;
   Its saving pow’r restore me,
      Sustain me in the test.
   It will, when life is ending,
   Be guiding and attending
      My way to Your eternal rest.

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SERMON: “I HAVE SINNED”

By Pastor John Schmidt

ANTIPHON

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
HYMN: "MY SOUL REJOICES"  

1 My soul rejoices,  
    My spirit voices—  
   Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
   For God my Savior  
    Has shown me favor—  
   Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
   With praise and blessing,  
    Join in confessing  
    God, who is solely  
    Mighty and holy—  
   O sing the greatness of God the Lord!  
   His mercy surely  
    Shall rest securely  
    On all who fear Him,  
    Love and revere Him—  
   O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

2 His arm now baring,  
   His strength declaring—  
   Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
   The proud He scatters,  
    Their rule He shatters—  
   Sing the greatness of the Lord!  
   Oppression halted;  
    The meek exalted.  
   Full are the hungry;  
    Empty, the wealthy—  
   O sing the greatness of God the Lord!  
   Here is the token  
    All that was spoken  
    To Abr’ham’s offspring  
    God is fulfilling—  
   O sing the greatness of God the Lord!


Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN:

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"  
1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;  
    All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
   And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!
Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

KYRIE

Lord, have merc-y; Christ, have merc-y; Lord, have merc-y.

LORD’S PRAYER

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

O Lord, hear my prayer.
And let my cry come to You.
O Lord, our God, we ask You with our whole heart to forgive our sins and wipe out our errors. Direct our actions and, by the indwelling of Your Spirit, purify our consciences and sanctify our hearts so that, forgiven and renewed, we may serve You and walk in Your ways; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.
I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.
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.

Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

LSB 233
LSB 234
CLOSING HYMN: ♫ “WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”  

1 When I survey the wondrous cross  
   On which the Prince of Glory died,  
   My richest gain I count but loss  
   And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
   Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
   All the vain things that charm me most,  
   I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet  
   Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
   Did e’er such love and sorrow meet  
   Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
   That were a tribute far too small;  
   Love so amazing, so divine,  
   Demands my soul, my life, my all!

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SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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