

LENTEN MIDWEEK 5

April 2, 2025

HYMN *“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed” LSB #560*

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PSALM *Psalm 121*

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

People: **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

People: **Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

Pastor: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

People: **The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

Pastor: The Lord will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.

People: **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

**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.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray.

Eternal God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only Son into death for our sin. Take our lives, Lord, and use them to lift up Your Son so that all will be drawn to Him and find eternal life; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Sit

HYMN INTRODUCTION

Singing hymns together as the people of God is an activity we may take for granted. That joyful exercise has not always been part of the worship life of the church. In centuries past, the singing of sacred music in churches was limited to the clergy,

monks, nuns, and choristers singing the liturgy. During the Middle Ages, some musical reformers in the church brought hymn singing to laypeople through the singing of laudes, which were sacred songs sung in religious processions and at devotional assemblies. "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" is one of those early hymns, dating back to Italy in the fifteenth century. It calls all of God's people to repentance and a deeper devotion to Jesus, our Savior, as we view His cross with faith-filled eyes.

The text of this hymn was written by Girolamo Savonarola, one of the most notable churchmen of the Middle Ages. Distressed by the secular excesses of the city of Florence, Italy, he preached repentance and reform and, for a while, became ruler of the great medieval city. With his spirited preaching and his insistence on destroying whatever he considered detrimental to the society of Florence in what were called "bonfires of the vanities," he gained strong supporters and made fierce enemies. After public opinion turned against him, he was charged with heresy and executed. Savonarola has been considered by many in the centuries after his death to be one of the first martyrs of the Reformation. Translated into English in the nineteenth century by noblewoman Lady Jane Wilde, the hymn has become a Lenten favorite.

HYMN *“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary” LSB #423*

FIRST READING *Genesis 28:10–22*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

PRAYER RESPONSE

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord God, You never slumber nor sleep and Your eyes are always open to our needs. On our journey through this life to the life of the world to come, graciously guide us and guard us through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, and in Him You will keep our going out and our coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

People: ***Amen.***

SECOND READING *Ephesians 2:11–22*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Stand

VERSE *Philippians 2:8*

Pastor: He humbled Himself

People: ***by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.***

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:43–51*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: ***Glory to You, O Lord.***

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to You, O Christ.*

CREED *Apostles' Creed*

People: *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 † everlasting. Amen.*

Sit

HYMN *"Chief of Sinners Though I Be" LSB #611*

SERMON

Stand

HYMN *"On My Heart Imprint Your Image" LSB #422*

PASSION READING *John 18:33–40*

Pastor: *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE LITANY

Pastor: *Hear our prayer, O Lord.*

People: **Let our cry come to You.**

Pastor: *Lord God, in our journey through this life, help us to build our hopes not on what we have done for You*

People: **but on what You have done for us,**

Pastor: *and help us to find peace not by searching within ourselves*

People: **but by looking to Christ and His cross;**

Pastor: *for our hearts are restless*

People: **until they find their rest in You.**

Pastor: *Gracious God, be with all who are lost and searching,*

People: **and draw their hearts to Christ,**

Pastor: *that they may know Him as the way, and the truth, and the life,*

People: **and find in Him a peace that surpasses all understanding;**

Pastor: *for He is the stairway to heaven,*

People: **and through Him the door to paradise is open.**

Pastor: *Hear us, O Lord, as we silently bring You our private petitions.*

Silent prayer

Pastor: *Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:*

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

People: **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.*

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life.

People: Amen.

HYMN *“You Are the Way; through You Alone” LSB #526*

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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