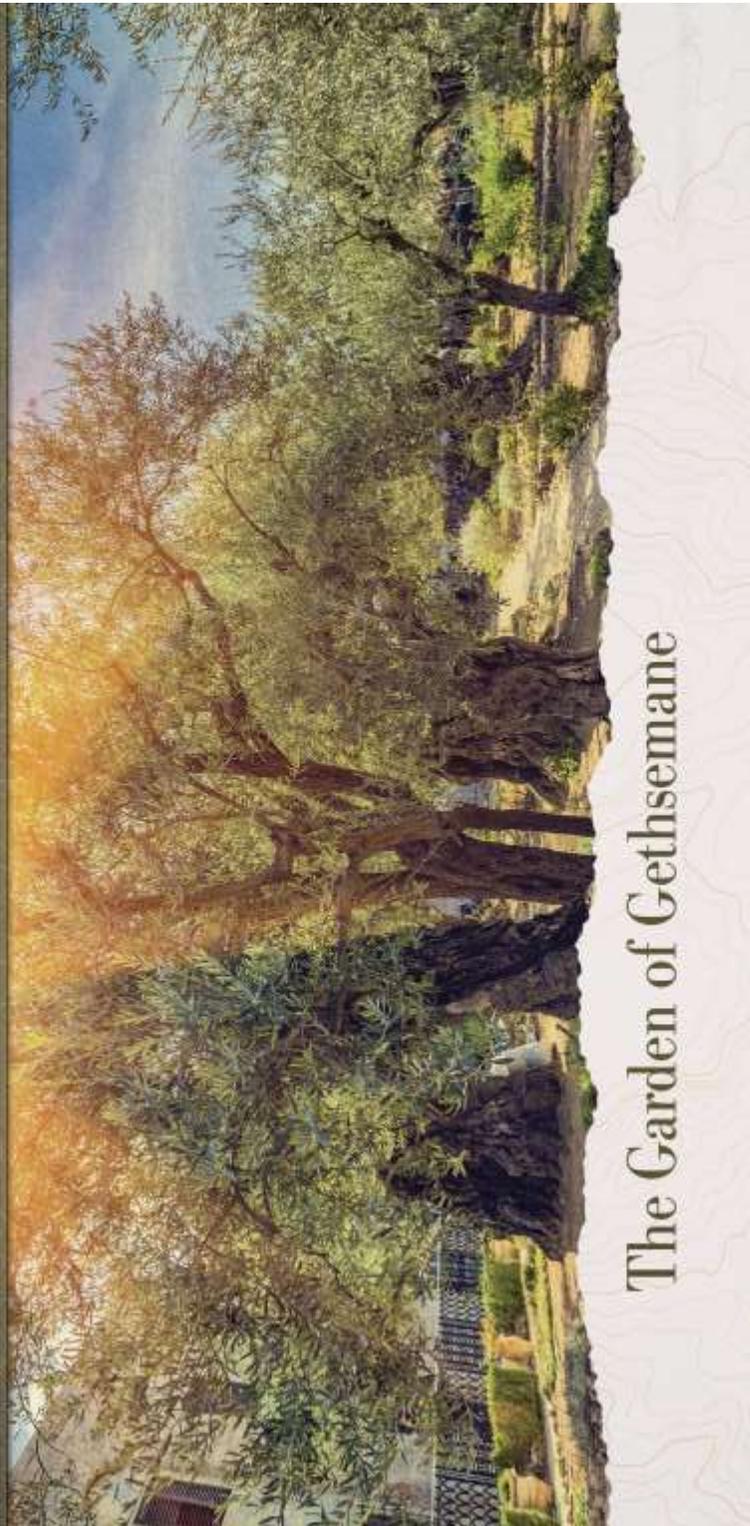


PLACES of the PASSION



St. Paul Lutheran Church

7:00 PM Service

March 10, 2021

Rev. Carey P. Elam, Pastor

Rev. Steve Richardson, Associate Pastor

Week 3

Gethsemane

Order of Service

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." Matthew 26:36

Invocation and Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

P Let us ever walk with Jesus.

C **To see the depths of his love.**

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness.

C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

C **We walk with Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane.**

P Where he is betrayed by Judas.

C **And arrested by the Jews.**

P So that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.

C **Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where you guide!**

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB #685 vv. 1 & 4



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bid; I shall fol - low where You guide.
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

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Confession and Forgiveness

P Paul writes in today's second lesson, "Christ came proclaiming peace to those who are far off and those who are near." (Ephesians 2:17) Heavenly Father, this proclamation has reached our ears but we confess it has not settled into our hearts.

C We confess that we do not live in the light of Christ's peace.

P We prefer being peace-fakers and peace-breakers.

C We are more ready to worry than to trust.

P More ready to fret than have faith.

C More ready to blame than to believe.

P Forgive our hard hearts.

C And make us more alive to the depths of your love.

P Show us what it cost to give up your Son.

C Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That's why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C I shall follow where you guide!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 53:1-5

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.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:11-18

¹¹ Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:47-56

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." ⁴⁹ And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. ⁵¹ And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁵² Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" ⁵⁵ At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. ⁵⁶ But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Sermon Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane

LSB #436



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

“The Garden of Gethsemane”

Prayers of the People

P Onward in Christ’s footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father’s bidding. And so we pray. Heavenly Father, you haven’t promised us a storm-less life. You don’t offer quick fixes or shallow solutions. But you do promise perfect peace, in the midst of whatever happens. Lord, in your mercy,

C Grant us your peace.

P Heavenly Father when we’re out of bootstraps to pull up, come to the end of our rope and feel like quitting, you are with us and for us. Thank you for being a Father who will never forget or abandon us in our storms. Thank you for working all things together for the good of those who love you. Lord, in your mercy,

C Grant us your peace.

P Heavenly Father, thank you for your perfect peace—a peace perfectly suited for the moment. Our calling is not to take control, but to mine the riches of the Gospel and never lose sight of your wonderful love. You are the Rock that is higher than us, the Rock of refuge, the Rock of ages. Lord, in your mercy,

C Grant us your peace.

P Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for your peace that surpasses all understanding. Anchor us in hope, strengthen us in grace and fortify us with resolute courage.

C Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Blessing

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to the Garden of Gethsemane, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb and resurrection victory.

C Let us ever walk with Jesus!

Closing Hymn

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

He Will Hold Me Fast

Words and Music by
Ada Habershon and Matthew Merker

5 G G/B C D G

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast,
2. Those He saves are His de-light, Christ will hold me fast;

9 G/B C D G

When the tempt-er would pre-vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre-cious in His ho-ly sight, He will hold me fast.

13 Em D/F# G C B Em

I could nev-er keep my hold through life's fear-ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Prom-is-es shall last;

17 D/F# G/B C D G

For my love is oft-en cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

CHORUS
22 C D Em D/F# G

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;

26 Am7 G/B C D Gmaj7 G/B

TURNAROUND

For my Sav-ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

30 C2 Gmaj7 G/B C2

VERSE 3
Em9 C

3. For my life He bled and died,

35 C/E D/F# G Em9 C

Christ will hold me fast; Just-ice has been sat-is-ied;

39 D G Em D/F# G/B C

He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to end-less life,

43 B Em D/F# G/B C

He will hold me fast till our faith is turned to sight,

CHORUS
47 D G C D Em

when He comes at last! He will hold me fast,

52 D/F# G Am7 G/B C

He will hold me fast, For my Sav-ior loves me so,

56 1. D G 2. D G

ENDING

He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast.

61 Am9 G/B C G/B Am7 D7sus G