SIXTH MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE

Text: Catharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel, 1697-1752; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-97, alt.

APRIL 09, 2025



Text and tune: Public domain



Tune: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957, adapt.

↑ INVOCATIONMatthew 28:19b; 18:20

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

PSALM Psalm 143

P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!

- Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.
- For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.
- Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.
- I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done; I ponder the work of Your hands.
- I stretch out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a parched land.
- Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails! Hide not Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.
- Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.
- P Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to You for refuge!
- Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!
- For Your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!
- And in Your steadfast love You will cut off my enemies, and You will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am Your servant.

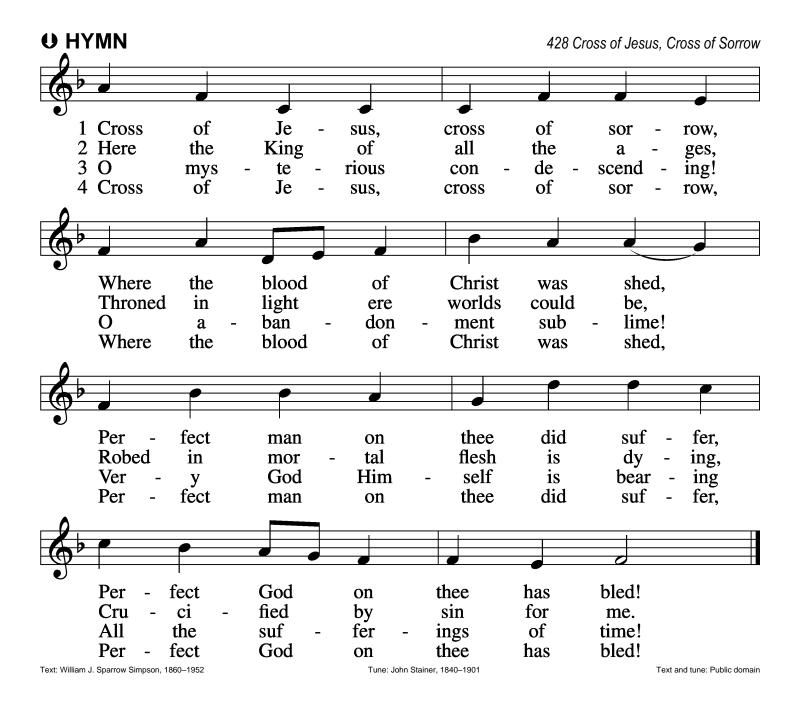
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

SALUTATION

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.

COLLECT

- Let us pray: O Lord, You gave the Law so that even in our sin we might know Your will for our lives, and You gave us Your only Son to cleanse our lives of sin. For His sake, forgive us and renew us so that we may serve You faithfully; 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.



FIRST READING Genesis 50:15–21

A The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 50.

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

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

PRAYER RESPONSE

- Let us pray: Lord God, as we remember the past and meditate of Your works, we give thanks that when the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature have pursued us, in Your faithfulness and righteousness You have not hidden Your face from us but have rescued us from our enemies and preserved our lives though Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for He was not ashamed to call us His brothers and sisters but freely forgave and rescued us, and He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 8.

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 26:47–56

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." ⁴⁹And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. ⁵¹And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. ⁵⁶But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.



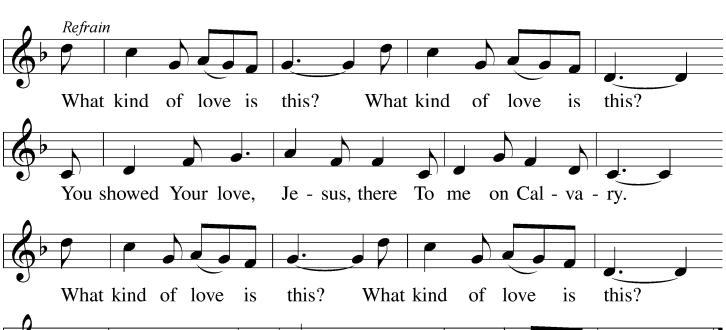
542 When I Behold Jesus Christ

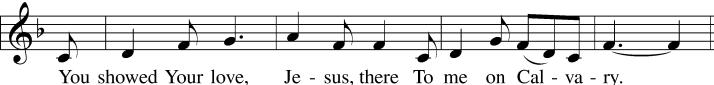


- 1 When Ι True God who died for be - hold Je - sus Christ, me.
- You gave 2 For me all Your love, For me You suf-fered pain;
- 3 You had ho - ly Lord. But You were tor-tured, tried: sin. no
- 4 What love is this? Great - er love No one has ev - er known.



