



**The  
Hands  
of the  
Passion**



**Bethel and Grace Lutheran Churches**

*2021 Lenten Worship*

1 Enslaved by sin and bound in chains, Beneath its dreadful tyrant sway,  
And doomed to everlasting pains We wretched, guilty captives lay.

2 Nor gold nor gems could buy our peace, Nor all the world's collected store  
Suffice to purchase our release; A thousand worlds were all too poor.

3 Jesus, the Lord, the mighty God, An all-sufficient ransom paid.  
O matchless price! His precious blood For vile, rebellious traitors shed.

4 Jesus the sacrifice became To rescue guilty souls from hell;  
The spotless, bleeding, dying Lamb Beneath avenging justice fell.

5 Amazing goodness! Love divine! Oh, may our grateful hearts adore  
The matchless grace nor yield to sin Nor wear its cruel fetters more!

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

**C** **Amen.**

**M** This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:

**C** **God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.**

**M** If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,

**C** **We lie and do not live by the truth.**

**M** If we claim to be without sin,

**C** **We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.**

**Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of the Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.**

*Silence for private confession.*

**M** If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**PRAYER**

Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU**

C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing  
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I  
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I  
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,  
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

The image shows five staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

**PRAYER**

Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Refrain*


God, have mer - cy on me, a sin-ner,  
have mer - cy on me, O Lord.

*Psalm Tone*


Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.  
For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.

*Refrain*

Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.  
Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

**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.**

*Refrain*

## PSALM PRAYER

Almighty and merciful Father, you freely forgive those who, as David of old, acknowledge and confess their sins. Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## PASSION READING

Part 6 | Mark 15:33-47

<sup>33</sup>When it was the sixth hour,<sup>c</sup> darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour.<sup>d</sup>  
<sup>34</sup>At the ninth hour Jesus shouted with a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"* which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"<sup>e</sup>

<sup>35</sup>When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah!"

<sup>36</sup>Someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. They said, "Leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down."

<sup>37</sup>Jesus cried out with a loud voice and breathed his last. <sup>38</sup>The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup>When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he cried out and breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

<sup>40</sup>There were also women watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. <sup>41</sup>When he was in Galilee, they followed him and served him. Many other women also came up with him to Jerusalem.

<sup>42</sup>It was already evening, and since it was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath), <sup>43</sup>Joseph from Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, boldly went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>44</sup>Pilate was surprised that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had been dead for a long time. <sup>45</sup>When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he granted the body to Joseph. <sup>46</sup>Joseph bought a linen cloth, took him down, and wrapped him in the linen cloth. He laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of rock, and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. <sup>47</sup>Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses were watching where the body was laid.

---

<sup>c</sup> Noon

<sup>d</sup> 3 PM

<sup>e</sup> Psalm 22:1

## SEASONAL RESPONSE

**A** 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.

## HYMN

*Chief of Sinners Though I Be* | 385

1 Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine, I am his and he is mine!

2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity,  
Love that found me—wondrous thought!—Found me when I sought him not.

3 Only Jesus can impart Comfort to a wounded heart:  
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me.  
All my wants to him are known; All my sorrows are his own.  
Safe with him in earthly strife, I await the heav'nly life.

5 Strengthen me, O gracious Lord, By your Spirit and your word.  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

## SERMON

Luke 18:9-14

The Tax Collector

Hands of Repentance



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-



joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor



on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions



will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great



things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on




those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the




proud in their con-ceil. He has cast down the might-y



from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.



He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich



he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the



help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his



prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,



to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

**OFFERING** *(Please make use of the offering plate in the entry or online options.)*

## PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

- © 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.


### SONG OF SIMEON



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part



ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen



your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry



peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## BLESSING

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

☒ **Amen**

## HYMN

*Abide with Me* | 588 v. 1-2, 5-7

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, oh, abide with me!

2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me!

5 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, oh, abide with me!

6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if thou abide with me.

7 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!

## Lenten Schedule for 2021

Week 1 – Pastor Beckmann – Hands of Hypocrisy (Caiaphas)

Week 2 – Pastor Stellick – Hands of Brutality (Soldiers)

Week 3 – Pastor Dauck – Hands of Betrayal (Judas)

Week 4 – Pastor Berger – Hands of Misguided Zeal (Peter)

Week 5 – Pastor Kemnitz – Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate)

Week 6 – Pastor Kahrs - Hands of Repentance (Tax Collector)

## Sunday Lenten Series: The Struggle

Lent 1 – Psalm 3 The Struggle against the Enemy

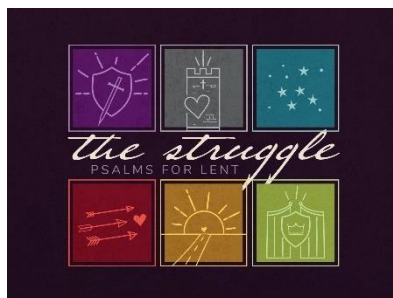
Lent 2 – Psalm 73 The Struggle seems Unfair.

Lent 3 – Psalm 19 – The Struggle. Empowered by God’s Word

Lent 4 - Psalm 38 - The Struggle with Guilt

Lent 5 – Psalm 143 – The Struggle is Relentless.

Lent 6 – Psalm 24 – The Return of the King.



Special thanks to the Pastors of the Blue River Circuit for participating in our Lenten Pulpit Exchange:

Pastor Kevin Stellick from Faith in Rising City

Pastor Justin Dauck from St. Paul's Plymouth, also serving Christ in Beatrice

Pastor Fred Berger from St. Paul's Plymouth, also serving Christ in Beatrice

Pastor Timothy Kemnitz from Mt. Olive in Lincoln

Pastor Steven Kahrs from Zion Clatonia and St. John Cortland, also serving as Circuit Pastor

