



**BEHOLD
THE MAN!**

MIDWEEK OF LENT 2

A GOD BEATEN

AS WE GATHER

“Behold the man!” was Pontius Pilate’s short, yet most profound, sermon. Our endeavor this Lententide and Easter Sunday is to behold the man, God in human flesh, Jesus. Each time together, we are meditating on and proclaiming His real, bodily suffering and death as well as His physical resurrection. He knew all that real bodies experience; He suffered, wept, bled, ate, and hoped.

Today, we recall that the man Jesus was struck in the home of the high priest, although He was our great High Priest. He was struck according to God’s will; He was beaten for us!

As we move through this season of Lent, it will become increasingly clear why God became man: He lived this physical life in order to be nailed to a cross. Thereby, we are truly preparing for the celebration of His real, bodily, flesh-and-blood resurrection. Without that, our faith and our preaching are all in vain. God the Son became the embodied, incarnate Son of Mary. In Jesus, God has human flesh, a body, just like us. What could be more profound? Behold the man, who has led the way for us through death to our own physical resurrection!

SERIES HYMN

“Behold the Man before You”

*Behold the man before you:
The One who would restore you
Stands silent in your stead.
He waits for His conviction—
Your rightful crucifixion.
He bows His holy, weary head.*

*Exposed and bare, He covers
Your shame with grace that hovers
Upon you night and day.
His final breath expended—
The reign of death upended.
His verdict kills the devil's sway.*

*Christ, God and man, is living!
His risen body giving
Proof that our Savior won.
Your hands will raise to bless Him,
Your lips will e'er confess Him:
The born and dead and risen One!*

INVOCATION

1 John 2:1; Mark 10:33; Psalm 32:1

P In the name of God the Father, God the Son † and God the Holy Spirit,
C Amen.

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
C He was delivered up to death;

P Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
C He was delivered for the sins of the people.

P We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

READING

Isaiah 53:1–6, 10 (A prophecy of Jesus' being struck and beaten.)

L This prophecy of Jesus' beating is in poetic form. A reading from the third chapter of Isaiah. We will read it responsively.

L Who has believed what he has heard from us?

C And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

- L** For He grew up before Him like a young plant,
C **And like a root out of dry ground;**
- L** He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him,
C **And no beauty that we should desire Him.**
- L** He was despised and rejected by men,
C **A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;**
- L** And as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised,
C **And we esteemed Him not.**
- L** Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
C **Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**
- L** But He was pierced for our transgressions;
C **He was crushed for our iniquities;**
- L** Upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
C **And with His wounds we are healed.**
- L** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way
C **And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**
- L** Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush Him;
C **He has put Him to grief;**
- L** When His soul makes an offering for guilt, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days;
C **The will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.**
- L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
C **Thanks be to God.**
- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:18–25

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you

might follow in His steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

John 18:19–24 (Jesus is struck in the high priest's home.)

The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said.” When He had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how You answer the high priest?” Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike Me?” Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You O Christ.

HYMN

“Not All the Blood of Beasts”

LSB 431

*1 Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.*

*2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.*

*3 My faith would lay its hand
On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand,
And there confess my sin.*

*4 My soul looks back to see
The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursed tree;
I know my guilt was there.*

*5 Believing, we rejoice
To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
And sing His bleeding love.*

SERMON

“A God Beaten”

OFFERING

PRAYERS

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
C And let my cry come to You.
- P** O God, we’ve rebelled against You and deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment, but You had mercy on us when You lifted up Your Son on the cross and struck Him with Your wrath to answer for the sin of the world.
C Lead us to confess our sins and send ministers who raise their hands not to strike us but to soothe us with the good news of sins forgiven all for Your Son’s sake; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- P** Almighty and everlasting Father, even though Your Son had no sin of His own, He willingly bore our sins and was stricken, smitten, and afflicted by You.
C Fix our eyes to the cross that we may see our healing in His wounds, our glory in His suffering, and our life in His death; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments

C That we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Special Prayers will be made at this time
Petitions will end with the words, "In peace let us pray to the Lord"
The congregation may respond, "Lord have mercy."*

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

**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

P The blessing of almighty God—the Father, who sent His Son into the flesh, the † Son, who lived a truly human life in our stead, and the Holy Spirit, who has given us faith to trust our Savior—be upon you now and forever.

C Amen.

12:30 HYMN

“You are the Way: through You Alone”

LSB 526

*1 You are the way; through You alone
Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed
His heart and will and mind.*

*3 You are the life; the empty tomb
Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You
Not death nor hell shall harm.*

*2 You are the truth; Your Word alone
True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind
And purify the heart.*

*4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win
Whose joys eternal flow.*

*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, O abide with me.*

*4 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.*

*6 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.*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

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