find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain. On Gol - go - tha there You bled and died. for all My sins My life with God— this and You I To You, a - lone. owe





Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–3): tr. Hartmut Schoenherr, with Jim and Aurelia Keefer; (st. 4): Joseph Herl, 1959

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–3): tr. Hartmut Schoenherr, with Jim and Aurelia Keefer; (st. 4): Joseph Herl, 1959

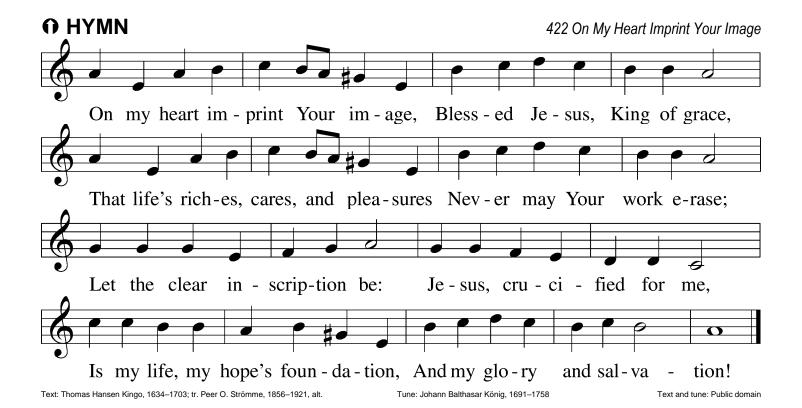
Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–3): not une: © 1998 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–3) and tune: © 1970 Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3) and tune: Almaz Belhu

SERMON

Pastor Eugene Larmi



CREED Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

L A reading from John, chapter 19.

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." 5So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" 6When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." 8When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. 10So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" 11 Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." ¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus,

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

O RESPONSIVE LITANY

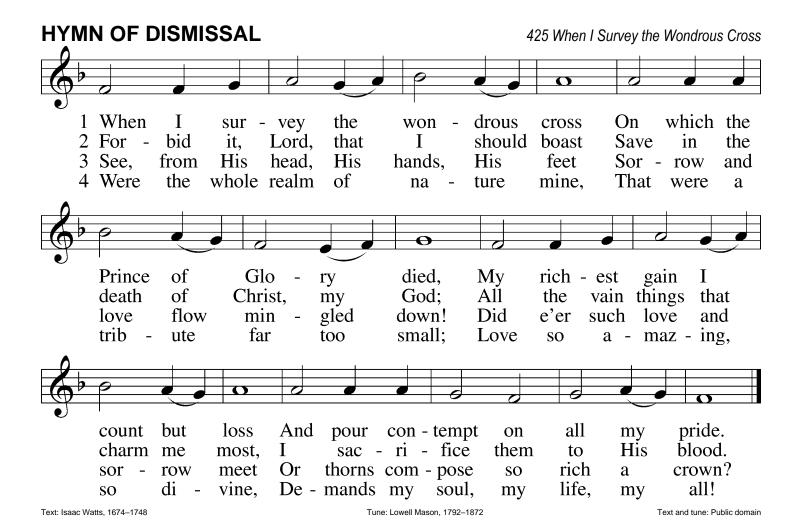
- P Hear our prayer, O Lord.
- Let our cry come to You.
- Lord Jesus Christ, as we draw near to the end of this Lenten season, we pray that the words we have heard would abide in our hearts as we abide in You.
- You, O Lord, have the words of eternal life.
- P Grant us peace this night
- with hearts that are restful, because they have found their rest in You.
- P Send us back tomorrow to our daily lives and duties, refreshed and restored,
- with greater understanding in our minds, greater love within our hearts, and a firmer grip upon Your hand.
- P Lord, we lift up to You our friends and loved ones who are not with us at this time.
- Bless them, O Lord, and keep them safe.
- **P** Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

Allowed 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.

BENEDICTION

- P The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life.
- C Amen.



DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.