



THE SUFFERING SERVANT

ISAIAH 53

Midweek Lent III
March 18, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Isaiah is a large prophecy, spanning many different genres and topics. This prophecy is one of the chief sources the evangelists draw from in explaining who Jesus is. One of the large sections in which Christians have always seen their savior is the song of the Suffering Servant. As we meditate on our Lord's purpose for coming in Lent, we will turn our attention to this section, and study what the prophet tells us about the one who came to restore Israel, and to lead the remnant of God's people.

Midweek 3: Our Sickness

Surely Christ has borne many things for us. Our shame, our guilt, our weakness, to name a few. Today, Isaiah's words focus in on God's actions, how the Father places on the Servant all of our sorrows. How the Servant bears all these things. Finally, the fact that he was pierced and wounded for the sake of the wayward sheep. So let us fix our eyes on Jesus, especially in these tumultuous times.

LIVE-STREAMING Holy Cross will live stream the Wednesday 7PM service on a link at our website (hcross.com). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.



Midweek Lent III

March 18, 2020

HYMN: "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" LSB 451

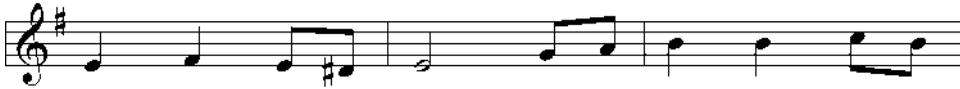
PLEASE STAND



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing, Was there ev - er grief like
 3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
 4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
 His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
 great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
 lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
 sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
 guilt may es - ti - mate, Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
 name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
 wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
 point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
 wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
 deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
 Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God,
 ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

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OPENING VERSICLES

Lector: This is the day which the Lord has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Lector: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: The name of the Lord is to be praised.

Lector: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

People: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

Lector: Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

People: let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Lector: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

People: He was bruised for our iniquities.

Lector: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**All: 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.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Lector: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's World and self-examination.

Lector: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and
unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have
not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our
neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal
punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on
us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in
Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.
Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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. [John 20:19-23]

People: Amen.

PSALM 41

Lector: Blessèd is the one who considers the poor!

People: In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;

Lector: the Lord protects him and keeps him alive;
he is called blessèd in the land;

People: you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.

Lector: The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;

People: in his illness You restore him to full health.

Lector: As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;

People: heal me, for I have sinned against you!"

Lector: My enemies say of me in malice,

People: "When will he die and his name perish?"

Lector: And when one comes to see me he utters empty words,
while his heart gathers iniquity;

People: when he goes out, he tells it abroad.

Lector: All who hate me whisper together about me;

People: they imagine the worst for me.

Lector: They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him;

People: he will not rise again from where he lies."

Lector: Even my close friend in whom I trusted,

People: who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

Lector: But you, O LORD, be gracious to me,

People: and raise me up, that I may repay them!

Lector: By this I know that you delight in me:

People: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.

Lector: But you have upheld me because of my integrity,

People: and set me in Your presence forever.

Lector: Blessèd be the Lord, the God of Israel,

People: from everlasting to everlasting!

Amen and Amen.

READING: Isaiah 53:4-6

PLEASE BE SEATED

Lector: A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-third chapter.

⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his stripes we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned every one to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

READING: 1 Peter 2:13-25

Lector: The second reading is from First Peter, chapter two:

¹³Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

¹⁸Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

READING: John 4:43-54

PLEASE STAND

Lector: The third reading according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴³After the two days he departed for Galilee. ⁴⁴(For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) ⁴⁵So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast.

⁴⁶So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. ⁴⁷When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe."

⁴⁹The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. ⁵¹As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." ⁵³The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.

⁵⁴This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

Lector: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

People: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Lector: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

People: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells..

Lector: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

SERMON: "Our Sickness"

Is. 53:4-6

HYMN: "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

LSB 749



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To make the wound-ed whole;



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged And think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can - not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For Je - sus is your friend;



Refrain
 But then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
 You can tell the love of Je - sus And say He died for all.
 And if you lack for knowl - edge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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LITANY

PLEASE STAND

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the sick and the dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For ... [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] ... let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lector: Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

Lector: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

People: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**People: 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

Lector: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lector: The Almighty God and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

People: Amen and Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”

LSB 342



1 What hope! An E - den proph - e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da - vid's line,
3 As ban - ner of God's love un - furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss.
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.
That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

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SILENT PRAYER & CHIMES

POSTLUDE



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*With the help of God, Holy Cross Lutheran Church
grows disciples and transforms hearts for Christ.*

**Serving in God's House Today — Midweek Lent III
Wednesday, March 18, 2020**

7PM—LIVESTREAM ONLY

Preacher	Pastor Jonathan V. Meyer
Liturgist	Pastor Andrew J. Gimbel
Director of Christian Education	Meghan Flanick
Director of Music & Organist	Michelle Sliger