

Mid-Week Lenten Worship Wednesday, March 18, 2020



Welcome

Invocation

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray...O God our Rock and Salvation, All: be with us in this time of worship online and wherever we are.

Pastor: Send your Holy Spirit to us again, All: to call, enlighten, and sanctify us.

Pastor: We lift our prayers up to you, Almighty God. All: May your Holy Spirit pray for us with sighs too deep for words.

Pastor: In these days of sickness and fear, O Lord, All: send to us again the miracle of your healing and your peace.

Pastor: Bless our leaders and healers, Holy One. All: Give them wisdom and strength.

Pastor: Bless us in spiritual gathering, in prayers, in sacred scripture, and in music. All: Bless us all in Jesus' name. Amen.

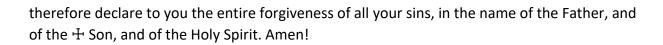
Prelude: Nocturne No.1 - Alexander

Confession & Forgiveness

Pastor: Let us pray ... Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I



Hymn Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross 335 (v.2) [Practice Refrain first]

Emmanue



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

Gospel of Mark 15:22-39

Pastor: The good news of Jesus Christ according to the gospel of St. Mark, chapter 15. All: Glory to you, O Lord!

Pastor: ²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left.

²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ!

Interlude 2 Benjamin Cornelius-Bates

Homily "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" by Pastor Tony Prinsen

Interlude 1 Benjamin Cornelius-Bates

Intercessory Prayers

Pastor: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence*.



Pastor: God of grace, send your church beyond boundaries to proclaim your grace. Strengthen our voices, that all people can know and believe that Jesus is truly the savior of the world. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: God of creation, protect from pollution all that you have made. Use us to do the work of your hands in caring for the earth, air, waters, plants, and animals. Hear us, O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of mercy, open the hearts of leaders and authorities, that they hear the cries of the suffering and act with compassion toward them. Bring peace to disputed lands and bring reconciliation to people divided by race, culture, or nationality. Hear us, O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of wholeness, mend the hearts of those who grieve broken relationships, whether by conflict, abuse, divorce, or death. Draw near to all who are ill. Assure those questioning your presence in the midst of doubt or suffering. Hear us, O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of love, join us together in worship, fellowship, and sharing your good news in all situations. Embolden us to serve others and to work for justice and peace in any way that we can. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: God of healing, renew us in the promises of baptism. Be with those suffering from this pandemic. Bless them with healing. Bless doctors, nurses, medical staff, all those who work in hospitals, clinics, emergency rooms, urgent care and healing ministries. Give them strength; give them endurance; give them your grace. Hear us, O God. All: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: God of life, we thank you for those saints before us who endured suffering and who now boast in the glory of God. Pour your Holy Spirit into our hearts and give us peace as we live in the hope of our salvation. Hear us, O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

All: 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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen. Emmanuel





Blessing and Sending

Pastor: In this holy season of Lent, may God who calls us to repentance bless you, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. All: Amen.

Pastor: Go in peace and remember the poor! All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: Nocturne No. 8-Alexander