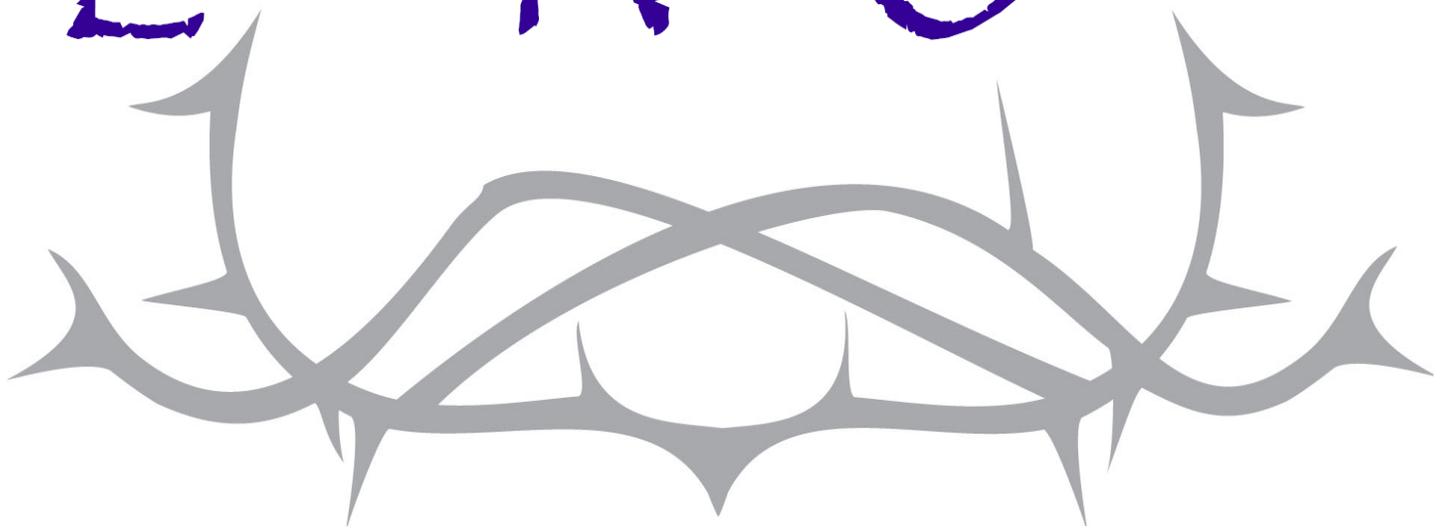


A *Mercy*

Like No Other



Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Bethany, OK

Rev. Gary Rohwer, Pastor

Janie Hlinicky, Elder on Duty

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### Our Mission Statement

*Empowered by the Spirit through Word and Sacrament, Lutheran Church of Our Savior will minister in word and action to our members and to the community, witnessing our faith in Christ who saved and gave new life to those who believe in Him.*

As we observe worship inside the sanctuary today, please be respectful of the wishes and needs of others.

- \* If you are sick, do not come.
- \* You may take your temperature at home before coming. If you have a fever, stay home.
- \* Masks are encouraged.
- \* The church will be sanitized. Doors will be sanitized.

### Entering the Church and Sanctuary

- ✝ Outside doors will be propped open wherever possible. Doors to the sanctuary will be propped open.
- ✝ Do not congregate as you enter the church. Do not congregate in the narthex as you come into the sanctuary. Make use of both doors into the sanctuary so that you keep your 6-foot distance from others.
- ✝ Every other pew will be roped off. Please sit in every other pew. Families may sit close together. Please sit 6 feet apart from others within your pew.

### Exiting the Sanctuary

- ✝ At end of service, please wait for an usher to excuse your row. Back rows will be dismissed first. Please maintain your distancing from those ahead of you.
- ✝ Thank you for following these guidelines as much as possible.

# Midweek Lenten Service

A Mercy Like No Other

March 17, 2021

Prelude

Welcome

## 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;  
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,  
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.  
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.  
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish  
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,  
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;  
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.  
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

5 If my sins give me alarm  
And my conscience grieve me,  
Let Your cross my fear disarm;  
Peace of conscience give me.

Help me see forgiveness won  
By Your holy passion.  
If for me He slays His Son,  
God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from You,  
Peace mid pain and losses.

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May I give You love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heav'n above  
Sing Your praise forever.

## Opening Thoughts

- P It is said that justice and mercy are two sides of the same coin, for the one who is under judgement is also the one who needs mercy.
- C **On the receiving end, we have found ourselves facing justice on one occasion while being shown mercy on another.**
- P And on the giving end, it has been the same. We have dished out justice to those we thought deserved it, but at times we have also shown mercy.
- C **When we find ourselves personally wronged, these are the times we want to demand justice. And while meting out justice would be the “right thing to do”, extending mercy might be what is actually needed.**
- P So, applying the idea of what we deserve from God vs. what He actually gives us, we can appreciate the call to show mercy.
- C **Though by our sins we deserve God’s eternal wrath and punishment, He instead chose to punish a substitute, His Son, Jesus Christ.**
- P Christ took our punishment, which means that He faced God’s justice which our sin demanded. Instead of punishing us for our wrongdoing, God forgives us our sins, extending His incredible mercy.
- C **All of which means that Jesus faced the Father’s justice and punishment for our sins, while we received the Father’s abundant mercy: forgiveness, life, and salvation.**
- All **Thank God for His great and unparalleled demonstration of mercy. Amen.**

## Reading

*Titus 3:3–7*

<sup>3</sup>For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

## Reading

*Matthew 27:27–31*

<sup>27</sup>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. <sup>28</sup>And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup>And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup>And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

## Reading

*Luke 23:32–43*

<sup>32</sup>Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" <sup>41</sup>And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

## 543 What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread - ful curse for my  
 neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my  
 is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

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**Message**

*A Mercy Like No Other*

## Prayer

### The Blessing

P May the mercy of our Heavenly Father through His Son, Jesus Christ, encourage and strengthen your faith, as you look to Christ who suffered on your behalf.

C Amen

### 439 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

*sts. 1-4*



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken  
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;  
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?  
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?  
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;  
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;  
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -  
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -  
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -  
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?  
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.  
her - it, This I do mer - it.  
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

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## Postlude

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