

New Hope Lutheran Church
Serving Licking County

Granville Church
309 West Broadway
Granville, OH 43023
Sunday 9:00 am

Newark Church
1137 Sharon Valley Road
Newark, OH 43055
Sunday 10:45 am

Hopes Door
11 Arcade Place
Newark, Ohio 43055

+ + +

March 20, Second Mid-Week in Lent
Vespers (p 229)

Pastor - Rev. Mark Hartsough
Liturgy – Vicar Terry Worst
Music - Mr. Kevin Gault

Midweek of Lent 2

Vespers

A God Beaten

Do you ever speculate what you would do if you could meet God? Ask Him a question? Fall down in reverence and fear? Sing a doxology? Run away? Punch Him?

The last option is the one the official of the high priest chose. In a zealous attempt to defend the honor of the high priest, the one who exists to mediate between God and men, this official struck the incarnate God, the Messiah, the eternal Second Person of the Trinity, fist to face. And who can blame him? Sinners hate God, whose holiness is lethal to those unholy and unclean.

And yet, in the person of Jesus, God has flesh for this very purpose, to be struck. But not by men. He has flesh—cheekbones to take a punch, lungs that the wind can be knocked out of, skin that can bruise and bleed—so that He can be struck by God the Father. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. And what happens to all the lambs, offered by all the high priests since Aaron, who have the sins of the people confessed onto them? They get their throats slit, their bodies sliced, their blood poured out, and their flesh burned.

Here is the paradox of the incarnation: only a God you can punch could be a God who can forgive punches.

Stand

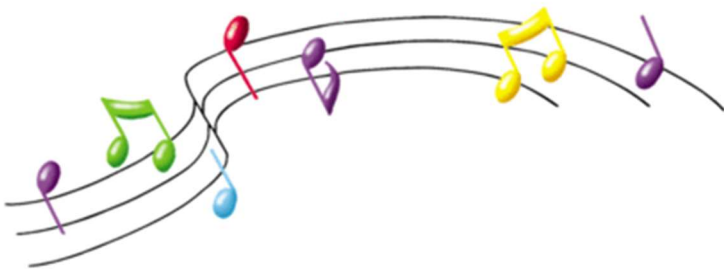
L O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.



+ PSALMODY +

PSALM

Psalm 22:1–8, 14–15, 19; antiphon: Isaiah 53:5

Tone E

**But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.**

¹ My God, my God, why have You for- | saken Me?*

Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My | groaning?

² **O My God, I cry by day, but You do not | answer,*
and by night, but I | find no rest.**

³ Yet You are | holy,*
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

⁴ **In You our fathers | trusted;*
they trusted, and You de- | livered them.**

⁵ To You they cried and were | rescued;*
in You they trusted and were not | put to shame.

⁶ **But I am a worm and | not a man,*
scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.**

⁷ All who see me | mock Me;*
they make mouths at Me; they | wag their heads;

⁸ **“He trusts in the Lord; let Him de- | liver Him;
let Him rescue Him, for He de- | lights in Him!”**

¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
and all My bones are | out of joint;*
My heart is like wax;
it is melted with- | in My breast;

¹⁵ **My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and My tongue sticks | to My jaws;*
You lay Me in the | dust of death.**

¹⁹ But You, O Lord, do not be | far off!
O You My help, come quickly | to My aid!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Sit

OFFICE HYMN

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” (*LSB* 451)

+ READINGS +

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 52:13–53:12

¹³ Behold, My servant shall act wisely;
He shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

¹⁴ As many were astonished at you—
His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and His form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵ so shall He sprinkle many nations.
Kings shall shut their mouths because of Him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

^{53:1} Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

² For He grew up before Him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him,
and no beauty that we should desire Him.

³ He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed Him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on Him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and He was afflicted,
yet He opened not His mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so He opened not His mouth.

⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away;
and as for His generation, who considered
that He was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of My people?

⁹ And they made His grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in His death,
although He had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in His mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush Him;
He has put Him to grief;
when His soul makes an offering for guilt,
He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days;
the will of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.

¹¹ Out of the anguish of His soul He shall see and be satisfied;
by His knowledge shall the righteous One, My servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and He shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many,
and He shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because He poured out His soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet He bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:18–25

¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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. ²² He committed

no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 18:19–24

¹⁹ The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said.” ²² 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?” ²³ 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?” ²⁴ Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY FOR LENT

LSB, p. 231

L 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.

L 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.

L 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.

SERMON

“A God Beaten”

+ CANTICLE +

HYMN

“Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord” (*LSB* 935)

Sit



+ PRAYER +

Kneel/Stand

KYRIE

LSB, p. 233

C Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB, p. 233

C 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.

COLLECTS

L O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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. 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.

C Amen.

COLLECT

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. 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.

C Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

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 and also 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. (410)

C Amen.

Stand

BENEDICAMUS

LSB, p. 234

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Behold the Man before You” (*See insert*)

Acknowledgments

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