

**HIS  
FINAL  
STEPS**

**HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO HIS FATHER'S HOUSE**

Midweek Lent

# **BETHEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** | York, Nebraska

*March 29, 2023*

## **THEME OF THE DAY: HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO HIS FATHER'S HOUSE**

The theme for this year's Lenten season is "His Final Steps." The series will ponder the significance of the people and places on Jesus' resolute final steps to the cross.

**Worship Leader**  
**Organist/Pianist**

Pastor Ray Beckmann  
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## **Acknowledgments**

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## Opening Hymn: 784 Now the Light Has Gone Away

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| 1 | Now the light has gone away;<br>Father, listen while I pray,<br>asking you to watch and keep<br>and to send me quiet sleep.   | O bring me and all I love<br>to your happy home above. |   |
| 2 | Jesus, Savior, wash away<br>all that I've done wrong today.<br>Make me ever more like you,<br>good and gentle, kind and true. | 4  | Now my evening praise I give;<br>you once died that I might live.<br>All your precious gifts are free—<br>oh, how good you are to me! |
| 3 | Let my near and dear ones be<br>safe with you eternally.  | 5  | Ah, my best and kindest Friend,<br>you will love me to the end.<br>Let me love you more and more,<br>always better than before.       |

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
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## Confession of Sins

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

**We have sinned against you**

**in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds,  
and in all that we have not done.**

**Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.**

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in the newness of life.

**Amen.**



## Passion History: *Matthew 27:27-66*

### Hymn: 515 Christ Is the World's Light

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|---|--|
| <p>1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;<br/>born in our darkness, he became our brother.<br/>If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:<br/>    Glory to God on high!</p> <p>2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;<br/>no one can serve him and despise another.<br/>Who else unites us, one with God the Father?<br/>    Glory to God on high!</p> | <p>3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;<br/>sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother.<br/>He who redeemed us reigns with God the Father:<br/>    Glory to God on high!</p> <p>4 Give God the glory, God and none other;<br/>give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;<br/>give God the glory, God with us, our brother:<br/>    Glory to God on high!</p> |
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## Sermon

### Reading

*Matthew 21:12-17*

### Jesus at the Temple

<sup>12</sup> Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all those who were selling and buying in the temple. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "It is written, 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a den of robbers!"

<sup>14</sup> The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. <sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the experts in the law saw the wonders he performed and heard the children calling out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant. <sup>16</sup> They said to him, "Do you hear what they are saying?"

"Yes," Jesus told them, "Have you never read,

From the lips of little children and nursing babies  
you have prepared praise?"

<sup>17</sup> He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

## Offering

### Offering Hymn: 402 Glory Be to Jesus

*sts. 1–3*

- |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| 1 | Glory be to Jesus,<br>who in bitter pains<br>poured for me the lifeblood<br>from his sacred veins. | blest be his compassion,<br>infinitely kind. |   |
| 2 | Grace and life eternal<br>in that blood I find;  | 3  | Blest through endless ages<br>be the precious stream<br>which from endless torment<br>did the world redeem. |

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Italian, c. 18th cent.  
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## Prayer

Gracious Lord, according to your will and promise,

**You sent your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life.**

You planned his path to the cross,  
**and he followed it perfectly.**

He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death  
**but was not deterred as he proclaimed your kingdom to the least, the last, and the lost.**

As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior's passion and death,  
**Use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance.**

Humble us as we view the Savior in his humility,  
**remembering and believing that he endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror.**

In his suffering show us our healing,  
**in his grief show us our joy,**

and in his death show us our life.

**Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.**

## 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.

## Blessing

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.

**May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

## Hymn: 404 Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing

- 1 Jesus, grant that balm and healing  
in your holy wounds I find,  
ev'ry hour that I am feeling  
pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil thought within  
tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,  
show the peril, and from sinning  
keep me ere its first beginning.
- 2 Should some lust or sharp temptation  
fascinate my sinful mind,  
let me think about your passion,  
and new courage I shall find.  
Or should Satan press me hard,  
let me then be on my guard,  
saying, "Christ for me was  
wounded,"  
that the tempter flee confounded.
- 3 If the world my heart entices  
with the broad and easy road,  
with seductive, sinful vices,  
let me weigh the awful load
- 4 you were willing to endure.  
Help me flee all thoughts impure,  
mastering each wild temptation,  
calm in prayer and meditation.
- 4 Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me  
by your wounds, Lord, is made  
whole;  
when I'm weak, your cross revives me,  
granting new life to my soul.  
Yes, your comfort renders sweet  
ev'ry bitter cup I meet;  
for your all-atoning passion  
has procured my soul's salvation.
- 5 O my God, my rock and tower,  
grant that in your death I trust,  
knowing death has lost its power  
since you crushed it in the dust.  
Savior, let your agony  
ever help and comfort me;  
when I die be my protection,  
light and life and resurrection.

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