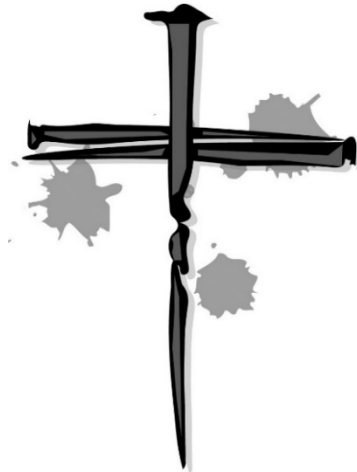


Three Words



of TRUTH

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE
MARCH 20, 2019

Watch and Pray

OPENING HYMN

In the Hour of Trial | CW 116

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. Though you warn me about Satan, the roaring lion who rages for my eternal destruction, I all too often fail to call on you in times of temptation or to arm myself with your precious Word of Truth. I am constantly being lulled to spiritual sleep by the fallen world around me and my own sinful nature and, in my weakness, am beset with fear and doubt. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

PSALM

Psalm 40 | *To the tune of Amazing Grace*
Pastor will sing the fourth verse.

**I waited for the Lord my God, I waited patiently;
And He in mercy heard my cry; inclined His ear to me.**

**Be pleased, O Lord, to save me; come quickly to my aid;
For many seek to take my life—let them now be dismayed.**

**For troubles have surrounded me; iniquities flood me
more than the hairs upon my head; my heart fails within me.**

**M: "Behold, it is upon the scroll; of me it's been required
Your law is written on my heart; Your will is my desire."**

**He put a new song in my mouth, God's praise for all to hear;
And many then will trust the Lord who see and learn to fear.**

**How bless'd the one who trusts the Lord, who looks not to the proud;
Nor to the ones who turn aside to false gods all around.**

**For many are Your wonders, Lord, things planned beyond compare;
They are far more than I can count, more than I could declare.**

Please stand.

PSALM PRAYER

M: Lord God, our Help and our Deliverer, we thank you for lifting us out of the mud and mire, and for setting our feet upon the Rock, our Lord Jesus Christ, who carried out your will and rose to live and rule with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

PASSION READING

Luke 22:39-54

SEASONAL RESPONSE

M: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C: By his wounds we are healed.

HYMN

Come, My Soul, with Every Care | CW 409

Please stand.

SERMON TEXT

Matthew 26:35-41

³⁵ But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

⁴⁰ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. ⁴¹ "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." (NIV84[®])

Be seated.

SERMON

OFFERING

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. Please fill out the friendship register as it is passed.
Please stand.*

EVENING PRAYER

M: Let us pray.

O God our Father, by your mercy and might, the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light. We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your great love and protection, we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SPECIAL PRAYERS & INTERCESSION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN

If You But Trust | CW 444 (1,4)

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