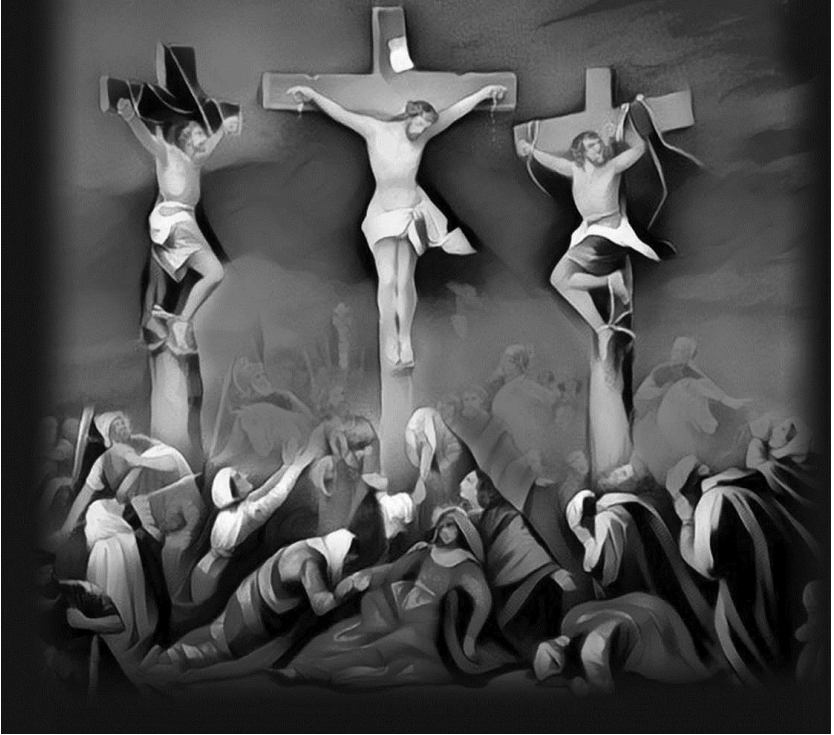


# WITNESSES TO CHRIST



Midweek Lent 5  
March 30, 2022  
7 p.m.

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
Brillion, WI

## Welcome

### My Song Is Love Unknown

*LSB 430*

### 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 watch as Jesus stands trial before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate.  
**C** **Pilate knows that Jesus is innocent.**  
**P** Pilate tries to set Jesus free,  
**C** **but the people call for a thief and murderer named Barabbas.**  
**P** Though Barabbas is guilty, he is set free.  
**C** **Though Jesus is innocent, He is condemned to die.**

### Confession and Absolution

- P** We are like Barabbas. We are guilty. We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. The wages of sin is death. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and seek His forgiveness.
- C** **Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You and against our neighbors in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have rebelled against Your rule and reign. We know our guilt. We know we deserve the punishment of death. But we seek Your abundant mercy on account of Jesus.**
- P** Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you. Jesus stands in your place and takes the punishment for your sin. He endures death for you. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. We are pardoned. We are set free because of Jesus.**

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 102:18–22*

- P** Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD:
- C** **that He looked down from His holy height; from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,**
- P** to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die,
- C** **that they may declare in Zion the name of the LORD, and in Jerusalem His praise,**
- P** when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.
- C** **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.**

## Old Testament

*Zechariah 9:11–12*

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of My covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 3:15–18*

<sup>15</sup>Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. <sup>16</sup>But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*John 18:33–40*

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

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

<sup>33</sup>So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about Me?” <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You over to me. What have You done?” <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But My kingdom is not from the world.” <sup>37</sup>Then Pilate said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.” <sup>38</sup>Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in Him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” <sup>40</sup>They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

**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** ... let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

## 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.

## O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

*LSB 439 vs. 6-8*