

FIFTH MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP

March 13, 2024



GOD ON TRIAL

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GOD ON TRIAL - Truth

✘ Gathering ✘

OPENING HYMN

396 – Christ, the Life of All the Living (st. 1-4)



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
2 Thou, ah! Thou hast tak - en on thee bonds and stripes, a
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly that my wounds might
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur - round thee, treat - ing thee with



death, our foe, who, thy - self for me once giv - ing
cru - el rod; pain and scorn were heaped up - on thee,
all be whole; thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,
cru - el scorn, and with pierc - ing thorns they crowned thee.



to the dark - est depths of woe: through thy suf - f'rings,
O thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst thou my
rest to give my wea - ry soul; yea, the curse of
All dis - grace thou, Lord, hast borne that as thine thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
soul de - liv - er from the bonds of sin for - ev - er.
God en - dur - ing, bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.
might - est own me and with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.

Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life.

Amen.

PSALM

Psalm 1



1 How tru - ly blest are they who shun the
2 But make the law of God their stud - y
3 They like a tree shall thrive with wa - ters
4 The wick - ed are not so! They no such



sin - ners' ways, a - mong their coun - sels
and de - light a - mid the la - bors
near the root. Fresh as the leaf their
bless - ing find. Their hopes shall flee like



nev - er stand, nor take the scorn - ers' place,
of the day and watch - es of the night.
name shall live; their works are heav'n - ly fruit.
emp - ty chaff be - fore the driv - ing wind.

5 How will they bear to stand
before that judgment seat
where all the saints at Christ's right hand
in full assembly meet?

6 God knows and he approves
the way the righteous go,
but sinners and their works shall meet
a dreadful overthrow.

PSALM PRAYER

Lord, let your Word so saturate our souls that we grow into lush trees bearing fruit for you. When the voices of the wicked tempt us to stray down other paths, keep us on the way that leads to our heavenly home. We ask this, confident that you watch over the way of the righteous; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PASSION HISTORY

LEADER: 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.”

MEN: At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted.

CONGREGATION: 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.

LEADER: 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.

WOMEN: 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.”

MEN: But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death.

LEADER: The governor asked them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”

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

LEADER: 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?”

CONGREGATION: They all said to him, “Crucify him!”

LEADER: But the governor said, “Why? What has he done wrong?”

CONGREGATION: But they kept shouting even louder: “Crucify him!”

MEN: Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept shouting, “Crucify! Crucify him!”

LEADER: 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.”

WOMEN: But they kept pressuring him with loud voices, demanding that he be crucified. And their voices were overwhelming.

CONGREGATION: Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

LEADER: 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.

MEN: 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."

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

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

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

WOMEN: 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."

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

WOMEN: But Jesus gave him no answer.

MEN: 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?"

LEADER: 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."

CONGREGATION: 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!"

LEADER: 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!"

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

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

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

CONGREGATION: 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.

MEN: 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.”

CONGREGATION: And all the people answered, “Let his blood be on us and on our children!”

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

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

LEADER: 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.

MEN: 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.

WOMEN: A large crowd of the people was following him, including women who were mourning and wailing for him.

LEADER: 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?”

HYMN OF THE DAY

514 – You Are the Way; Through You Alone



- 1 You are the way; thro' you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
- 2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb pro-claims your con-qu'ring arm,
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re-vealed his heart and will and mind.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you nor death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

✠ Sermon ✠

John 18:33-40

Pastor John Hering (Divine Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, Garland)

^{JOHN 18:33} Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

³⁴ “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”

³⁵ “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”

³⁶ Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

³⁷ “You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

³⁸ “What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. ³⁹ But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?”

⁴⁰ They shouted back, “No, not him! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.

God on Trial - Truth

Sermon notes:

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MUSICAL OFFERING

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.

Offerings can be given in any of these ways:

- *Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary*
- *On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>*
- *Scan the QR code to the right...*



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.

PRAYER

Abide with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over. Abide with us and with your whole Church. Abide with us in your grace and goodness, in your holy Word and sacrament, in your comfort and blessing. Abide with us when we are overcome by the night of sorrow and fear, by the night of doubt and affliction, by the night of bitter death. Abide with us and with all your people in time and in eternity. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.
May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

CLOSING HYMN

786 – Now the Day Is Over



- 1 Now the day is o - ver, night is draw - ing nigh;
- 2 Je - sus, give the wea - ry calm and sweet re - pose;
- 3 Com - fort ev - 'ry suf - f'rer watch - ing late in pain;
- 4 Thro' the long night watch - es may your an - gels spread
- 5 When the morn - ing wak - ens, then may I a - rise



shad - ows of the eve - ning steal a - cross the sky.
with your ten - d'rest bless - ing may my eye - lids close.
those who plan some e - vil, from their sin re - strain.
their bright wings a - bove me, watch - ing round my bed.
pure and fresh and sin - less in your ho - ly eyes.

A special thanks to Pastor John Hering (from our sister church, Divine Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, Garland Campus) for bring us this evening's Lenten message.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Hymn 396 – Christ, the Life of All the Living

Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605-1681, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, sts. 1,2,5,7, alt.;

Tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, sts.3,4,6, alt.

Tune: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687, alt.; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Scripture references: Isa 53:3-12; Mt 26:36-27:2,11-50; 1 Co 15:57

Text and music: public domain

Psalm 118

Text: Isaac Watts, alt., public domain

Music: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, alt., public domain

Hymn 514 – You Are the Way; through You Alone

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.

Tune: The CL Psalmes of David, Edinburgh, 1615; setting: The English Hymnal, 1906

Scripture references: Jn 14:6

Text and music: public domain

Hymn 786 – Now the Day Is Over

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924, abr., alt.

Music: Joseph Barnby, 1838-1896

Ps 3:5; 4:8; Pr 3:24

Text and music: public domain

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The Season of
Lent



**MIDWEEK LENT
and
HOLY WEEK**

The unbelieving world has always insisted on putting God on Trial. As our society becomes more secular, Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God – and his people – are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model – and our motivation – in Jesus. This series takes us back to the moments when God was literally on Trial before the people in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

Midweek 6: God on Trial – Sympathy	3/20 @ 7:00 p.m.
Palm Sunday: God on Trial – Anticipation	3/24 @ normal weekend times
Holy Thursday: God on Trial – Respite	3/28 @ 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday: God on Trial – Evidence	3/29 @ 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday: God on Trial – Vindication	3/31 Sunrise @ 6:30 a.m. 3/31 Festival @ 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.