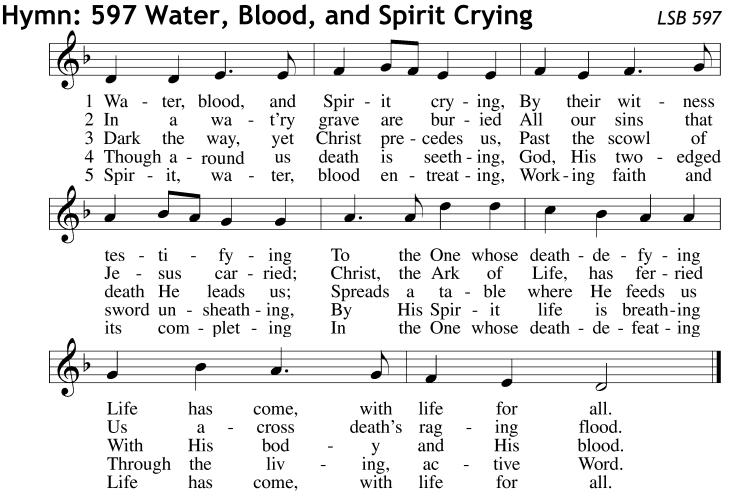


## April 6, 2023 **Holy Thursday**

#### Water and Blood

On this night when our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed into the hands of sinful men, we receive the blessings of forgiveness and new life as we partake of the Lord's Supper. Looking ahead to the death of Jesus on Calvary's cross, we remember with the apostle John that both water and blood flowed from Jesus' side as He was pierced by the spear of a Roman soldier (John 19:34). The flowing water reminds us of the mystery of our Baptism, as God the Father cleanses us of our sin and makes us His children. The flowing blood reminds us of the deep love of the Savior, who allowed Himself to die a horrific death so that we may experience a glorious resurrection, and it points to the Sacrament of our Lord's body and blood. May the blessings of Jesus flow into our lives as we gather to worship Him.



Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Jeffrey N. Blersch, 1967
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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** I will go to the altar of God,
- **C** to God my exceeding joy.

Psalm 43:4

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

#### **Confessional Address**

During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one Body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one Body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

- C Amen.
- P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- **P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
- C Amen.
- P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
- C Yes.
- **P** Let it be done for you as you believe.
- In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in + peace.
- C Amen.

#### Salutation

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## **Old Testament Reading**

Exodus 17:1-7

P The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, the seventeenth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" 4So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

#### Gradual

Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a

[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant,

so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

He sent redemption to his people;

he has commanded his covenant forever.

Epistle 1 John 5:5-12

**P** The Epistle is from First John, the fifth chapter.

<sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. <sup>9</sup>If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <sup>10</sup>Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

#### Psalm 116:12-19

antiphon v 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>What shall I render to the LORD

for all his benefits to me?

<sup>13</sup>I will lift up the cup of salvation

and call on the name of the LORD,

<sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD

in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup>Precious in the sight of the LORD

is the death of his saints.

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.

You have loosed my bonds.

<sup>17</sup>I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving

and call on the name of the LORD.

<sup>18</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD

in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup>in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

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.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Mark 14:12-26

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, [Jesus'] disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" <sup>13</sup>And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, <sup>14</sup>and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>15</sup>And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." <sup>16</sup>And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>17</sup>And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. <sup>18</sup>And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." <sup>19</sup>They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" <sup>20</sup>He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. <sup>21</sup>For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

<sup>22</sup>And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." <sup>23</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. <sup>24</sup>And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. <sup>25</sup>Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

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

#### Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and

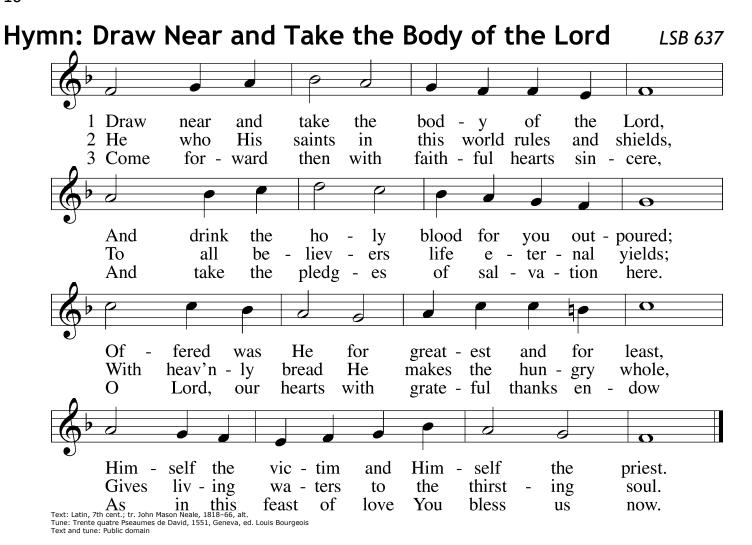
whose kingdom will have no end.

