



MIDWEEK OF LENT 1

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SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MIDWEEK OF LENT 1

It is difficult to keep silent when we see injustice taking place. It is even more difficult to stay silent when injustice is being done to us. As we continue in our “Lenten Journey with Joseph” through our Old Testament readings, we see the injustice done to Joseph himself. Sold into slavery, sent away, a staged death—there is little he could have said or done to change the evil intent of his brothers. Our Lord also remained silent while injustice was done to Him, and He endured it all for us and our salvation. So ultimately, His resounding response is His work for our redemption!

Opening Hymn

“Praise to You and Adoration”

#692

1 Praise to You and adoration,
Blessèd Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation,
Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may
From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding
Follow where Your steps are leading.

2 Hold me ever in Your keeping;
Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping
Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for You,
And my faith and hope renew
In Your birth, Your life, and passion,
In Your death and resurrection.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; (st. 1): tr. Kristen Kvamme, 1866–1938, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Christian Worship, 1993
Text: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 29 (selected verses)

P In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph in Genesis

C and come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

P Joseph’s journey, amid injustice and abuse, brings to question the perceived silence of God amid trials. We, too, in our experiences, seek God’s voice and presence for our peace and hope. Even when not heard, we with the psalmist are affirmed in the ever-present voice of our Lord: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

C Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

P The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.

C The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

P May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace!

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 29:4; 32:3–5

P We come before the Lord not in silence, but in confession of our sins, awaiting His voice of forgiveness.

C For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

P For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You,

C and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”

P and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P Most merciful God,
C we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. His voice is full of forgiveness. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

† WORD †

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, as we journey with Joseph together in this Lenten season, help us to hear Your voice through Your Word of life, that You may guide, direct, and bless us in our earthly journeys, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

We are seated

Old Testament

† Joseph Sold by His Brothers †

Genesis 37:12-36

¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him, "Here I am."

¹⁴So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring me word." So he sent him from the Valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. ¹⁵And a man found him wandering in the fields. And the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶"I am seeking my brothers," he said. "Tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." ¹⁷And the man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

¹⁸They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams." ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." ²²And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; cast him into this pit here in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand to restore him to his father. ²³So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. ²⁴And they took him and cast him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵Then they sat down to eat.

And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?"

²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers listened to him. ²⁸Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.

²⁹When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes ³⁰and returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is gone, and I, where shall I go?" ³¹Then they took Joseph's robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood.

³²And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said, "This we have found; please identify whether it is your son's robe or not." ³³And he identified it and said, "It is my son's robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces." ³⁴Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. ³⁵All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, "No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." Thus his father wept for him. ³⁶Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel:

✠ Institution of the Lord's Supper ✠

Luke 22:14, 24-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴And when the hour came, Jesus reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ²⁴A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

²⁸"You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, ²⁹and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, ³⁰that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³²but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." ³³Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." ³⁴Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

³⁵And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing." ³⁶He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. ³⁷For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment." ³⁸And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And 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 sits at the
right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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 \dagger everlasting. Amen

We are seated

Sermon Hymn

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

#423

1 Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all.

2 Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn-encircled brow?

Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner’s deep distress.

3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning
To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior’s side,
Graven in our hearts forever,
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

⁺
*Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde,
1826–96, alt.
Text: Public domain*

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offerings—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving always available on our website for everyone. For those worshipping with us at home, we continue to pray God’s blessing and look forward to us all being together again here in God’s house.*

Lord’s Prayer

P We pray together as our Lord taught us...
C Our Father, who art in heaven...

Closing Prayer

Luther's Evening Prayer

P We pray together,

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.
Amen.

Closing Sentences

Psalm 29:4

P In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph in Genesis

C and come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

P Even in silence, Your deeds are wondrous and mighty, and Your Word speaks to us.

C The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

Benediction

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

We are seated

Closing Hymn

"Abide with Me"

#878 sts. 1-3, & 6

1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me
abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy
wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with
me.

2 I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's
pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can
be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with
me.

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing
eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to
the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.;

Text: Public domain

Postlude

"Variations of "Abide with Me"

If you would like to help with the situation in Ukraine, one excellent resource for information and assistance with the direction of your gifts is our Lutheran church – Missouri Synod.

Visit their website at LCMS.ORG.