

Lent Midweek 1
"By My Hand - For My Sake"
Lent 1 • Nicodemus

INVOCATION

P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LITANY

P: We gather tonight at the foot of the cross, remembering the words from the books of Wisdom, from Lamentations and the Psalms. We remember our Savior's broken body and precious blood as we sing together "Alas! And did my Savior bleed"

Hymn No. 437 "Alas! And did my Savior Bleed" (vs.1)

**Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I?**

L Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

C My transgressions are like a yoke about my neck, fastened by the hand of the Lord. They weigh so heavily upon me that my strength is gone.

P When we lift our hands in prayer to God in heaven, we should offer him our hearts and say, "We have sinned! We have rebelled against you!"

Hymn No. 437 "Alas! And did my Savior Bleed" (vs.2)

**Was it for sins that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!**

P The Lord says: My servant will succeed! He will be given great praise and the highest honors. Many were horrified at what happened to him.

C But everyone who saw him was even more horrified because he suffered until he no longer looked human.

P My servant will make nations worthy to worship me; kings will be silent as they bow in wonder. They will see and think about things they have never seen or thought about before.

Hymn No. 437 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" (vs.3)

We may not know, we cannot tell,
What pains he had to bear,
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

The Prayer Of The Day

P: Let us Pray,

O Father in heaven, for our sake you poured out your wrath upon your beloved Son, and for our sake you put Him to death. By His wounds we are healed, by His blood we are cleansed. Make us white as snow, and lead us in Your paths so that we walk by the light of Christ, whom You sent to free us from our sins. We ask all of this through the same son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Hymn No. 437 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" (new verse)

O Hope of ev'ry contrite soul,
O Joy of all the meek,
How kind you are to those who fall,
How good to those who seek!

Homily Pastor Vern

Hymn No. 424 "O Christ, You Walked the Road"

O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r
And fought our ancient foe.

No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.

No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.

When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.

O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour
To fight our ancient foe.

Old Testament Lesson ... Isaiah 41:8-13

But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off"; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish. You shall seek those who contend with you, but you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all. For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Fear not, I am the one who helps you."

Responsive Psalm Psalm 16

P: Keep me, God. You are my safety, my only happiness. I delight in fidelity.

C: Those who chase other gods bring troubles upon themselves. When they pour out blood offerings and praise the names of idols, I will not join them.

P: You, God, are all I have; everything depends on you.

C: You guide me; you teach my heart, O God.

P: I will bless you.

C: I will think of you always, mindful of your presence, O God my strength.

P: You will not abandon me or leave me among the dead.

C: No, you will lead me to life, to endless joy, at your right hand, forever.

New Testament Lesson

Romans 3:19-26

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: or all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Monolog

Nicodemus

Pastor Matt

Hymn ... "Our Savior Speaks in Grace" (Tune: LSB 414 – 'Tis Good Lord to Be Here)

Our Savior speaks in grace,
With words of mercy true:
"Forgive them, Father," thus he prays;
"They know not what they do."

Beneath the cross may I,
For whom all this was done,
Repentant and believing cry,
"This truly is God's Son!"

The Prayers

P: For our sakes, O gracious God, your Son took a stand. For our sakes he who had raised his hands in kindly blessing let his hands be harshly tied in captivity. For our sakes, he stretched them out upon the cross to receive the just reward of our punishment.

From baptism to burial our Savior took his stand with us; he suffered for our sakes.

For his sake, give us the wisdom and the courage to reach out *our* hands. Show us the work you want us to do, the challenges you place before us, the needs that can be met by the raising of our hands.

From baptism to burial, give us the strength to take a stand.

And as we do, stretch out your hands to comfort the grieving, heal the sick, strengthen the faltering, direct those who wander, and receive those who return in penitence and faith.

Until we stand before the judgment seat of him who comes in glory with the holy angels to place us at his own right hand among the company of those who have confessed Jesus Christ the Son of all blessings, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The 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

Numbers 6:22

**P: The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.**

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN LSB 611 "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

**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.**

**Peace, to soothe our bitter woes, God in Christ on us bestows;
Jesus bought our peace with God With his holy, precious blood;
Peace in him for sinners found Is the Gospel's joyful sound.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.