the dead.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

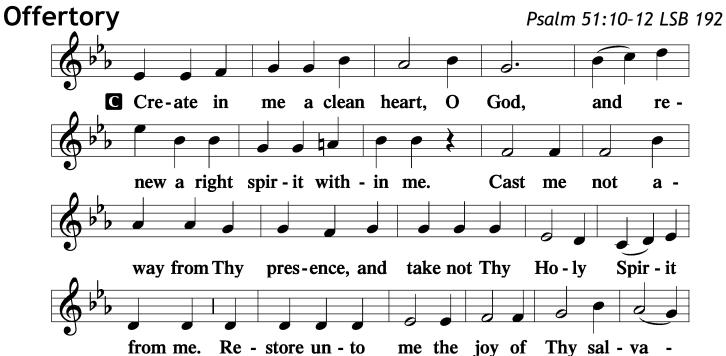
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.



#### Sermon

## Rev. Philip Zielinski







Sit

## Offering

Stand

## Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the deliverance of our souls, which are precious in God's sight; and for confidence to pray, knowing that Christ Himself prays with us, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For the young men of the Church, following the example of the young men at Mount Sinai, that they would serve God, whether at His altar or by faithful and steadfast lives in this world, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For newness and holiness of life, that Christ, who offered Himself through the eternal Spirit, would purify our consciences from dead works to serve the living God, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For those who make and administer our laws amid plagues and threats, in a world filled with conflict and terror, that they may act in timely and prudent ways, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For [\_\_\_\_\_\_ and] all who are sick, that God would refresh, comfort and nourish them in the midst of the wilderness of this world, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For cleansing from sin through Christ's body and blood, that set free from slavery to this world, we may be gathered into His New Testament, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; redeem us, O Lord, faithful God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## Lord' Prayer

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father who art in heaven,
  hallowed 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.

#### The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

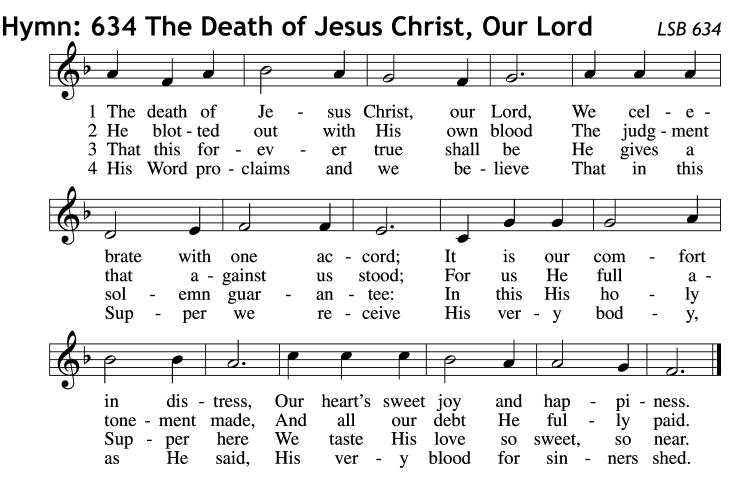
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



#### **Distribution**

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
  - Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
  - Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
  - Kneel or stand as you are able.
  - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
  - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
  - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several
  plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine
  uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an
  alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any
  questions.





- 5 We dare not ask how this can be, But simply hold the mystery And trust this word where life begins: "Given and shed for all your sins."
- 6 They who this word do not believe This food unworthily receive, Salvation here will never find— May we this warning keep in mind!
- 7 But blest is each believing guest Who in these promises finds rest; For Jesus shall in love remain With all who here His grace obtain.
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe
  That we may worthily receive
  Your Supper and in You find rest.
  Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1-4, 6-8): Haquin Spegel, 1645-1714; (sts. 1-4, 6-8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841-1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742 Text and tune: Public domain

The Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 

  → in peace.
- C Amen.



