

Sunday, March 10, 2024, 9:00am

Responsive Prayer 2

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Lent...It's All About?



LENT
IT'S
ALL ABOUT
DISTANT DISCIPLESHIP

MATTHEW 26:57-58

*To laugh is to risk appearing the fool...To weep is to risk appearing sentimental...
To reach out for another is to risk involvement...To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self...
To place your ideas, your dreams before a crowd is to risk their loss...To love is to risk not being loved
in return...To hope is to risk despair...
To try is to risk failure.
But risks must be taken, because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing.
The person who risks nothing, does nothing, has nothing and is nothing.*

Prelude

#915, Today Your Mercy Calls Us

- 1 Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin. However great our trespass, Whatever we have been, However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away, Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- 2 Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n, A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.
- 3 Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits; His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates. No question will be asked us How often we have come; Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.
- 4 O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door, What should we do without You When heart and eye run o'er? When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair, We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!

C: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He has redeemed from trouble

P: and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

C: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;

P: hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

C: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress.

P: He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

C: Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to

the children of men!

P: For He satisfies the longing soul,

C: and the hungry soul He fills with good things.

P: O Lord,

C: have mercy.

P: O Christ,

C: have mercy.

P: O Lord,

C: have mercy. 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.

P: We profess our faith,

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Children's Time

Jesus Paid The Highest Price

Voice Choir

Numbers 21:4–9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that He take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a

pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live. This is the Word of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God!

Ephesians 2:1–10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. This is the Word of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God!

Matthew 26:57-58 [Sermon Text]

Then those who had seized Jesus led Him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following Him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. This is the Gospel of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God!

#423, *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*

- 1 Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.
- 2 Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.
- 3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.

Text: Public domain

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C: let my cry come to You.

P: In the day of my trouble I call upon You,

C: for You answer me.

P: Hide Your face from my sins,

C: and blot out all my iniquities.

P: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

C: and renew a right spirit within me.

P: Cast me not away from Your presence,

C: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

P: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

C: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

P: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

C: my lips will praise You.

P: For You have been my help,

C: and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

P: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

C: unite my heart to fear Your name.

P: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

C: and I will glorify Your name forever.

P: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

C: May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

P: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

C: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

P: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

C: listen to my plea for grace.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning, and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger, and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my

body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

#837, *Lift High the Cross*

sts. ref-6

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

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Postlude