

Lenten Worship – April 1, 2020

Startling Statements from our Savior's Passion

“Weep for yourselves and for your children”

M: O Lord, open my lips,

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

M: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

M: Behold the Lamb of God; let us worship him.

Prayer

M: Lord, God, you have brought us safely to this hour of prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Isaiah 42:1-4

M: “Here is my servant, whom I uphold,

C: My chosen One in whom I delight;

M: I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations.

C: He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets.

M: A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.

C: In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

M: He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth.

OUR SAVIOR'S LAST DAYS - PART SIX - CONDEMNED

PILATE WASHES HIS HANDS

Matthew 27:24-30

Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him.” But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. (Luke 23:20-23). When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. “I am innocent of this man's blood,” He said. “It is your responsibility!” All the people

answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified. Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again.

PILATE GIVES IN

John 19:4-16

Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him." When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him." The Jewish leaders insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God." When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't You realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jewish leaders kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). It was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about noon. "Here is your king," Pilate said to them. But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your King?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered. Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.

ON THE WAY TO CALVARY

Luke 23:26-32

As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then 'they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' ' For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?' Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

SERMON TEXT

Luke 23:28-31

27 A large number of people followed Jesus, including women who mourned and wailed for him 28 Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' 30 Then " 'they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!" ' 31 For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Startling Statements from our Savior's Passion

"Weep for yourselves and for your children!"

OFFERING – You may mail your offering to church or use online giving option at www.goodshepherdwels.org

OFFERING HYMN PRAYER

What language shall I borrow To thank you, dearest Friend,
For this, your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?
Oh, make me yours forever, And keep me strong and true;
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love for you.

PRAYER

M: Lord Jesus Christ, you set us free,
C: Accept our thanks eternally!
M: Forgiven through your precious blood,
C: We now are reconciled to God.
M: Defend us, Lord, from sin and shame,
C: Help us by your mighty name,
M: To bear our crosses patiently,
C: Consoled by your great agony.
M: Strengthen our faith through your Word and promises.
C: Keep us close to you now and always.
M: Teach us to hate sin and love righteousness.
C: Empower us to think and act in ways which are pleasing to you.
M: Help us to treasure you, Jesus, as our greatest treasure,
C: Fill our hearts with peace and hope and joy as we take hold of the gracious blessings you won for us on the cross.
M: Enlighten those who are still trapped in the darkness of sin and unbelief,
C: Use us as your instruments to share your saving truth with others.
All: To you Jesus, be all honor, glory and praise, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: Amen.