

The Order of Worship

Pre-Service Music Welcome

Gathering Rite

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you;

C: And also with you.

P: O Lord, open my lips;

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

P: Hasten to save me, O God;

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

P: The sacrifices God wants are a broken spirit,

C: A broken and crushed heart, O God, you will not despise.

Hymn

"Lord, Jesus You are Going Forth" Christian Worship 126 st. 1-2

Lord Jesus, you are going forth
For me your life to offer,
For me, a sinner from my birth,
Who caused all you must suffer.
So be it then, my dearest Friend;
I follow after weeping, tears flowing free
Your pain to see, watch o'er your sorrows keeping.

O soul, come hither and behold
The fruit of your transgression!
My burden is the curse of old
And for your sin my passion.
Now comes the night of sin's dread might;
Your guilt I here am bearing.
Oh, weight it, soul; I make you whole,
No need now of despairing.

P: Jesus invites us, "come to me all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

C: O Lord, in humility we come. We are weary because our sins weigh us down, and there is no relief. We are burdened by the just sentence placed upon our sinful disobedience, and there is no place to turn for reprieve.

Hymn

"Lord Jesus You are Going Forth" Christian Worship 126 st. 3

'Tis I, Lord Jesus, I confess,
Who should have borne sin's wages
And lost the peace of heav'nly bliss
Through everlasting ages.
Instead you go to bear the blow,
My punishment to carry.
Your death and blood lead me to God;
By grace I there may tarry.

P: Jesus assures us, that if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

C: O Lord, in mercy you sought us. You heard our desperate cry for rescue, and you secured the forgiveness of our sins. How blessed we are that your precious blood purifies us from all our sins and guilt.

Hymn

"Lord Jesus You are Going Forth" Christian Worship 126 st. 4

O soul, I take upon me now The pain you should have suffered. My death will your release allow; My gift is freely offered. The curse I choose that you might lose Sin's curse and guilt forever. My gift of love from heav'n above Will give you blessing ever.

P: It is only by grace through faith we can ever have the confidence to say, "I sought the Lord and he answered me. From all my terrors, he delivered me. From all my distress he saved me. Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is everyone who takes refuge in him.

Hymn

"Lord Jesus You are Going Forth" Christian Worship 126 st. 5

What can I for such love divine
To you, Lord Jesus, render?
No merit has this heart of mine;
Yet while I live I'll tender
Myself alone and all I own
In love to serve before you.
Then when time's past, take me at last;
In heav'n I shall adore you.

Evening Prayer

P: O gracious Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, you have always loved us with an everlasting love. That love was displayed when you went the way of the cross. Daily lead us to acknowledge it was our sins and disobedience which made it necessary for you to suffer and die. Now, because of your undeserved mercy, we are free from our misery. Bless us as we worship you—together with your Father and the Spirit—our only true and saving God.

C: Amen.

The Passion History according to the Four Gospels

Part 5—Jesus Sentenced to Crucifixion

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one

who is misleading the people. Look, I have examined him in your presence. I have found in this man no basis for the charges you are bringing against him. Herod did not either, for he sent him back to us. See, he has done nothing worthy of death. So I will have him flogged and release him."

At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted. At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas, who had been thrown in prison for a rebellion in the city and for murder. The crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, "Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you? Which one do you want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?" For Pilate in fact knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy.

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, Pilate's wife sent him a message. "Have nothing to do with that righteous man," she said, "since I have suffered many things today in a dream because of him." But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death. The governor asked them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?"

They all shouted together with one voice: "Take him away! Release Barabbas to us!"

Pilate said to them, "Then what do you want me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews? What should I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?"

They all said to him, "Crucify him!"

But the governor said, "Why? What has he done wrong?"

But they kept shouting even louder: "Crucify him!"

Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept shouting, "Crucify! Crucify him!"

He said to them the third time, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found no grounds for sentencing him to death. So I will whip him and release him." But they kept pressuring him with

loud voices, demanding that he be crucified. And their voices were overwhelming.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right

hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head. They also kept hitting him in the face.

Pilate went outside again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him."

So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!"

When the chief priests and guards saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!"

Pilate told them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against him."

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die, because he claimed to be the Son of God."

When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He went back inside the palace again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?"

But Jesus gave him no answer.

So Pilate asked him, "Are you not talking to me? Don't you know that I have the authority to release you or to crucify you?"

Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over me at all if it had not been given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate tried to release Jesus. But the Jews shouted, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar! Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar!"

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside. He

sat down on the judge's seat at a place called the Stone Pavement, or Gabbatha in Aramaic. It was about the sixth hour on the Preparation Day for the Passover. Pilate said to the Jews, "Here is your king!"

They shouted, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them, "Should I crucify your king?"

"We have no king but Caesar!" the chief priests answered.

When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing and that instead it was turning into a riot, he decided that what they demanded would be done. He took water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, "I am innocent of this righteous man's blood. It is your responsibility."

And all the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!"

Since he wanted to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them.

So then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

After they had mocked him, the soldiers took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. Jesus was carrying his own cross.

As they were going out of the city, a certain man, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), was passing by on his way in from the country. They placed the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd of the people was following him, including women who were mourning and wailing for him.

Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. Be sure of this: The days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never gave birth, 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 to the green wood, what will happen to the dry?"

P: This is the record of our Savior's Passion!

Congregation sings

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image" *Christian Worship 319*

On my heart imprint your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace, That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Have no pow'r to hide your face. This is the superscription be: Jesus, crucified for me, Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation.

