



## MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

### **Ironies of the Passion**

**"We Have No King but Caesar!"**

April 3, 2019

#### BELLS AND WELCOME

#### OPENING HYMN 111

**Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing**

M In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

#### RESPONSIVE READING

**Psalm 2:1-12**

M Why do the nations conspire

C **and the peoples plot in vain?**

M The kings of the earth take their stand

C **and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.**

M "Let us break their chains," they say,

C **"and throw off their fetters."**

M The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

C **the Lord scoffs at them.**

M Therefore, you kings, be wise;

C **Be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

M Serve the LORD with fear

C **and rejoice with trembling.**

M Kiss the Son, lest he be angry

C **and you be destroyed in your way,**

M for his wrath can flare up in a moment.

C **Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

#### CONFESSION OF SINS

M As a parent embraces a wounded child, so God reaches out and takes hold of us today. To God it doesn't matter if our wounds were self-inflicted or received from others. It doesn't matter if our scars of mind and body are pitiful and ugly. It doesn't matter who we were or are or what we have done or not done. As wounded children, we cry out and run into our heavenly Father's embrace. And for Jesus' sake, he not only accepts us, but welcomes us and loves us, cleansing, healing, and restoring us to wholeness of heart, mind, body, and soul.

M Heal me, O God,  
All for I have sinned.

M Merciful Father,  
All I confess that I am broken. I have lived a lie by inaction, hurt others without thinking,  
and not done what you have asked me to do.

M Lord Jesus Christ,  
All I confess that I am broken. I have acted in spite, hurt others by my words and deeds,  
and deliberately done what is wrong.

M Holy Spirit and Comforter,  
All I confess that I am broken. I have lived for myself and not for others, judged where I  
should forgive, belittled where I should have built up. I have not acted justly or  
walked in your ways.

M Heal me, O God,  
All for I have sinned.

M Your heavenly Father, your healer, hears the cries of your anguished heart—even those  
so deep they are silent. He sees you: imperfect, guilty, hurting, angry, scared, helpless,  
confused. And these are his words to you: I love you. I sent my Son to die for you. I  
forgive you. Amen.

RESPONSE: HYMN 125, vv. 1, 4,

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count by loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

PSALM 130

Hymnal page 114

PSALM PRAYER

M God of might and compassion, open your ears to the prayers of your people, who wait  
for you. Do not leave us in the depths of our sins, but listen to your Church pleading for  
the fullness of your redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE PASSION HISTORY

Trial before Pilate  
*Selected verses from the Gospel of Luke*

M All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed (*Isaiah 53:6*).

