

March 20, 2024



St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Juneau

Salem-Lowell

Horicon

God on Trial: Sympathy

Opening Hymn 537

“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, speak and heal our
4 Word that speaks your Fa - ther's love, one with him be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
mor - tal blind - ness; deaf we are: our heal - er be;
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
loose our tongues to tell your kind - ness. Be our Word in
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
pit - y spo - ken, heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010 Tune: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673, alt.

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Please stand

Confession of Sins

In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden.

Amen.

I confess that I am by nature sinful.

I am guilty of many sins.

I am distressed by the sins that trouble me.

For all this I am sorry. I pray for forgiveness.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven."
His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

Yes, I believe.

By the authority of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please be seated

Psalm 138A

“Your Praises, God, I’m Bringing”



1 Your prais - es, God, I'm bring - ing; my heart with joy is
2 When deep - est need had felled me, your stead - fast love up -
3 Though you, O God, are ho - ly, yet you re - gard the
4 All peo - ples shall ac - claim you, and wor - ship - ing shall



sing - ing its thanks for gifts out - poured.
held me; my ur - gent prayer you heard.
low - ly and raise them from the dust.
name you the God of time and space.



Now, in your pres - ence kneel - ing, a - gain for grace ap -
When trou - ble sore as - sailed me, your mer - cy nev - er
Your prom - ise holds for - ev - er: “I will for - sake you
And I will join my prais - es with hymns the whole world



peal - ing, in qui - et - ness I wait your word.
failed me. You strength - ened me and I en - dured.
nev - er!” My God, my rock, in you I trust.
rais - es to you, the God of bound - less grace!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle

Tune: Heinrich Isaac

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Psalm Prayer

Lord, we bow down to you in thankful praise. You have made your ways known to both lowly and great on the earth. You have not abandoned the work of your hands, but instead you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Passion Reading for Week Six

Mark 15:16-47 (EHV)

Soldiers Mock Jesus, The Crucifixion, Jesus' Death, Jesus' Burial

P: Pastor

M: Men

W: Women

P: The soldiers led him away inside the palace, which is the Praetorium, and called together the whole cohort of soldiers. They put a purple robe on him, twisted together a crown of thorns, and put it on him. The soldiers began to salute him,

M: **“Hail, King of the Jews!”**

W: ***They kept hitting him on the head with a reed and spitting on him. They also kneeled down to pay homage to him. When they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothing on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.***

P: A certain man, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), was passing by on his way in from the country. They forced him to carry Jesus' cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means, “The place of a skull.” They tried to give him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. They crucified him. And they divided his garments, casting lots for them to decide what each of them would take.

M: **Now it was the third hour when they crucified him. The superscription stating the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” They also crucified two criminals with him, one on his right and one on his left.**

P: Those who passed by ridiculed him, shaking their heads and saying, “Ha! You who are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross!”

M: **In the same way the chief priests along with the experts in the law mocked him among themselves. “He saved others,” they said. “He cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross so that we may see and believe!”**

W: ***Those who were crucified with him also insulted him.***

- M:** When it was the sixth hour, darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. At the ninth hour Jesus shouted with a loud voice, *“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”* which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
- W:** *When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah!”*
- P:** Someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. They said,
- M:** **“Leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down.”**
- P:** Jesus cried out with a loud voice and breathed his last. The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he cried out and breathed his last, he said,
- M:** **“Truly this man was the Son of God!”**
- W:** *There were also women watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and served him. Many other women also came up with him to Jerusalem.*
- P:** It was already evening, and since it was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath), Joseph from Arimathaea, a prominent member of the council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, boldly went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had been dead for a long time. When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he granted the body to Joseph. Joseph bought a linen cloth, took him down, and wrapped him in the linen cloth. He laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of rock, and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses were watching where the body was laid.
- P:** The Word of the Lord.
- All:** **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day 404

“Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing”



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing in your ho - ly
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion fas - ci - nate my
 3 If the world my heart en - tic - es with the broad and
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me by your wounds, Lord,
 5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, grant that in your



wounds I find, ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing pains of
 sin - ful mind, let me think a - bout your pas - sion, and new
 eas - y road, with se - duc - tive, sin - ful vic - es, let me
 is made whole; when I'm weak, your cross re - vives me, grant - ing
 death I trust, know - ing death has lost its pow - er since you



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
 cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
 weigh the aw - ful load you were will - ing to en - dure.
 new life to my soul. Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet
 crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let your ag - o - ny



tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, show the per - il,
 let me then be on my guard, say - ing, “Christ for
 Help me flee all thoughts im - pure, mas - ter - ing each
 ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; for your all - a -
 ev - er help and com - fort me; when I die be



and from sin - ning keep me ere its first be - gin - ning.
 me was wound - ed,” that the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
 wild temp - ta - tion, calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
 ton - ing pas - sion has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
 my pro - tec - tion, light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Sermon

Luke 23:26-34 (NIV)

God on Trial: Sympathy

²⁶ As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. ²⁸ Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰ Then “they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!””

³¹ For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Offering

Please stand

Prayer

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.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.
Amen.

Please be seated

Closing Hymn 397 v.1,2,5,7

“My Song Is Love Unknown”



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
5 They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made a -
7 Here might I stay and sing; no sto - ry so di -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
stow, but such dis - dain! So few the longed - for Christ would
way. A mur - der - er they save, the Prince of life they
vine, nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like



be. Oh, who am I that for my sake
know! But oh, my friend, my friend in - deed,
slay. Yet cheer - ful he to suf - f'ring goes
thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet praise



my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
who at my need his life did spend!
that he his foes from death might free.
I all my days could glad - ly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683, alt.

Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962

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You are invited to attend a special
Lenten Meal hosted by our
Ladies' Aid



MENU

Sloppy Joes

With various salads and desserts provided by our members!

There is a free-will offering to help offset the cost of the meal and to support our Ladies' Aid in their ministry. Donations may be given with cash/check at the meal or on our website and app.