

Good Friday Morning Worship Service

MARCH 29, 2024

St. Paul Lutheran Church Serbin, Texas

BE GRACIOUS TO ME!

Nothing could be more natural than seeking revenge against one who has wronged you. Even the youngest child's untrained sense of fairness demands payback. God's children, however, are not to submit to human thinking but to the Word of God. What do the Scriptures say about our desire for revenge? When King David's enemies rose against him, the Holy Spirit inspired him to pray in Psalm 41:10: "But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!" David prays for vengeance, and God ordains vengeance. Yet the Scriptures also tell us not to "resist the one who is evil" (Matthew 5:39). What are we to make of this paradox? As with all matters of the faith, we must look to our Lord's crucifixion for the answer. For only by the cross is God gracious to you; only at the cross does He demand payment for every injustice.

All enter the church in silence.

Stand

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the fifty-second and fifty-third chapters.

Behold, My servant shall act wisely; He shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

As many were astonished at you—His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of the children of mankind—so shall He sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of Him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 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. 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. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But 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. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of My people? And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for sin, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. Out of the anguish of His

soul He shall see and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the righteous one, My servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Silence

Stand

P Let us pray.

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

PSALM PSALM 41

- P Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
- In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;
- P 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.
- **P** 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!"
- P 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.
- P 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."
- P 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!
- P 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.

Sit

EPISTLE HEBREWS 4:14–16; 5:7–9

P The Epistle is from Hebrews, the fourth and fifth chapters.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .

In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence. Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Silence

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+ THE SEVEN LAST WORDS +

Sit

HYMN: ₯"O DEAREST JESUS, WHAT LAW HAST THOU BROKEN"

LSB 439:1, 12-15

- O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken? Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession, What dark transgression?
- 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.
- And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heavenTo 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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FIRST WORD LUKE 23:34A

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

HYMN: ♪J"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:1-3

- Jesus, in Your dying woes,
 Even while Your lifeblood flows,
 Craving pardon for Your foes:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 2 Savior, for our pardon sue When our sins Your pangs renew, For we know not what we do: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- Oh, may we, who mercy need,
 Be like You in heart and deed,
 When with wrong our spirits bleed:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

SECOND WORD LUKE 23:43

[Jesus] said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

HYMN: 』」"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:4-6

- 4 Jesus, pitying the sighs
 Of the thief, who near You dies,
 Promising him paradise:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 5 May we in our guilt and shame Still Your love and mercy claim, Calling humbly on Your name: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 6 May our hearts to You incline
 And their thoughts Your cross entwine.
 Cheer our souls with hope divine:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

THIRD WORD JOHN 19:25–27

Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

HYMN: ♪J"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:7-9

7 Jesus, loving to the end
Her whose heart Your sorrows rend,
And Your dearest human friend:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

- 8 May we in Your sorrows share, For Your sake all peril dare, And enjoy Your tender care: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- May we all Your loved ones be,
 All one holy family,
 Loving, since Your love we see:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

FOURTH WORD MATTHEW 27:46

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

HYMN: JJ"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:10-12

- Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown,With our evil left alone,While no light from heav'n is shown:Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 11 When we seem in vain to pray And our hope seems far away, In the darkness be our stay:

 Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 12 Though no Father seem to hear, Though no light our spirits cheer, May we know that God is near: Hear us, holy Jesus.

FIFTH WORD JOHN 19:28

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst."

HYMN: Ŋ"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:13-15

13 Jesus, in Your thirst and pain, While Your wounds Your lifeblood drain, Thirsting more our love to gain: Hear us, holy Jesus. 14 Thirst for us in mercy still; All Your holy work fulfill; Satisfy Your loving will: Hear us, holy Jesus.

May we thirst Your love to know.Lead us in our sin and woeWhere the healing waters flow:Hear us, holy Jesus.

SIXTH WORD JOHN 19:30

When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished," and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

HYMN: ⊅"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:16-18

Jesus, all our ransom paid,All Your Father's will obeyed;By Your suff'rings perfect made:Hear us, holy Jesus.

17 Save us in our soul's distress;
Be our help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

18 Brighten all our heav'nward way
With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

SEVENTH WORD LUKE 23:46

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.