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

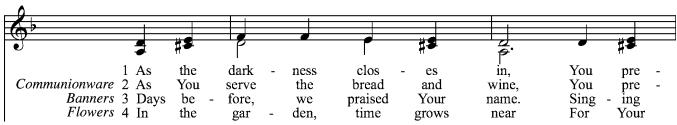
C Amen.

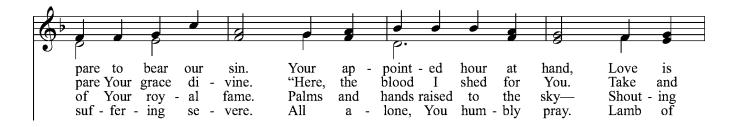
#### STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The Communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday. This is symbolic of the Lord's humiliation as He sets aside glory and submits to the indignity of the crucifixion.

The hymn traces the final events of our Lord's Passion connecting them to the various appoints of the altar and chancel as they are removed.

#### As the Darkness Closes In









#### Bible / Hymnal / Missal Stand

Word made flesh, You came to dwell 7
With us, sinners doomed to hell.
With Your last words while You live,
You entreat God to forgive.
Mercy ever pardoning—
For us, You give ev'rything.

#### **Paraments**

6 Savior, as You pay the price
For the nations' sacrifice,
At Your feet, we will divide
Garments You will set aside.
Losing ev'ry scrap and string,
For us, You give ev'rything.

#### **Candles**

7 Light of light, the world grows dim And our outlook ever grim. We deserve eternal doom, Hopeless in despairing gloom, Desp'rate for the light You bring. For us, You give ev'rything..

#### Cross

- 8 Bare and hanging on the tree,
  You take our iniquity.
  We give You our curse and shame;
  You give us Your holy name.
  You remove death's painful sting;
  For us, You give ev'rything.
- We are empty without You.
  We have nothing we can do
  That would free us from our chains.
  Without You, our guilt remains.
  You provide the offering.
  For us, You give ev'rything.

Psalm 22 is traditionally recited as part of the Stripping of the Altar. It is included here for your meditation if the hymn concludes while there are still items to be removed, or for your devotional use at home.

#### Psalm 22

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.
³Vot you are boly.

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

<sup>5</sup>To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. <sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. <sup>7</sup>All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; 8"He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" <sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. <sup>10</sup>On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. <sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is near. and there is none to help. <sup>12</sup>Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; <sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. <sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; <sup>15</sup>my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. <sup>16</sup>For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— <sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones they stare and gloat over me; <sup>18</sup>they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. <sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! <sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! <sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! <sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup>The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve him;

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

All leave the church in silence.

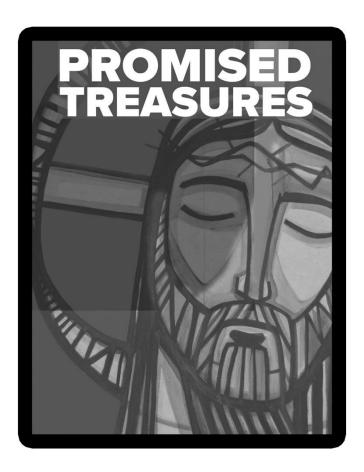
Pastor will not be greeting the congregation as you exit, however, if you require pastoral care, he is available in his study.

If you have brought an offering, a plate has been provided at the back of the church.

#### Acknowledgments

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## **WORSHIP FOR LENT**

#### Ash Wednesday, February 22

11:30am - Worship (Study @ 10am) 7:00pm - Worship (Supper 6-7pm) Lord's Supper celebrated at both services

#### Wednesdays in Lent

11:30am - Worship (Study @ 10am) 7:00pm - Worship (Supper 6-7pm)

#### **Maundy Thursday**

(Divine Service with the Lord's Supper) April 6, 11:30am & 7:00pm

#### **Good Friday**

April 7, 11:30am & 7:00pm

#### **Easter Vigil**

Saturday, April 8, 7:00pm

# Easter Sunday: April 9

8am & 10:30am - Festival Divine Service 9:15am Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt

www.spvc.org