Confession and Absolution

442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dRqxdXeJY8)

ref. All glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

1. You are the King of Israel
And David’s royal Son,
Now in the Lord’s name coming,
Our King and Blessèd One. Refrain

2. The company of angels
Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation
In chorus make reply. Refrain

Text: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the Σ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.

Who is this King of | glory?*
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in | battle!
Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O | ancient doors,*
that the King of glory | may come in.

Who is this King of | glory?*
The LORD of hosts, he is the King of | glory!
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4–9a

4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.

5 The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
7 But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. 
8 He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Epistle

Philippians 2:5–11

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26—27

1 When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”

3 Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

6 Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste?” For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.” But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”

14 Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

17 Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

20 When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me.” The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born. Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”

25 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

30 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” Peter answered him, “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!” And all the disciples said the same.
Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour?” Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.” And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. And he went away and prayed, saying, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?” At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’” And the high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy.” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, saying, “Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you mean.” And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” And again he denied it with an oath: “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor.

Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” And throwing down the pieces of silver into the treasury, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.” So they took counsel and bought with them 5 April 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church, Harvel, IL 3 Vicar Joe Nehring
the potter’s field as a burial place for strangers. 8Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. 9Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, 10and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord directed me.”

11Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” 12But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. 13Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” 14But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

15Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. 16And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. 17So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” 18For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. 19Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.” 20Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. 21The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” 22Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” 23And he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

24So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” 25And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” 26Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

27Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. 28And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 30And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. 31And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

32As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. 33And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), 34they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. 35And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. 36Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. 37And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” 38Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. 39And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads 40and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” 41So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.” 42He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” 43And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

44Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. 45And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” 46And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.” 47And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. 48But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” 49And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

50And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. 52The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, 53and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. 54When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”
There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty**

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MD9rMkIS1yw)

1. Ride on, ride on in majesty! Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
   Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.
   O Savior meek, pursue Thy road,
   With palms and scattered garments strowed.

2. Ride on, ride on in majesty! To see the approaching sacrifice.
   In lowly pomp ride on to die.
   O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin
   O'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh.
   The angel armies of the sky
   The Father on His sapphire throne
   Awaits His own anointed Son.

4. Ride on, ride on in majesty!
   Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,
   4 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
   Then take, O God, Thy pow’r and reign.

5. Ride on, ride on in majesty!
   In lowly pomp ride on to die.
   5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!

Text: Public domain

**Sermon**

Grace Mercy and Peace to you from God Our Father and Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Today’s world and today’s readings illustrate the difference between different levels of knowing, of knowing with our heads and knowing with our hearts.

Today’s world is an entirely different place than even one month ago. One month ago, we were hearing about Covid-19 in China as it began to spread into other countries. But it hadn’t really impacted lives in the US, and, to our knowledge, no one in Illinois, much less Christian or Montgomery county. But that has all changed. The daily counts continue to mount. Except for the Spanish Flu on 1918, we find ourselves in unprecedented times. Who would have predicted that Major League Baseball, NBA, Major League Soccer, NCAA, and even Las Vegas would have shut down? Or that “non-essential” workers would be asked to stay at home and work from home? Or that restaurants and bars could and would be prevented from having sit down customers? Covid-19 has touched our lives, deeply and personally. Our routines that were once familiar and comfortable have had to change. We now hear God’s Word electronically through email, the website or Facebook as text and beginning this morning and hopefully going forward until the end of this crisis, via Facebook Live.

Today’s readings are very familiar to us. We hear a version of the Passion every year both on Palm/Passion Sunday and Good Friday. And in some ways, the story is very much like the news of the Covid-19 pandemic announced by the World Health Organization on March 12. All the words are there – “rapid escalation”, “clusters of cases”, “impacts the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions”, yet because we saw it in print, or heard it on the news, most paid no attention. And sadly, many still pay no attention. Federal and State governments struggle to convince some to do “social distancing” even today, even with the death toll rising steadily and exponentially.
Palm Sunday / The Sunday of the Passion  
5 April 2020

As we hear Matthew’s version of the story of the Passion, it can also become a story that we know with our heads, words on a page. Neat and tidy in our heads. But, what does it mean to us? Is it a historical fact, something we know happened, like the St. Louis Cardinals winning the 1944 World Series but really not impacting our lives? Or does the story touch our hearts and our emotions? Does the story drive us to repentance?

