# 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"



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

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Tune: Public domain

#### **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.

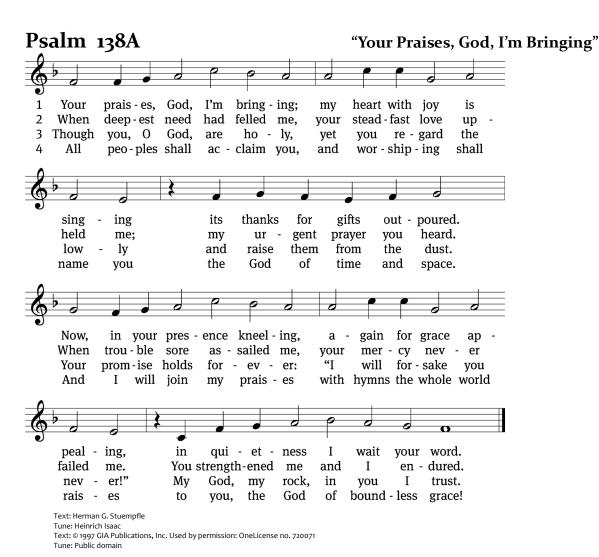
Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

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 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

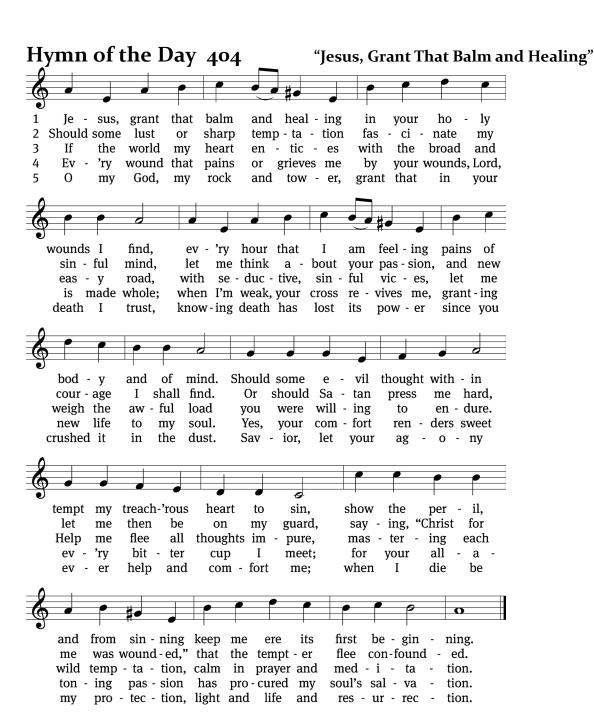
P: Pastor

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.



Sermon Luke 23:26-34 (NIV)

#### God on Trial: Sympathy

<sup>26</sup> 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. <sup>27</sup> A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. <sup>28</sup> Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup> 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!' <sup>30</sup> Then

"they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!"

- <sup>31</sup> For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"
- <sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup> 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. <sup>34</sup> 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"



Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683, alt. Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962 Text and tune: Public domain

Pastor: Paul Stratman, St. Stephen's, Beaver Dam

#### Organist: Dale Grulke

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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.