

Midweek of Lent 3 - March 23, 2022

12:00 & 7:00 PM

WITNESSES TO CHRIST



ORDER OF VESPERS

PETER

Simon Peter witnessed much of Christ's ministry on earth. He is featured in many highlights of the four Gospels, but today we see Peter at his lowest point, as he denies Jesus three times. The result of Peter's denial is a massive amount of guilt. Each of us can relate to that unwanted flood of self-disgust that comes when we remember past sin. But guilt is not the final word for Peter, and it is not the final word for us. After His resurrection, Jesus restores and forgives Peter. Jesus offered Peter grace. Jesus also gives us grace, forgiveness, and restoration at the cross.

HYMN SING

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

LSB 229

PSALM

Psalm 118:19–29; antiphon: v. 26



- P** Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.
- C** **Open to me the gates of | righteousness,***
that I may enter through them and give thanks | to the LORD.
- P** This is the gate | of the LORD;*
the righteous shall enter | through it.
- C** **I thank You that you have | answered me***
and have become my sal- | vation.

P The stone that the builders re- | jected*
has become the | cornerstone.

C **This is the LORD's | doing;***
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

P This is the day that the | LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

C **Save us, we pray, | O LORD!***
O LORD, we pray, give | us success!

P Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

C **The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine up- | on us.***
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the | altar!

P You are my God, and I will give | thanks to You;*
You are my God; I will ex- | tol You.

C **Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | He is good;***
for His steadfast love endures for- | ever!

A **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

PSALM PRAYER

P Holy God, mighty Lord, endless is Your mercy and eternal Your reign. Your own Son has triumphed over sin and the grave and opened to us the gates of everlasting life. Purify our hearts in Him that we may be granted a share in His glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sit

SERIES HYMN

'Behold! The Lamb of God,' John Said

1. "Behold! The Lamb of God," John said,
"Who takes all sin away."
This Lamb is Christ, who in our stead
For sin would mutely pay.
"Behold your King!" by Pilate scourged;
Sin's hellish sum on Him converged,
While "Crucify!" the hateful urged,
Their Savior to betray.
2. The Way—of justice was deprived;
The Truth—was overrun;
The Life—was all from Christ derived;
God glorifies His Son!
"I am the Bread of Life," Christ said;
"My sacred blood for all, I shed;
Who eats and drinks of Me is fed."
All death by Christ undone.
3. Christ's glory is not seen by those
Who view God's Word as dross,
For worldly wisdom never knows
How gain could come from loss.
Yet, this the glory of the Christ:
His perfect life He sacrificed,
His finished work for all sufficed—
Debt canceled on the cross.
4. May we this holy Lententide
Christ's Passion clearly see;
This somber vision will provide
The truth that sets us free.
Hear John, who speaks of what he knows;
Come, follow on the path Christ chose:
The cross, the tomb from which He rose
In joyous victory!

READING

Zechariah 12:10–14

- P** A reading from Zechariah, the twelfth chapter.

¹⁰“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on Me, on Him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over Him, as one weeps over a firstborn. ¹¹On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. ¹²The land shall mourn, each family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; ¹³the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; ¹⁴and all the families that are left, each by itself, and their wives by themselves.”

- P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

2 Corinthians 12:7–10

- P** A reading from Second Corinthians, the twelfth chapter.

⁷So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

P A reading from St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

¹²So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. ¹³First they led Him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said." ²²When He had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how You answer the high priest?" ²³Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike Me?" ²⁴Annas then sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" ²⁷Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

RESPONSORY FOR LENT

Psalm 51:14, 59:1, 141:8

Verse *To Refrain*

- 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my sal - va - tion.
- 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 sal - va - tion.

Refrain

Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me from those who rise a - gainst me.

Sit

OFFICE HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
LSB 575

SERMON

Peter
John 18:12-27
Pastor Mike Ada

Stand

CANTICLE

Sing Praise to the God of Israel
LSB 936

OFFERING

PRAYERS

LSB 233

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

LSB 234

CLOSING HYMN

I Know My Faith Is Founded
LSB 587

POSTLUDE

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Vespers from Lutheran Service Book.

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Serving the Lord and Us This Evening:

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LiturgistPastor Joel Schultz
OrganistDeb Miller
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