In 2004, Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ” portrayed the events of the Passion. While many decried its violence, it was a very vivid dramatization of the events, events that are so very far from our experience. Our laws prevent cruel and inhumane punishment. But Rome had no such laws. In fact, just the opposite was true. The crueler and more inhumane, the more effective the punishment was thought to be, especially for rebellious, conquered people like the Jews.

Matthew 27:26 says “and having scourged[1] Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.” And there in one phrase, three little words, “and having scourged” is an experience beyond what most of us could endure. Many of us grew up in an era of physical discipline, receiving a whipping on a somewhat regular basis. For some, it was a switch, a fresh green branch off a tree. For others, a belt or leather strap, and for others, a wooden paddle. While a similar concept, scourging was far more painful. Picture a long leather whip. Hear the snap of the whip. Picture shards of bone and metal embedded into the end of the whip. Imagine the whip snapping and those pieces of bone and metal digging into your back, tearing pieces of flesh away. Jesus suffered this pain and agony, leaving Him nearly dead before carrying his cross to Golgotha to be crucified. And here, even at the cross, our sensibilities mask the humiliation and horror that accompanied crucifixion. Our crucifixes show our Lord without the stripes and gouges from His scourging, his nakedness covered, hiding the agony of suffocation that would ultimately claim the crucified if exposure didn’t kill him first. Many of those crucified would hang on the cross for days, not the 6 hours described by Mark that Jesus hung on the cross.

And unlike those of us who were physically disciplined by our parents, Jesus had done nothing wrong. Jesus was without sin. He who knew no sin became sin during His Passion. Jesus took our sins upon himself to give us his righteousness. The innocent for the guilty. The Sanhedrin couldn’t successfully trump up charges against Jesus. Even the false testimony wasn’t consistent or believable, even with great pains that were taken to make this travesty of justice look legitimate. According to the Law of Moses, two agreeing testimonies were required. Two people couldn’t tell the same lie. Only when Jesus willingly speaks is the judgement justified in the minds of the Sanhedrin. In their minds, Jesus had committing blasphemy, claiming to be the Son of God, which, of course, He is.

Jesus goes willingly to His death, paying for your sins and for my sins. Jesus, God made flesh, lived a perfect life to lay down his life for you; to take your sins upon himself; to take your sins to the cross; to atone for the sins of all mankind. Your sins of not loving God with all your heart, mind and strength. Your sins of not looking to God in every situation to help in time of need and to give all good things. Your sins of not honoring those in authority over us. Your sins from the smallest white lie to bearing false testimony or failing to put the best construction on everything to murder; from coveting to stealing and misusing our sexuality. James 2:10 tells us “For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. We are sinners in need of a savior.

Jesus gets what we deserve and what He doesn’t deserve so that we get we don’t deserve. Jesus took your sins upon Himself, to pay the price for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Instead, He gives you His righteousness, that you may stand before God on the last day, righteous and holy. God will see His Only Son’s righteousness and proclaim you not guilty. Jesus righteousness will shield you from the wrath of God that you truly deserve. And instead, you will hear God’s proclamation “Well done, good and faithful servant”.