Confession of Faith

(we join in the words of Luther's Explanation the Second Article of the Apostles Creed)

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn of the Day

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

Christian Worship 108

Jesus, Refuge of the weary, blest Redeemer whom we love. Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above. Oh, how oft your eyes, offended, gaze upon a sinner's fall! Yet, upon the cross extended, you endured the pain of all.

Dare we pass that cross unheeding, breathing no repentant vow,
As we see you wounded, bleeding,
see you thorn encircled brow?
Since your sinless death has brought us life eternal,
peace and rest,
Only what your grace has taught us calms
the sinner's deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning with more fervent love for you! May our eyes be ever turning to behold your cross anew, Till in glory, parted never from the blessed Savior's side, Graven in our hearts forever, dwell the cross, the Crucified!

"The Misery of Mankind; The Mercy of Jesus"

Death Reigns Because of Sin

Genesis 3:19

¹⁹By the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the soil, for out of it your were taken. For you are dust and to dust you shall return.

Genesis 5:3-5

³Adam lived 130 years, and he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his own image, and he named him Seth. ⁴The days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were 800 years, and he became the father of sons and daughters. ⁵All the days that Adam lived were 930 years. Then he died.

Death's Reign is Ended by Death

Romans 5:18-21

¹⁸So then, just as one trespass led to a verdict of condemnation for all people, so also one righteous verdict led to life-giving justification for all people. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of one man the many became sinners, so also through the obedience of one man the many will become righteous.

²⁰The law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin in-

creased, grace overflowed much more, ²¹so that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace would reign through righteousness, resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Death's Reign is Defeated!"

Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks

Evening Litany (we read responsively)

P: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God.

C: Have mercy on us.

P: By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your baptism, fasting, and temptation; and by your proclamation of the kingdom:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: By your bloody sweat and bitter agony, by your cross and suffering, and by your precious death and burial:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: By your triumphant resurrection, by your glorious ascension, and by the promised coming of the Holy Spirit:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: In our times of trouble, in our times of prosperity, in the hour of death, and on the day of judgment:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: From all spiritual blindness; from self-pride and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of true Christ-like love; From all deadly sin and from the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil; From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of the heart, and contempt for your Word and your will:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

C: Grant us your peace.

P: Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Christ, have mercy on us.

P: Lord, have mercy on us, and hear us as we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power and the glory
 are yours now and forever. Amen!

Hymn

"If Your Beloved Son, O God" Christian Worship 393

If your beloved Son, O God,
Had not to earth descended
And in our mortal flesh and blood
Had not sin's power ended,
Then this poor wretched soul of mine
In hell eternally would pine
Because of my transgression.

But now I find sweet peace and rest; Despair no more reigns o'er me. No more am I by sin oppressed, For Christ has borne sin for me. Upon the cross for me he died That reconciled, I might abide With you, my God, forever.

I trust in him with all my heart; Now all my sorrow ceases. His words abiding peace impart; His blood from guilt releases. Free grace through him I now obtain; He washes me from ev'ry stain, And pure I stand before him.

All righteousness by works is vain; The law brings condemnation. True righteousness by faith I gain; Christ's work is my salvation. His death, that perfect sacrifice, Has paid the all sufficient price; In him my hope is anchored.

My guilt, O Father, you have laid On Christ, your Son, my Savior. Lord Jesus, you my debt have paid And gained for me God's favor. O Holy Spirit, Fount of grace, The good in me to you I trace; In faith and hope preserve me.

Evening Prayer

P: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your people, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies,

that we may live in peace and quietness while praying with boldness and confidence, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

The Benediction:

P: Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.

May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Christ.

The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.



Closing Hymn

"Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow"

Christian Worship 587

Now rest beneath night's shadow The woodland, field, and meadow; The world in slumber lies. But you, my heart, awaken, With prayer and song be taken; Let praise to your Creator rise.

The rule of day is over
And shining jewels cover
The heaven's boundless blue.
Thus I shall shine in heaven,
Where crowns of gold are given
To all who faithful prove and true.

Lord Jesus, since you love, Oh, spread your wings above me And shield me from alarm. Though Satan would assail me, Your mercy will not fail me; I rest in your protecting arm.

My loved ones, rest securely,
For God this night will surely
From peril guard your heads.
Sweet slumbers may he send you
And bid his hosts attend you
And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Silent Prayers

Announcements

Tonight - In our faithful Savior's name, *Welcome to our Midweek Worship!* May the blessing of Jesus' precious work lead you to rejoice in the freedom he has given from death, the devil, and the grave.

Friday—Office hours from 10:30—2:30 pm.

Saturday—Clean: J. Schroeder

• Lawn mowing beginning March 17th—F. Florez

Sunday, March 17th—Worship and Live Streaming at 9:30 am. Whenever we recall Jesus' suffering and death, we may believe there was some hesitancy on his part to undertake such a tortured death. The writer to the Hebrews offers a completely different picture. With boldness, confidence, and complete obedience, Jesus marched toward his goal to give us eternal life.

• Christian Education will follow the service. Isaiah 43 will be the subject for discussion, especially the words spoken by the Lord—"Do not be afraid, because I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine."

Thank You

To Jim Everson and Jim Brown for controlling Hymnsoft and for monitoring the sound system and the live-stream video; and to Sue Proeber for placing flowers on the altar—to the glory of God and in thanks for his undeserved love and blessing.

Church Cleaning and Maintenance

We always like to do a thorough cleaning of the church prior to Easter. There are all sorts of things to be done—cleaning, vacuuming, washing windows, pulling weeds, cleaning blinds, etc. We will start around 9:00 am and work until noon on Saturday, March 23rd. Please speak with Jim Brown for more information.

Acknowledgements —

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