

Our mission is to

Glorify God

as we

Gather

around the Gospel to help people

Grow

in the **Gospel** and

Go

with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

February 21, 2024 Lenten Midweek 2



Restraint

God On Trial The unbelieving world has always insisted on putting God on trial. As our society becomes more secular, we Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God—and his people—are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model—and our motivation—in Jesus. This series takes us back to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

Restraint We live in an emotionally charged, partisan world. It is important to remember that those against us, like Malchus, are fellow sinners with names and souls, themselves being led astray. There's no need to attack. If Jesus is in control, as he clearly demonstrates, we can show restraint, even love, just as he did, without sacrificing what matters most.

Hymn



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt. Tune: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON (87 87 887 887) Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553.

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

C: Amen.

M: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

M: Evening, morning, and noon

C: I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice.

M: You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord,

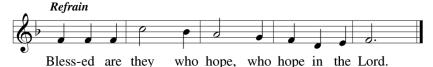
C: for I call to you all day long.

M: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Psalm, Mediation, and Prayer

Psalm 71





In you, O LORD, I have taken <u>ref</u>uge;* let me never be <u>put</u> to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your <u>right</u>eousness;* turn your ear to me and <u>save</u> me.

Be my rock of refuge to which I can <u>al</u>ways go;* For you are my rock and my fortress.

Refrain

Since my youth, O God, you have <u>taught</u> me,* and to this day I declare your mar<u>vel</u>ous deeds.

Even when I am <u>old</u> and gray,* do not forsake <u>me</u>, O God,

till I declare your power to the next generation,* your might to all who are to come.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Silence for meditation

Psalm Prayer

M: Lord God, support us all the years of our lives that we may follow your gracious will both in good times and bad, that our lives may be an unending testimony to your love and faithfulness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

7th & 8th Grade (11 am)

- 1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord, to pray, But you alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.
- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless The unforgiving heart That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bitterness depart?

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Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive CW 493

- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals The truth we dimly knew: What trivial debts are owed to us; How great our debt to you!
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease; Then, bound to all in bonds of love Our lives will spread your peace.

Passion History

Reading 1 (from booklet)



Hymn



Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879-1962. © John Ireland Trust.

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Sermon Restraint Luke 22:47-53

- ⁴⁷ While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- ⁴⁹ When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.
- ⁵¹ But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him.
- ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? ⁵³ Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns." (NIV)

Offering

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

- M: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.
- C: We confess that without your love we are lost.
- M: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.
- C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

- M: Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.
- C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.
- M: Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. [We pray especially for...here name the person and the cause of the petition.] Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.
- C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.
- M: Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.
- C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.
- M: Hear us as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

- M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

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.

Benediction

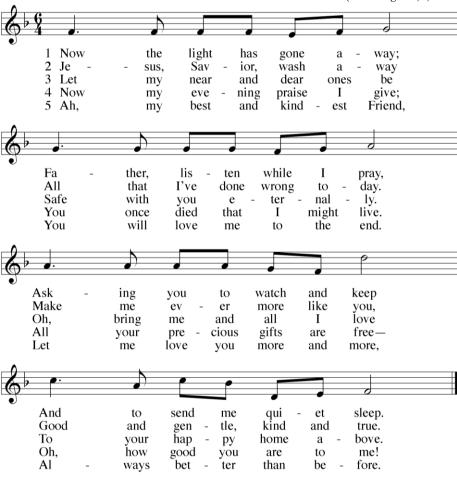
M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be Seated



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79, alt.
Tune: MÜDE BIN ICH (77 77) Liederbuch für Kleinkinder-Schulen, Kaiserwerth, 1842, alt.

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