HYMN: "J"JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES"

LSB 447:19-21

19 Jesus, all Your labor vast, All Your woe and conflict past, Yielding up Your soul at last: Hear us, holy Jesus.

20 When the death shades round us low'r, Guard us from the tempter's pow'r, Keep us in that trial hour: Hear us, holy Jesus. 21 May Your life and death supply
Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

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SERMON: "BE GRACIOUS TO ME"

PSALM 41:10

By Pastor John Schmidt

Stand

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

HYMN: Љ"A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH"

LSB 438

- A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
 The guilt of sinners bearing
 And, laden with the sins of earth,
 None else the burden sharing;
 Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
 To slaughter led without complaint,
 That spotless life to offer,
 He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
 The mockery, and yet replies,
 "All this I gladly suffer."
- 2. This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The Lamb of God, our Saviour, Whom God the Father chose to send To gain for us His favour "Go forth, My Son," the Father said, "And free My children from their dread Of guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear, But by Your passion they will share The fruit of Your salvation."

- "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
 I'll bear what You command Me.
 My will conforms to Your decree,
 I'll do what You have asked Me."
 O wondrous Love, what have You done!
 The Father offers up His Son,
 Desiring our salvation.
 O Love, how strong You are to save!
 You lay the One into the grave
 Who built the earth's foundation
- 4. Lord, when Your glory I shall see And taste Your kingdom's pleasure, Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure! When I appear before Your throne, Your righteousness shall be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought, As Your own bride shall we be brought

BIDDING PRAYER

- Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ:
- P Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- **P** Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God:
- P Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole Body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- Let us pray for our catechumens, that our Lord God would open their hearts and the door of His mercy that, having received the remission of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus, our Lord:
- P Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- **P** Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:
- P O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially [name], our President; the Congress of the United States; [name], our Governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- Let us pray our Lord God Almighty that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, and grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel:
- P Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- Let us pray for all who are outside the Church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:
- P Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians:
- P Almighty and everlasting God, King of glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

• Amen.

- Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation:
- P O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will:
- P O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we

may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- **G** Amen.
- **P** Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:
- 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.
- P Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.
- O come, let us worship Him.
- P Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.
- O come, let us worship Him.
- P Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.
- **©** O come, let us worship Him.

Sit

+ REPROACHES +

- Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O My people.
- P Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.

HYMN: ♪J"LAMB OF GOD, PURE AND HOLY"

LSB 434:1

- 1 Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer, Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer. All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us: Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!
- P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and delivered Me to those who persecute Me. For I have fed you with My Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given Me gall and vinegar to drink. O My people.
- P Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.

HYMN: ♪J"LAMB OF GOD, PURE AND HOLY"

LSB 434:2

2 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
 Who on the cross didst suffer,
 Ever patient and lowly,
 Thyself to scorn didst offer.
 All sins Thou borest for us,
 Else had despair reigned o'er us:
 Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

- Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O My people.
- P Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.

HYMN: ₯"LAMB OF GOD, PURE AND HOLY"

LSB 434:3

2 Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer, Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer. All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us: Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

Stand

PRERFACE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **W**e lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **I** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪ "WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS"

LSB 543

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

- When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down
 Beneath God's righteous frown,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
- To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb,
 Who is the great I AM,
 While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
 While millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing His love for me, And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, And through eternity I'll sing on.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪ "THE LAMB"

LSB 547

The Lamb, the Lamb,
 O Father, where's the sacrifice?
 Faith sees, believes
 God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain

Refrain:

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own! The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

- The Lamb, the Lamb,
 One perfect final offering.
 The Lamb, the Lamb,
 Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. Refrain
- 3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
 As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
 So still, His will
 On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain
- 4 He sighs, He dies,
 He takes my sin and wretchedness.
 He lives, forgives,
 He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain
 5 He rose, He rose,

My heart with thanks now overflows.

His song prolong

Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪ WHEN I BEHOLD JESUS CHRIST"

When I behold Jesus Christ,
 True God who died for me,
 I wonder much at His love
 As He hung on the tree. Refrain

Refrain:

What kind of love is this?
What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there
To me on Calvary.
What kind of love is this?
What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there
To me on Calvary.

LSB 542

- For me You gave all Your love,
 For me You suffered pain;
 I find no words, nothing can
 Your selflessness explain. Refrain
- You had no sin, holy Lord,
 But You were tortured, tried;
 On Golgotha there for all
 My sins You bled and died. Refrain
- What love is this? Greater love
 No one has ever known.
 My life with God— this I owe
 To You, and You alone. Refrain

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Stand

CONCLUDING COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the passion and death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN: ♪J"JESUS, REMEMBER ME"

LSB 767

I Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

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All leave in silence.

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