

SERMON *on the* MOUNT

the
Golden
RULE

Maundy Thursday
April 9, 2020

Welcome

Passion Reading

O God of Mercy, God of Might

LSB 852 vs. 1-2

- 1 O God of mercy, God of might,
In love and pity infinite,
Teach us, as ever in Thy sight,
To live our lives in Thee.

- 2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die
That our lost world might live thereby,
O hear us; for to Thee we cry,
In hope, O Lord, to Thee.

Invocation and Opening Sentences

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
- C** **For this is the Law and the Prophets.**
- P** On the night He was betrayed Jesus served His disciples with perfect love.
- C** **He washed their feet.**
- P** He forgave their sins.
- C** **He loved them unconditionally.**
- P** Through His actions Jesus teaches us to do unto others as He has done to us.
- C** **Wash feet. Forgive. Love.**
- P** Do unto others as Jesus has done unto you.
- C** **For this is His perfect will.**

O God of Mercy, God of Might

LSB 852 vs. 3-4

- 3 Teach us the lesson Thou hast taught:
To feel for those Thy blood hath bought,
That ev'ry word and deed and thought
May work a work for Thee.

- 4 All are redeemed, both far and wide,
Since Thou, O Lord, for all hast died.
Grant us the will and grace provide
To love them all in Thee!

Confession and Absolution

P Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. It's the Golden Rule.

C **Most merciful God, in our sinful thoughts, words, and actions the Golden Rule turns to rust. We love ourselves more than we love others. We serve ourselves before we serve others. We love and serve ourselves before we love and serve You, our loving God. We deserve Your punishment now and forever. But You have sent Your only Son who lived out the Golden Rule for our sake. Jesus loved and served us perfectly through His sinless life and His death on the cross. We beg for Your mercy and ask for Your forgiveness.**

P On the night He was betrayed Jesus demonstrated His love and service by washing the feet of His disciples. It was one small token of a life of service lived out for you and all people. Because He lived a perfect life and died the death you deserved, you are free. For the sake of Jesus, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

O God of Mercy, God of Might

LSB 852 vs. 5-6

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
May we each other's burdens share;
May we, where help is needed, there
Give help as unto Thee!

6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above
All those who live in Thee.

Old Testament Reading

Leviticus 19:13–17

¹³“You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

¹⁵“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

¹⁷“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Just as I Am, without One Plea

LSB 579

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2 Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed about
With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 11:23–25

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²[Jesus said,] “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Mini Message

Son of God, Eternal Savior

LSB 842

1 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

- 2 As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.
- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

- P** O Lover of souls, You have called us to do unto others as we would want things done unto us. You did it even better. You taught us to do unto others as You have done to us. You washed the feet of Your disciples, forgave their sins, and loved them unconditionally. Live in us and love through us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Lover of souls, You love Your church with an unending and undying love. You stoop down to us in Word and Sacrament to forgive us of our grievous sins. Enable us to love so well that the world sees us not as hypocrites but as a people who live to love and serve. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Lover of souls, You love even through the laws and structure of government. Bring order to our society so that people are free to love and serve You and love and serve their neighbors as themselves. Give Your church and Your word free course so that the nations come to faith in You as Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P O Lover of souls, You love our physical bodies, too. We ask that Your will would be done in bringing bodily renewal to those who are ill. In Your mercy, spare Your people and turn this pandemic away! Preserve the sick, comfort the fearful, and grant Your peace to the dying. Give us healing in accordance with Your will, strength to bear up under the burdens of this mortal life, and comfort and hope in this and every trial. Where it is needed, use us to provide help and support. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lover of souls, You loved the world so much that You gave Your life on the cross. All those who believe in You will not perish but have eternal life. Today we remember our friends and relatives who have believed in You and now live in Your heavenly presence. Help us to serve others as they served us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lover of souls, have mercy on all who are kept from Your table in extraordinary circumstances, and do not shut them out of Your Supper forever. Let the words of this testament echo in their ears and hearts and, in true faith, let them believe these words, trusting that they receive spiritually in faith exactly what Your Son has both won and declared: the forgiveness of sins. Stir up in us a desire to commune with our fellow Christians on Your true body and blood, and bring us soon to the table. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we place all of our needs, knowing that You have served us perfectly, even to the point of death.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

Benediction

P The God of all grace, who loves you far more than you love yourself, bless you with every spiritual blessing as you do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Rejoice and be glad!

C Amen.

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
- 2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.
- 4 Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.
- 5 O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Acknowledgments

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