

## **+ REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, MARCH 25, 2020, MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE +**

### **TODAY'S THEME**

"Murderous Eyes" is the theme of week five in Lent. The chief priests and scribes saw Jesus as an obstacle to be rid of by murdering Him through the Roman judicial system. Yet during the Passover festival, they would unwittingly bring about the Father's sacrifice of the ultimate Passover Lamb.

### **+ VESPERS +**

### **WELCOME**

### **OPENING HYMN**

#### **437 ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED**

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
And did my sov'reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?
- 2 Was it for crimes that I had done  
He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
And love beyond degree!
- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide  
And shut his glories in  
When God, the mighty maker, died  
For His own creatures' sin.
- 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face  
While His dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
And melt mine eyes to tears.
- 5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
The debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away:  
'Tis all that I can do.

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### **INVOCATION**

O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
make haste to help me, O Lord.

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.

### **+ READINGS +**

#### **1ST LESSON**

*Job 24:13–17 GW*

- 13** "Such people are among those who rebel against the light.  
They are not acquainted with its ways.  
They do not stay on its paths.
- 14** At dawn murderers rise; they kill the poor and needy.  
At night they become thieves.
- 15** Adulterers watch for twilight.

They say, 'No one is watching us,' as they cover their faces.

**16** In the dark, they break into houses,  
but by day they lock themselves in.

They do not even know the light,

**17** because morning and deep darkness are the same to them,  
because they are familiar with the terrors of deep darkness.

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## 2ND LESSON

*1 John 3:11-15 GW*

**11** The message that you have heard from the beginning is to love each other. **12** Don't be like Cain. He was a child of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did Cain murder his brother? Because the things Cain did were evil and the things his brother did had God's approval. **13** Brothers and sisters, don't be surprised if the world hates you.

**14** We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love other believers. The person who doesn't grow in love remains in death. **15** Everyone who hates another believer is a murderer, and you know that a murderer doesn't have eternal life.

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## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 23:29-36 GW*

**29** "How horrible it will be for you, experts in Moses' Teachings and Pharisees! You hypocrites! You build tombs for the prophets and decorate the monuments of those who had God's approval. **30** Then you say, 'If we had lived at the time of our ancestors, we would not have helped to murder the prophets.' **31** So you testify against yourselves that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets. **32** Go ahead, finish what your ancestors started!

**33** "You snakes! You poisonous snakes! How can you escape being condemned to hell? **34** I'm sending you prophets, wise men, and teachers of the Scriptures. You will kill and crucify some of them. Others you will whip in your synagogues and persecute from city to city. **35** As a result, you will be held accountable for all the innocent blood of those murdered on earth. This includes the murder of Abel, who had God's approval to that of Zechariah, son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. **36** I can guarantee this truth: The people living now will be held accountable for all these things.

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## RESPONSORY (LENT)

*LSB 231*

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

## + SERMON +

## HYMN

### 453 UPON THE CROSS EXTENDED

1 Upon the cross extended  
See, world, your Lord suspended.  
Your Savior yields His breath.  
The Prince of Life from heaven  
Himself has freely given  
To shame and blows and bitter death.

2 Come, see these things and ponder,  
Your soul will fill with wonder  
As blood streams from each pore.  
Through grief beyond all knowing  
From His great heart came flowing  
Sighs welling from its deepest core.

3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You?  
Who has so sore abused You

And caused You all Your woe?  
We all must make confession  
Of sin and dire transgression  
While You no ways of evil know.

- 7 Your cross I place before me;  
Its saving pow'r restore me,  
Sustain me in the test.  
It will, when life is ending,  
Be guiding and attending  
My way to Your eternal rest.

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## SERMON

*Murderous Eyes*

### + CANTICLE +

## ANTIPHON (COMMON)

*LSB 231*

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

### + PRAYER +

## KYRIE

*LSB 233*

Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation 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.

## BENEDICAMUS

*LSB 234*

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

*LSB 234*

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

## CLOSING HYMN

### 877 GOD, WHO MADE THE EARTH AND HEAVEN

- 1 God, who made the earth and heaven,  
Darkness and light:  
You the day for work have given,

For rest the night.  
May Your angel guards defend us,  
Slumber sweet Your mercy send us,  
Holy dreams and hopes attend us  
All through the night.

2 And when morn again shall call us  
To run life's way,  
May we still, whate'er befall us,  
Your will obey.  
From the pow'r of evil hide us,  
In the narrow pathway guide us,  
Never be Your smile denied us  
All through the day.

3 Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,  
And when we die,  
May we in Your mighty keeping  
All peaceful lie.  
When the last dread call shall wake us,  
Then, O Lord, do not forsake us,  
But to reign in glory take us  
With You on high.

△ 4 Holy Father, throned in heaven,  
All-holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, freely given,  
Blest Three in One:  
Grant us grace, we now implore You,  
Till we lay our crowns before You  
And in worthier strains adore You  
While ages run.

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