

Welcome!

Let us go into the house of the Lord.

We are thankful you have come to worship the Lord with us. May the Lord bless your time here. We pray you will return soon.



We live our lives beneath the cross of Jesus, beneath God's manifold love and grace that reach to us even from Calvary. Based on the hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus," this series explores what it means for us to abide at the foot of the cross, to cling to the rock of our salvation, to dwell in the house of the Lord, and to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus I long to take my stand

We gather with the disciples, with Mary and the other women, with the soldiers, and with the passersby at the foot of the cross. As he faced death, Jesus tried to prepare his disciples for what was to come. He knew that, like Peter, we long to claim that we will never deny our Lord, that we will never lose our faith beneath the cross. Jesus proclaims to the disciples and to us: "Take courage, I have conquered the world!"

Beneath the Cross of Jesus/ *“The Cross”* February 23, 2021

OPENING DIALOGUE

From Mark 14:18-19, 27-31, 38; 15:34, 39

Pastor: Keep awake, and pray with me.

People: My spirit is willing, but my flesh is weak.

Pastor: One of you this night will betray me.

People: Lord, is it I?

Pastor: Before the cock crows, you will all desert me.

People: Lord, I will never deny you!

Pastor: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

People: Truly, this man was God’s Son!

GATHERING SONG

Insert

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

GREETING

Pastor: God who created all, who bore the cross, and who dwells in us, be with you all.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray together:

People: God of our hope, we journey with you to the foot of the cross. Stay with us when difficulty comes. Grant us courage and peace in the face of persecution. Turn our pain into joy, our mourning into dancing. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

READING

Philippians 2:1-11

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hymnal, pg. 423, verse 3

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"



3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

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GOSPEL READING

John 16: 16-33

Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while

you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'? Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

"Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."

Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God."

"Do you now believe?" Jesus replied. "A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

Insert

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

PRAYERS

Pastor: Beneath the cross of Jesus, we lift up our joys and our sorrows to God.

A brief silence

Pastor: O lord, amid the shifting sands of this world,

People: be our rock and our foundation.

Pastor: In the fears and uncertainties of our lives,

People: be our home and our resting place.

Pastor: When we lay our sins before you,

People: be our comfort and our guide.

Pastor: As we gaze upon the cross of Christ,

People: be our hope and our salvation.

Here other prayers may be offered.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray together:

People: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING Based on Galatians 2:19-20

Pastor: People of God, you have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer you who live, but it is Christ who lives in you. The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

LSB 427

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no



sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

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DISMISSAL

Reader: Go in peace, led by the cross of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Serving us tonight

Pastor Dave Betzner	Vacancy Pastor
Jessica Bobb	Organist
John Enterline	Worship Assistance
Haileab Ghebrekidan	Technical Team
Bill Kenworthy	

Next Tuesday, bring your Baptismal Certificate—start looking for it today!

2021 LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Each midweek service, following Ash Wednesday will center on the theme *Beneath the Cross* – the cross before us, in us, and through us. Each week you are encouraged to bring something to be shared during the service. You will also take something special home with you each Tuesday.

Tuesday, March 2, Service at 7:00

THE ROCK SOLID CROSS – bring your baptismal certificate

Tuesday, March 9, Service at 7:00

HOMING CROSS – bring a picture of your house

Tuesday, March 16, Service at 7:00

CROSS YOUR HEART – bring a public/private sin box

Tuesday, March 23, Service 7:00

CROSS CURRENT – bring a prayer icon or symbol