

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22, 2020

Worship Focus

**Close Encounters with The Christ:
Christ and Arrogant Disciples**



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Order of Service for THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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✠ Gathering ✠

OPENING HYMN

413 – When in the Hour of Utmost Need



1 When in the hour of ut - most need We know not
2 Then is our com - fort this a - lone That we may
3 For you have prom - ised, Lord, to heed Your chil - dren's
4 And so we come, O God, to - day And all our
5 So that with all our hearts we may To you our



where to look for aid, When days and nights of
meet be - fore your throne; To you, O faith - ful
cries in time of need Through him whose name a -
woes be - fore you lay. Be with us in our
glad thanks - giv - ing pay, Then walk o - be - dient



anx - ious thought Nor help nor coun - sel yet have brought,
God, we cry For res - cue in our mis - er - y.
lone is great, Our Sav - ior and our ad - vo - cate.
an - guish still; Free us at last from ev - 'ry ill,
to your Word And now and ev - er praise you, Lord.

Text: Paul Eber, 1511–69, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: WENN WIR IN HÖCHSTEN NÖTEN SEIN (LM) Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–c. 1561.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





✘ The Word ✘

FIRST LESSON

Hosea 5:15-6:3

The Israelites confess the chastising hand of the LORD in their troubles and seek his favor as their source of healing.

HOSEA 5:15 Then I will go back to my place
until they admit their guilt.
And they will seek my face;
in their misery they will earnestly seek me.”

6:1 “Come, let us return to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces
but he will heal us;
he has injured us
but he will bind up our wounds.

2 After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will restore us,
that we may live in his presence.

3 Let us acknowledge the LORD;
let us press on to acknowledge him.
As surely as the sun rises,
he will appear;
he will come to us like the winter rains,
like the spring rains that water the earth.”

Let us acknowledge the Lord;

PSALM 42/43

As the Deer

Text, st. 1,3; Tune; Setting: Martin Nystrom, Text, st. 2; Mark Braun.
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Text, st. 2: © 1995 Mark Braun. Used by permission.
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1. As the deer pants for the wa - ter, So my
2. You're my friend, and you're my bro - ther, E - ven
3. I want you more than gold or sil - ver, On - ly



3
soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
though you are a King. I love you more than
you can sa - tis - fy. You a - lone are the



6
heart's de - sire, And I long to wor - ship you. You a - lone are my
an - y oth - er, So much more than any - y - thing.
real joy gi - ver, And the ap - ple of my eye.



10
strength, my shield. To you a - lone may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my



14
heart's de - sire, And I long to wor - ship you.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:1-10

The weakness and condemnation of sinful man stands in stark contrast to the power and grace of God in Christ through the Spirit.

ROMANS 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁴in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

⁵Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; ⁷the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**Lord, you alone
This work have done
By your free grace and favor.
All who believe
Will grace receive
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
And though the foe
Would overthrow
Your Word with grim endeavor,
All he has wrought
Must come to naught –
Your Word will stand forever!**
(204:3)

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:17-28

Jesus speaks clearly about the turn of events in his own life and goes on to explain the attitude of humble service that wins high marks in God's kingdom.

MATTHEW 20:17 Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, ¹⁸“We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death ¹⁹and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!”

²⁰Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.

²¹“What is it you want?” he asked.

She said, “Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.”

²²“You don't know what you are asking,” Jesus said to them. “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?”

“We can,” they answered.

²³Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.”

²⁴When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. ²⁵Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



Matthew 20:22

HYMN OF THE DAY

477 – What Is the World to Me



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed
 2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the
 3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mon - ey
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my



plea - sure When you, and you a - lone, Lord
 might - y, Yet nev - er once re - flects That
 of - fers, Yet nev - er is con - tent Though
 trea - sure, My life, my health, my wealth, My



Je - sus, are my trea - sure! You on - ly, dear - est
 they are frail and flight - y. But what I tru - ly
 gold should fill its cof - fers. I have a high - er
 friend, my love, my plea - sure, My joy, my crown, my



Lord, My soul's de - light shall be; You are my
 prize A - bove all things is he, My Je - sus,
 good; Con - tent with it I'll be; My Je - sus
 all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly. Once more then



peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 he a - lone. What is the world to me!
 is my wealth— What is the world to me!
 I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT (67 67 66 66) Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701, alt.

✠ Sermon ✠

Matthew 20:17-28

Now Is a Time for Greatness... God's Way

1. understand that it comes through suffering
2. realize that it is expressed in service

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day. We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us. **Hear us, good Lord.**

You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them. Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being. Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Heavenly Father, Creator and Preserver of all things, we thank You for the grace and mercy You have shown to all people, especially in sending Your only Son to be our Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil. Be with us during this time of sickness, fear, and doubt. Let Your Word bring comfort and hope to all who hear it, calming fears and providing strength for each day. Give our leaders the wisdom to make decisions that will help our people with their earthly needs and protect us from all harm. Protect our doctors, nurses, and all who provide care to the sick and to those who cannot care for themselves. Give them an extra measure of strength and help them through this difficult time. We pray that You will also provide calm and peaceful days as together we face this disease. Remind each of us of our responsibility to our neighbor, that we consider others in all the decisions we make. Above all, we pray that Your will be done. **Hear us, good Lord.**

We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory. We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. **Amen.**

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.

SERMON HYMN

415 – Be Still, My Soul



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul, though dear - est friends de - part
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on



Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
 To guide the fu - ture as he has the past.
 And all is dark - ened in the vale of tears;
 When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,



Leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide;
 Your hope, your con - fi - dence, let noth - ing shake;
 Then you will bet - ter know his love, his heart,
 When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re - main.
 All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your fears.
 Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.



Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend
 Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while he lived be - low.
 From his own full - ness all he takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Text: Catharina A. von Schlegel, 1697–1752, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.
 Tune: FINLANDIA (10 10 10 10 10 10) Jean J. C. Sibelius, 1865–1957, adapt. © Breitkopf & Härtel.
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M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

439 – Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
 For you, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en My steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 And noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
 For when your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.