

Good Friday

Isaiah 53 - Tolling of the Bells

The Invocation

PASTOR: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG..... Amen.

Opening Hymn: 453 ss. 1-7

1 Upon the cross extended See, world, your Lord suspended. Your Savior yields His breath. The Prince of Life from heaven Himself has freely given To shame and blows and bitter death.

2 Come, see these things and ponder, Your soul will fill with wonder As blood streams from each pore. Through grief beyond all knowing From His great heart came flowing Sighs welling from its deepest core.

3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so sore abused You And caused You all Your woe? We all must make confession Of sin and dire transgression While You no ways of evil know.

4 I caused Your grief and sighing By evils multiplying As countless as the sands. I caused the woes unnumbered With which Your soul is cumbered, Your sorrows raised by wicked hands.

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded, Your head with thorns surrounded, You died to ransom me. The cross for me enduring, The crown for me securing, You healed my wounds and set me free.

6 Your cords of love, my Savior, Bind me to You forever, I am no longer mine. To You I gladly tender All that my life can render And all I have to You resign.

7 Your cross I place before me; Its saving pow'r restore me, Sustain me in the test. It will, when life is ending, Be guiding and attending My way to Your eternal rest.

The Call To Confession Psalm 32:1-5

PASTOR: Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

CONG..... Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

PASTOR: When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

CONG..... For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

PASTOR: Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

ALL..... I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord" — and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

The Confession

ALL..... O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

The Absolution

PASTOR: 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.

CONG..... Amen.

Choir: "Christ Our Light"

The Collect of the Day

PASTOR: Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CONG..... Amen.

The Scripture: Mark 15:27-32

27 And with him they crucified two thieves, one on his right and one on his left. 29 And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, 30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!" 31 So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. 32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

The Sermon Hymn: 451 ss. 1-4

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.

The Sermon: "Christ Between Two Thieves" Mark 15:27-32

The Post-Sermon Hymn: 452 ss. 1-7

1 O perfect life of love! All, all, is finished now, All that He left His throne above To do for us below.

2 No work is left undone Of all the Father willed; His toil, His sorrows, one by one, The Scriptures have fulfilled.

3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart; All forms of human grief and care Have pierced that tender heart.

4 And on His thorn-crowned head And on His sinless soul Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.

5 In perfect love He dies; For me He dies, for me. O all atoning Sacrifice, I cling by faith to Thee.

6 In ev'ry time of need, Before the judgment throne, Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead, Thy merits, not mine own.

7 Yet work, O Lord, in me As Thou for me hast wrought; And let my love the answer be To grace Thy love has brought.

The Prayers

Heavenly Father, as it was in the midst of the crucifixion that your Son answered the penitent thief's plea for pardon and paradise, we humbly ask You to reassure us that we need only believe in Jesus' blood-bought mercies to receive the same

full, free forgiveness and, after death, the immediate entrance into paradise! By Your Holy Spirit turn us from all personal pride and reliance on our own faulty righteousness. Open our eyes to the fearful consequences of our transgressions, which bar us from heaven and consign us to hell. Then make us deeply penitent, that we deeply trust in the repeated promises of Your Word, which assures us that we are forgiven, cleansed by Jesus' blood and righteousness! May we daily learn that without Christ, His cross, His blood, His atoning death, we are helplessly lost, eternally condemned; but that relying on the redemption He wrought for us at Calvary, we are saved forever, constantly guarded by Your love and so marvelously guided that even our sorrows are turned to joy! Pour the balm of the Redeemer's comfort into aching hearts! Protect your children and turn many unbelievers to repentant trust! In Your unlimited compassion grant us peace, which comes only through faith in Christ. We plead confidently, Father, because we approach You in the blessed name of Jesus, who taught us to pray ...

The 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.

Choir: "A Sacred Head Surrounded"

The Benediction

PASTOR: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

CONG..... Amen.

The Veiling of the Cross

Choir: "Were You There?"

Tolling of the Bells