

Mid-Week Lenten Service

March 18, 2026



Conversations at the Foot of the Cross

Pastor Erik Allen



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Conversations at the Foot of the Cross

-- The Two Thieves --

Prelude

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Tedd Smith and Don Hustad

Organ and Piano Duet - Joan Krueger, Organ; Pam Crowell, piano

Call to Worship

P Repent and turn from your sins, lest iniquity be your ruin.

C Cast away from you all sins which you have committed against me,

P and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.

C For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God of hosts,

P so turn to me and live.

C By one man’s disobedience many were made sinners;

P by one man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

Hymn

Jesus, Remember Me

ELW 616

(repeated multiple times)

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Psalm 20

P The LORD answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you! May he send you help from the sanctuary, and give you support from Zion. May he remember all your offerings, and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices. May he grant you your heart’s desire, and fulfill all your plans.

C May we shout for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God set up our banners.

P May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.

C Now I know that the LORD will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand.

P Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,

C but our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.

P They will collapse and fall,

C but we shall rise and stand upright.

P Give victory to the king, O LORD;

C answer us when we call.

Reading

Luke 23:32-43

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?

⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Hymn

The Voices of the Passion

Tune: (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)

**The voices of the Passion,
Those words from ancient days--
What message do they fashion
As on your cross I gaze?
In words that once were spoken,
In speech now overheard,
Grant me, O Lord, this token:
To hear your living Word!**

Overheard: The Two Thieves

Jeff Boldt and Bob Inskeep

The Voices of the Passion

Tune: (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)

**When my last night is falling
And darkness ‘round me lies,
Lord, let me hear you calling
To blessed Paradise.**

**There may I stand before you,
Your majesty to see.
My King, I now implore you:
O Lord, remember me!**

Prayers

- P O almighty and eternal God, we are frail and time-bound children of the dust, destined to return to the earth from which, by your creative power, we sprang.
- C We are alone, and fearful in our loneliness--afraid to die, and yet not able, in our sinfulness, to live alone without your sin-forgiving love to cleanse our souls and make us right with you, despite the well-meant, misdirected error of our ways.**
- P Be with us in our loneliness, O God, as Christ your Son was with us in his life and death.
- C Forgive our sins, and redirect our zeal, that day by day we pray, "Thy kingdom come," and show that kingdom in our lives of service and obedient love**
- P until our final day on earth, when we shall see your kingdom come indeed and know that we are not alone,
- C but then--as always--in the company of him who left his throne on high that we might share in Paradise,**
- P in whose redeeming name we join to pray:
- C Our Father ...**

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Christ, the Life of All the Living

ELW 339

**Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suff'ring, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.**

**You have suffered great affliction
and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion,
fully to atone for me;
for you chose to be tormented
that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.**

**Then, for all that bought my pardon,
for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden,
I will thank you evermore;
thank you for the groaning, sighing,
for the bleeding and the dying,
for that last triumphant cry,
praise you evermore on high.**

Postlude

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Friedrich Zachow

*Special thanks to Jeff Boldt and Bob Inskeep
for participating in this evening's worship.*



Holy Week

Palm Sunday - March 29 (with 1st Communion)

Maundy Thursday - April 2 @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday - April 3 @ 12:00 - Stations of the Cross
7:00 @ Tenebrae Service

Easter Saturday - April 4 Egg Hunt @ 11:00

Easter Sunday April 5 - Worship at 10:00
Easter Breakfast following
(*signups coming soon!*)

