

SEVEN
Last
Words
FROM THE
CROSS

WORDS OF LIFE FROM THE CROSS

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

MARCH 25, 2020



“The Suffering Word”

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 6:30 pm

✠ PREPARATION ✠

The congregation gathers in silence.

Please stand for portions of service marked with an asterisk ()*

VIDEO WELCOME

Pastor Chris Matthis

RINGING OF THE BELL

***OPENING VERSICLES FOR LENT**

Elder: O Lord, open my lips,

People: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Elder: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

People: make haste to help me, O Lord.

**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.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

PSALMODY

Psalm 103

Elder: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

People: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,

Elder: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

People: who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Elder: who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
People: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

Elder: He made known his ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel.
People: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Elder: He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever.
People: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Elder: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;
People: as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

Elder: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.
People: For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

Elder: As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;
People: for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

Elder: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children,
People: to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

Elder: The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.
People: Bless the Lord, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His word, obeying the voice of His word!

Elder: Bless the Lord, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will!
People: Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

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.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 23:1-25

(Jesus before Pontius Pilate and Herod)

Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a

king.” And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no guilt in this man.” But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.”

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him.”

But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas”— a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” A third time he said to them, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.” But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

Elder: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

***RESPONSORY**

Elder: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

People: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Elder: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

People: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

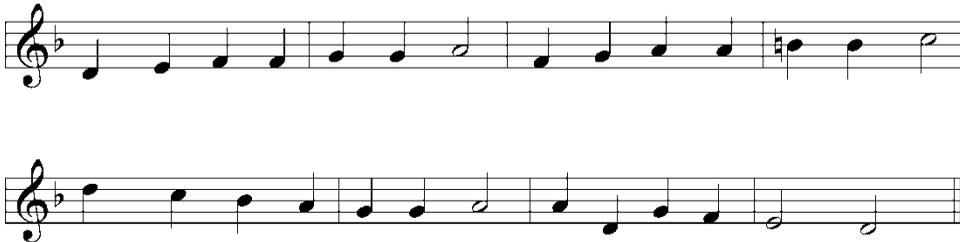
Elder: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

People: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

HYMN

“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”

LSB 447, vs. 13-15



13 Jesus, in Your thirst and pain,
While Your wounds Your lifeblood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

14 Thirst for us in mercy still;
All Your holy work fulfill;
Satisfy Your loving will:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

15 May we thirst Your love to know.
Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the healing waters flow:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

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SERMON

“The Suffering Word”

Pastor Chris Matthis

*ANTIPHON

LSB 231

Elder: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

People: and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

OFFERING

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.epiphanylc.org and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.



[CLICK HERE TO GIVE](#)

✠ PRAYER ✠

*KYRIE

LSB pg. 233

Elder: Lord, have mercy.

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

*LORD'S PRAYER

LSB pg. 233

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.

Elder: O Lord, hear my prayer.

People: **And let my cry come to You.**

*COLLECT FOR PEACE

Elder: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

*BENEDICAMUS

LSB pg. 234

Elder: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*BENEDICTION

LSB pg. 234

Elder: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

People: Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

LSB 436



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - raigned; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

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VIDEO ANNOUNCEMENT

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Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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Epiphany Lutheran Church of Castle Rock, Colorado

550 E. Wolfensberger Rd. + Castle Rock, CO 80109 + Office: 303-688-4435

Website: www.epiphanylc.org

ME SYSTEM LINK: <https://epiphanylc.ccbchurch.com/login.php>

Pastor Chris Matthis + Cell: 303-921-0717

pastorchris@epiphanylc.org

(Pastor available by appointment)

Kristin Schmidt, DCE Intern + Cell: 951-775-6134 + Tu-F 8 am - 4 pm

dce@epiphanylc.org

Mrs. Donata Rolf + office@epiphanylc.org + Office hours: M-F 8 am – 4 pm

Ms. Mary Wenkheimer, Choir Director + choir@epiphanylc.org

[Ms. Debbie Stewart, Accounting Assistant + accounting@epiphanylc.org](mailto:accounting@epiphanylc.org)



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