HYMN 104

Go to Dark Gethsemane

SERMON

John 19:12-16a, Bible page 1086

*Pastor Forrest Bivens*

### "We Have No King but Caesar!"

1. This is bad: a self-serving lie!
2. This is worse: a self-condemning sin!
3. Yet this is good: a self-examining tool!

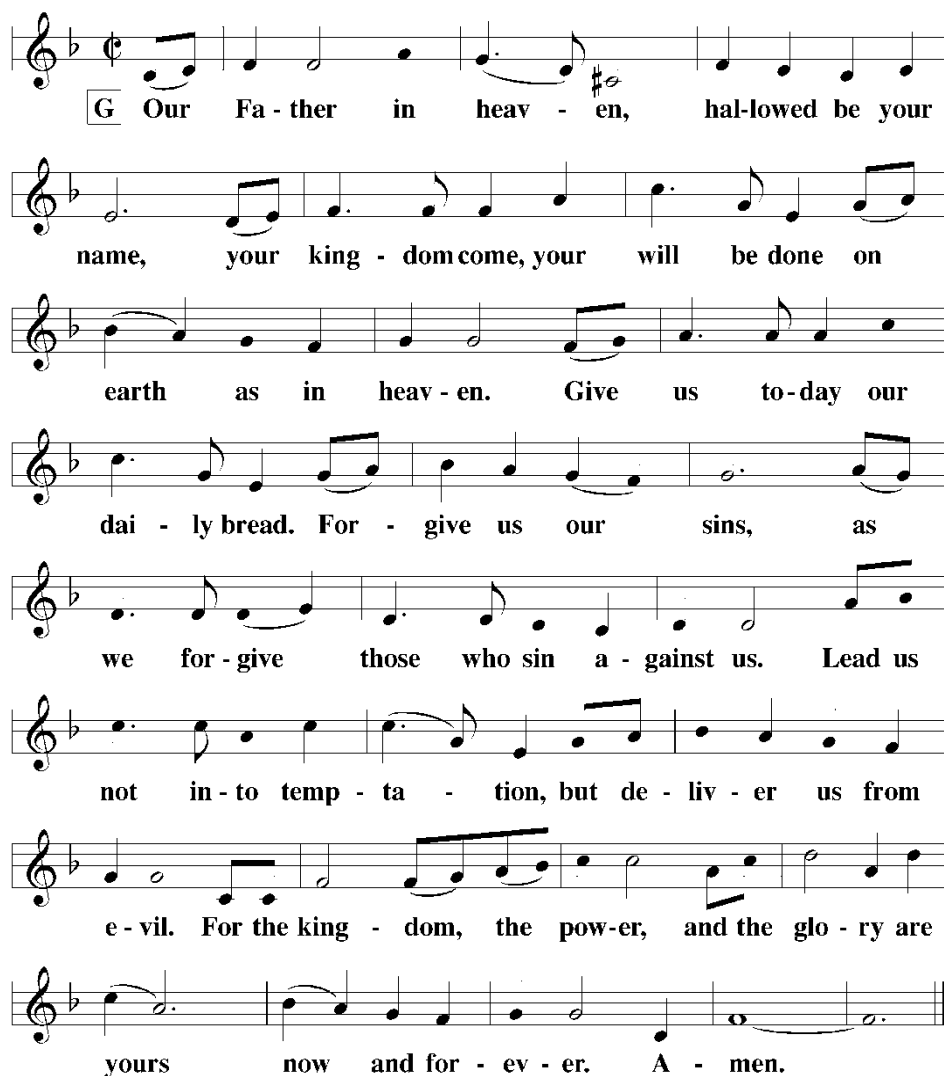
OFFERING

OFFERTORY (3:30 pm)

The Purple Robe, *Lutheran School Grades 1 and 7*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER



G Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-owed be your  
name, your king-dom come, your will be done on  
earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our  
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins, as  
we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Lead us  
not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from  
e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow-er, and the glo-ry are  
yours now and for-ev-er. A-men.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**M** Dear Jesus, as we remembered your passion today, you revived in us a spirit of repentance and faith. We have been renewed in our assurance that your suffering and death have covered the multitude of our sins, and that, on account of your work, we are dear children of your Father in heaven. As we go out into the world, fill us with a passion to share with others what you have so graciously given us. We pray through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

**M** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRESIDING MINISTER** (3:30 pm) *Pastor Nate Strobel*  
(7:00 pm) *Pastor David Kuehl*

**PIANIST** *Susan Gedemer*

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to Pastor Forrest “Frosty” Bivens for leading us in worship today. Pastor Bivens served as a parish pastor in California and Michigan for 22 years and then served for 22 years as a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon. He retired from full-time public ministry in 2015 and now serves as part-time administrator for the synod's Pastor Partners mentoring program, instructor for Seminary continuing education courses, supply preacher for St. Jacobi in Greenfield, and adjunct teacher for Asia Lutheran Seminary when needed.

Pastor Bivens and his wife, Sue, are also actively involved in the ministry at Victory of the Lamb in Franklin, where they are members. He periodically teaches basic Bible courses for prospects in their homes as well as weekday Bible study courses at the church site.

**SOUP SUPPER**

A soup supper will be served, 4:30 to 6:30 pm, in the Grace Room. A free will offering is gathered at the soup supper to help defray the cost of the food and to support the ministry of the hosting group. Stoney Creek Adult Community is hosting today's soup supper. Many of our members enjoy living at Stoney Creek. For more information visit [www.stoneycreekmuskego.com](http://www.stoneycreekmuskego.com) or ask a host at the supper today.



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

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