

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Wednesday Lenten Worship 5**  
**March 25, 2020**

**INVOCATION**

**M:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**PRAYER**

Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**PASSION HISTORY READING**     *Matthew 27:1-26*

*Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people reached the decision to put Jesus to death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.*

*Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders and said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? That's your problem."*

*He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money." They reached a decision to buy the potter's field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners. So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:*

*They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, 10 and they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord commanded me.*

*When Jesus stood in the presence of the governor, the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"*

*Jesus said to him, "It is as you say."*

*When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. Then Pilate said to him, "Don't you hear how many things they are testifying against you?"*

*But he did not answer him—not even one word, so that the governor was very surprised.*

*At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted. At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, "Which one do you want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?" For Pilate knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy.*

*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." But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death. The governor asked them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" "Barabbas!" they said.*

*Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?"*

*They all said to him, "Crucify him!"*

*But the governor said, "Why? What has he done wrong?"*

*But they kept shouting even louder: "Crucify him!"*

*When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing and that instead it was turning into a riot, 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."*

*And all the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!"*

*Then he released Barabbas to them, but he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified.*

**HYMN** *O Dearest Jesus* #117

- 1 O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken  
That such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?  
Of what great crime have you to make confession—What dark transgression?
- 2 They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;  
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge you;  
They give you gall to drink, they still decry you; They crucify you.
- 3 Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?  
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must languish;  
Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you inherit, This I do merit.
- 4 What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!  
The Shepherd dies for sheep that love to wander;  
The Master pays the debt his servants owe him, Who would not know him.
- 5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;  
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;  
We forfeited our lives, yet are acquitted—God is committed.
- 6 I'll think upon your mercy without ceasing,  
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;  
To do your will shall be my sole endeavor Henceforth forever.
- 7 And when, dear Lord, before your throne in heaven  
To me the crown of joy at last is given,  
Where sweetest hymns your saints forever raise you, I too shall praise you.

**SERMON**

**CREED**

**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.**

**DUET** *O Dearest Lord* #118

- 1 *O dearest Lord, thy sacred head With thorns was pierced for me;  
Oh, pour thy blessing on my head That I may think for thee.*
- 2 *O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands With nails were pierced for me;  
Oh, shed thy blessing on my hands That they may work for thee.*
- 3 *O dearest Lord, thy sacred feet With nails were pierced for me;  
Oh, pour thy blessing on my feet That they may follow thee.*
- 4 *O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart With spear was pierced for me;  
Oh, pour thy Spirit in my heart That I may live for thee.*

**PRAYER**

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your

commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **BLESSING**

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.

Amen.

### **CLOSING HYMN** *Now the Light Has Gone Away* #593

1 Now the light has gone away; Father, listen while I pray,  
Asking you to watch and keep And to send me quiet sleep.

2 Jesus, Savior, wash away All that I've done wrong today.  
Make me ever more like you, Good and gentle, kind and true.

3 Let my near and dear ones be Safe with you eternally.  
Oh, bring me and all I love To your happy home above.

4 Now my evening praise I give; You once died that I might live.  
All your precious gifts are free—Oh, how good you are to me!

5 Ah, my best and kindest Friend, You will love me to the end.  
Let me love you more and more, Always better than before.