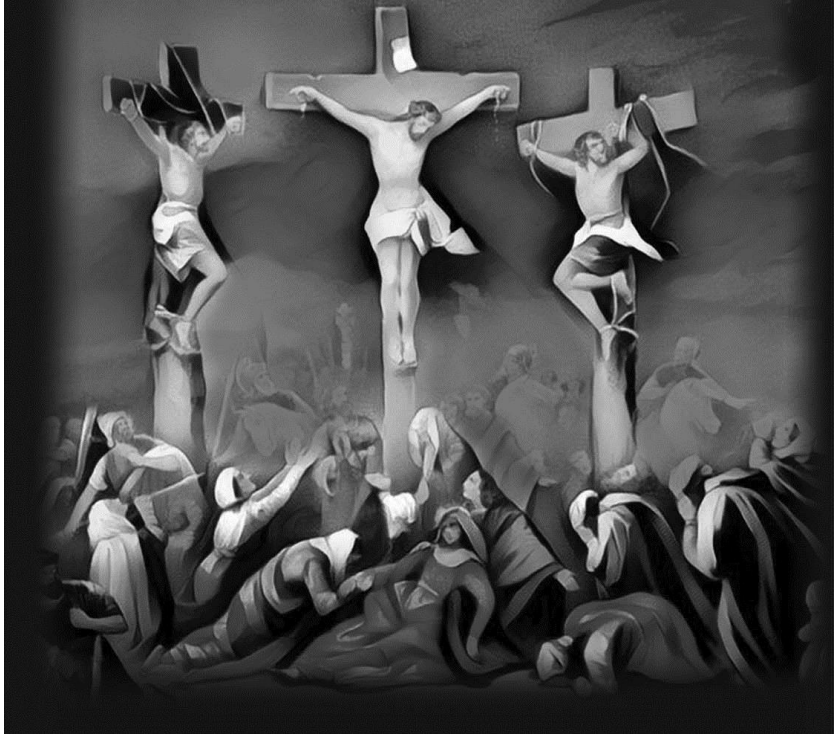


# WITNESSES TO CHRIST



Midweek Lent 4  
March 23, 2022  
7 p.m.

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
Brillion, WI

## Welcome

### Chief of Sinners Though I Be

*LSB 611*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Opening Sentences

- P** As we continue our Lenten journey, we witness Peter's denial of Jesus.  
**C** **Three times Peter denies his Lord.**  
**P** When the rooster crows and Peter realizes what he has done,  
**C** **he is overwhelmed with guilt.**  
**P** Yet when Jesus is raised from the dead, He restores Peter.  
**C** **Three times Jesus tells Peter to feed His sheep.**  
**P** Though Peter had sinned and was filled with guilt,  
**C** **Jesus forgives and fills Peter with grace.**

### Confession and Absolution

- P** Like Peter, we have all experienced the pain and guilt of past sins. We know that we have been far from perfect. Though we follow Jesus, our thoughts, words, and actions have been poor representations of Christ to the world. Yet, in His infinite mercy, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him for forgiveness and restoration.
- C** **Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You. We have denied You in what we have done and in what we have failed to do. We have failed to trust You in all things. Lord, forgive us, restore us, and remove our guilt.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. On account of Jesus, all of your sin has been forgiven—all of the guilt you feel has been made powerless by God's grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen. We are forgiven and restored by God's abundant grace.

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 130*

**P** Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!

**C** O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

**P** If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

**P** I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope;

**C** my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

**P** O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.

**C** And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

**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.

## Old Testament

*Zechariah 12:10–14*

<sup>10</sup>“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on Me, on Him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over Him, as one weeps over a firstborn. <sup>11</sup>On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. <sup>12</sup>The land shall mourn, each family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; <sup>13</sup>the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; <sup>14</sup>and all the families that are left, each by itself, and their wives by themselves.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 12:7–10*

<sup>7</sup>So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup>But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

<sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

*John 18:12–27*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. <sup>13</sup>First they led Him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. <sup>14</sup>It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” <sup>18</sup>Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup>The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the

world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said.” <sup>22</sup>When He had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how You answer the high priest?” <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike Me?” <sup>24</sup>Annas then sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, “You also are not one of His disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” <sup>26</sup>One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with Him?” <sup>27</sup>Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Mini Message

**“Behold! The Lamb of God,” John Said** (Tune: LSB 432)

(Cong.) 1 “Behold! The Lamb of God,” John said,

“Who takes all sin away.”

This Lamb is Christ, who in our stead

For sin would mutely pay.

“Behold your King!” by Pilate scourged;

Sin’s hellish sum on Him converged,

While “Crucify!” the hateful urged, Their Savior to betray.

(Choir) 2 The Way—of justice was deprived;

The Truth—was overrun;

The Life—was all from Christ derived;

God glorifies His Son!

“I am the Bread of Life,” Christ said;

“My sacred blood for all, I shed;

Who eats and drinks of Me is fed.”

All death by Christ undone.

3 (Men) Christ's glory is not seen by those  
Who view God's Word as dross,  
(Women) For worldly wisdom never knows  
How gain could come from loss.  
(Men) Yet, this the glory of the Christ:  
His perfect life He sacrificed,  
(Women) His finished work for all sufficed—  
Debt canceled on the cross.

(Cong.) 4 May we this holy Lententide  
Christ's Passion clearly see;  
This somber vision will provide  
The truth that sets us free.  
Hear John, who speaks of what he knows;  
Come, follow on the path Christ chose:  
The cross, the tomb from which He rose  
In joyous victory!

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## Sermon

## Offering & Rite of Friendship

### Kyrie

**P** Lord, have mercy.

**C** Christ, have mercy.

**P** Lord, have mercy.

### Prayer of the Church

**P** O my Savior, help afford,

**C** by Your Spirit and Your Word.

### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### **Benedicamus**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Benediction**

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and  
the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C** Amen.

### **Jesus, Refuge of the Weary**

*LSB 423*

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