The Passion shows you how much God loves you, the pain and agony that God’s only Son, Jesus endured for you. Real human flesh, torn by the scourging, crucified, dead and buried, all that you may have forgiveness, life and salvation. Assured of your salvation, you are free to be God’s own dear child, an heir of His heavenly kingdom. As you await the coming of God’s Kingdom, you serve God with all your heart mind and soul and your neighbor as yourself. You are God’s ambassador, proclaiming God’s faithfulness and love, no matter the situation and no matter the cost in your life or of your life. And even in these dark times of COVID-19, take joy in knowing that your sins have been carried to Jesus’s cross and forgiven that you may have life and have it abundantly,

In Jesus’s holy name. Amen.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Harvel, IL

Vicar Joe Nehring
And now, may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the Church, that the Lord would defend her against all her enemies and keep her true to Jesus Christ by the power of Your Word and Spirit:

Gracious Lord, keep Your scattered Church in Your mercy, that she may endure the assaults of the evil one and remain faithful for the sake of those numbered within Your Kingdom and those who have not yet heard the Gospel and been brought to faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for all pastors, for all church-work vocations and for all the baptized in their vocation as God’s people:

Almighty God, by Your Spirit You have gathered us as Your Church and promised that wherever two or three are together in Your name, there You are in our midst. Do not allow stress or disaster to distract us from the particular vocations into which You have called us to serve in the Church, home and community. Grant to us every gift and blessing needful, that we may honor our calling and serve You to the best of our ability; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for the government, for all in authority over us, and for our own lives as citizens and neighbors:

O mighty Lord, You have established the kingdom of the left and hold accountable all those who govern in this and every place. Guide our president; the members of Congress; the governor of this state; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that they would serve nobly and wisely, pursuing the path of justice and protecting the citizens entrusted to them. Give them the wisdom and strength needed to bring our world out of crisis and back to stability; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for an end to violence and terror, for those imprisoned, for the troubled in mind, and for those who suffer any afflictions of the body:

Merciful Lord, Your grace is sufficient for all our needs, and You have promised to be the strength of the weary, the hope of those who fear, the healing of the ill, the fullness of those disabled, and the peace of all who are distressed. Hear us on behalf of our nation and the world suffering pandemic and isolation. We pray especially for those in our continuing personal prayers and all whom we name in our hearts, that they may be well supplied by Your grace in every time of trouble; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for those not yet of the Kingdom, that God would make us bold to speak the faith to them and that hearing, they might believe:

Everlasting Father, it is Your will that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of Your Son by faith. Give to Your Word success and deliver from error all those who live in darkness and fear, that they may walk in the light of the Lord Jesus and have confidence for the trials of this world and hope for the world to come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for the earth to be fruitful, and for our good use of all the fruits of the earth:

Blessed Lord, You give food to the hungry and provide for all our needs in this mortal life. Grant to us a grateful heart and knowledge to use wisely and well all that You have entrusted to our care. Bless those who work to make, prepare, deliver or serve our daily bread, and give relief to those whose work has been halted; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for our unity of doctrine and faith, and for our communion this day upon Christ’s body and blood:

Holy Lord, as once Your Son was welcomed with palms and hosannas, help us to welcome Him who comes to us this day in the blessed Sacrament of His body and blood. Guard us against false teaching and help us to discern truth from error, that none may be led astray or lost from the fellowship of Your Son. Look with kindness on all who are separated from Holy Communion and comfort them with Your promises, especially that they are never distant from the mystical body of Your Son, the communion of saints; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76A_ZjML3eQ )

1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
   See Him dying on the tree!
   'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;
   Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
   'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
   David's Son, yet David's Lord;
   Proofs I see sufficient of it:
   'Tis the true and faithful Word.

2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
   Was there ever grief like His?
   Friends through fear His cause
disowning,
   Foes insulting His distress;
   Many hands were raised to wound Him,
   None would intervene to save;
   But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
   Was the stroke that justice gave.

3 Ye who think of sin but lightly
   Nor suppose the evil great
   Here may view its nature rightly,
   Here its guilt may estimate.
   Mark the sacrifice appointed,
   See who bears the awful load;
   'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,
   Son of Man and Son of God.

4 Here we have a firm foundation,
   Here the refuge of the lost:
   Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
   Is the name of which we boast;
   Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
   Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
   None shall ever be confounded
   Who on Him their hope have built.

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