

# *Lenten Midweek 3*

March 18, 2020

7:00 P.M.

LENTEN SERIES: THE BOOK OF JOB

THE THEME OF THE DAY: It is Enough. Job 14:1–14

## INVOCATION & CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Job 19:23–27)

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll,

**C: That they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,  
or engraved in rock forever!**

L: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

**C: And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God.**

L: I myself will see him with my own eyes, I, and not another.

How my heart yearns within me!

**ALL: I know that my Redeemer lives!**

**HYMN No 715** “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me” (vss. 1 - 2 )

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

L: Gracious God, I confess that I am often like Job,

C: Lost in a sea of pain and confusion.

P: Tossed about by storms and dark clouds.

C: Overwhelmed by churning waves and unknown waters.

P: I often feel as though I’m sinking and drowning.

C: Losses and struggles paralyze me and sometimes threaten to destroy me.

P: I feel disconnected, despondent, and increasingly desperate.

C: But like Job, I confess, “There is hope for a tree.”

P: Indeed, “There is hope for a tree. If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail. Its roots may grow old in the ground and its stump die in the soil, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth shoots like a plant” (Job 14:7–9). We have hope and forgiveness because on the tree of the cross Jesus took away our sin and our wretchedness. On the tree of the cross Jesus identifies with our rejection and pain. And three days later the crucified One is risen!

**ALL: I know that my Redeemer lives!**

**HYMN No 715** “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me” (vs 3 )

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we adore you and worship you, for you saw us in our wretched state and sent Christ Jesus to die upon Calvary’s tree so that we might have hope—hope today and hope forever; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT** Job 14:1-14 (Death Comes Soon to All)

“Man who is born of a woman  
is few of days and full of trouble.  
He comes out like a flower and withers;  
he flees like a shadow and continues not.  
And do you open your eyes on such a one  
and bring me into judgment with you?  
Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?  
There is not one.  
Since his days are determined,  
and the number of his months is with you,  
and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass,  
look away from him and leave him alone,  
that he may enjoy, like a hired hand, his day.”

“For there is hope for a tree,  
if it be cut down, that it will sprout again,  
and that its shoots will not cease.  
Though its root grow old in the earth,  
and its stump die in the soil,  
yet at the scent of water it will bud  
and put out branches like a young plant.  
But a man dies and is laid low;  
man breathes his last, and where is he?  
As waters fail from a lake  
and a river wastes away and dries up,  
so a man lies down and rises not again;  
till the heavens are no more he will not awake  
or be roused out of his sleep.  
Oh that you would hide me in Sheol,  
that you would conceal me until your wrath be past,  
that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me!  
If a man dies, shall he live again?  
All the days of my service I would wait,  
till my renewal should come.

**EPISTLE** 2 Corinthians 4:13–18 (We are struck down but not destroyed)

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**GOSPEL** Luke 7:11-17 (Jesus Raises a Widow's Son)

Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had

died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!” And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

**HYMN No. 752** “Be Still, My Soul”

**MESSAGE** “Job: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord” It is Enough  
Pastor Matt (Job 14:1-14)

**OFFERING** Please remember your church if you are able. We understand current circumstances may be causing you to tighten your budgets. Consider Jesus’ words in Luke 6:38:

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

**PRAYERS**

L: Almighty Father, we confess our faith in Jesus,  
who died on the tree of the cross to give us a living hope.

**C: We flee to no other refuge,**

L: Wash in no other fountain,

**C: Build on no other foundation,**

L: Or listen to any other voice.

**C: Enable us in our pain and disappointment,**

L: To find joy in our Savior

**C: Who is too wise to err**

L: And too tender to crush.

**C: And too merciful to cast us away.**

**+ Silence for Prayers God has laid on our hearts +**

L: Oh, God, a tree can overcome being cut down.

**C: And so we will persevere.**

L: A tree can overcome being left for dead.

**C: And so we claim renewal and life in Christ's name. Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

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

**All: 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.**

**BLESSING OF THE LORD** (Based upon Job 1:21)

L: The Lord gives,

**C: And the Lord takes away,**

L: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

**C: Yes, blessed be the name of the Lord!**

L: And so we go forth confidently in the name of our Lord,

**C: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**HYMN No. 878** "Abide with Me" (vss. 1 & 4)

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away  
Change and decay in all around I see  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.**

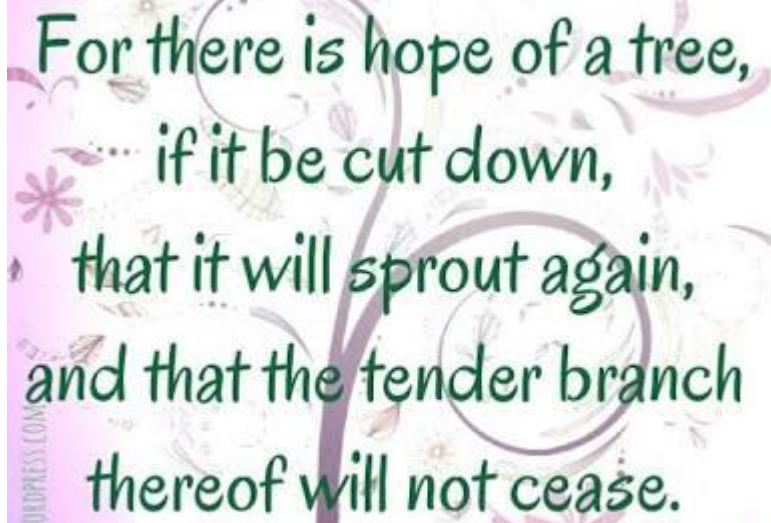
**SILENT PRAYER**

Jesus, I believe that there is hope for a tree and there is hope—  
enduring hope— for me. Amen.

**Study for Next Wednesday**

Read Job 23:1–17 and answer these questions:

1. Job 23:10 states, "When he has tested me, I will come forth as gold."  
Why does God test his people? What is your current test?
2. What qualities does gold have that God wants for you?
3. How does God redeem suffering and pain in your life?



For there is hope of a tree,  
if it be cut down,  
that it will sprout again,  
and that the tender branch  
thereof will not cease.

Job 14:7-9