


Mid-Week Lenten Worship



GUIDED
to the
CROSS

Guided to Trust

March 6, 2024
7:00 PM

Grace Lutheran Church
327 Avenue C, SE
Winter Haven, FL 33880
863-293-8447 www.glwh.org



GUIDED *to the* CROSS

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The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15

*(*Indicates when congregation is to stand.)*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

*TOLLING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PROCESSIONAL

*INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: We place our trust in many things and in many people, yet often that trust is misplaced. Things do not work out as we planned, and people fail us.

People: **Where do we place our trust?**

Pastor: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths” (*Proverbs 3:5-6*).

People: **How do we know that the Lord can be trusted?**

Pastor: “He who did not spare His own Son but gave him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things? (*Romans 8:32*). God sent His own Son to suffer and die on the cross for the sake of our salvation. In Him, we place our trust, and He will never fail us.

People: **Lord, set the cross before us to guide us in trusting You.**

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Please kneel or be seated.)

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, and ask His forgiveness.

People: **Almighty God, You have called us to trust in You and to acknowledge You in all our ways. Yet we often fail to trust You as we should. We would rather acknowledge our own desires instead of Your will. We do not love others as we should. We follow the temptations of the world around us instead of walking in Your ways. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**

Pastor: The apostle Paul wrote, “The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners” (1 Timothy 1:15). God has had mercy on us and sent His Son to be our Savior. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: **Lord, lead us to walk in Your ways and to trust You in all things.**

***HYMN**

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

Hymn 611

(vv. 1, 2, 4 & 5)

**Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.**

**Oh, the height of Jesus’ love, Higher than the heav’ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.**

**Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.**

**O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

1 Timothy 1:15-17

¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 19:29-30

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. John, the nineteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁹A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

***GOSPEL HYMN**

"Not All the Blood of Beasts"

Hymn 431

**Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace Or wash away the stain.**

**But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb, Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.**

**My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand, And there confess my sin.**

**My soul looks back to see The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursèd tree; I know my guilt was there.**

**Believing, we rejoice To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice And sing His bleeding love.**

HOMILY

“Guided to the Cross: Guided to Trust”

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Create in Me”



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

*PRAYERS

Pastor: Lord God, in a world where it is hard to know in whom or in what we can trust, we place our trust in You. You always keep Your promises. Down through the centuries, the prophets announced Your promises to send Your Anointed One, the Messiah. When the time was right, that promise was fulfilled in Jesus. Our God and Savior, during this Lenten season,

People: **Set the cross of Jesus before us to guide us in the way of trust.**

Pastor: Lord God, as Jesus drew near to the hour of His death, He trusted in You, His heavenly Father, to guide His steps to the cross as the Scripture had foretold. We place our trust in Jesus alone for our salvation. Bless and guide us as we take up our crosses and follow our Savior. Our God and Savior, during this Lenten season,

People: **Set the cross of Jesus before us to guide us in the way of trust.**

Pastor: Lord God, help those who are struggling with illness, pain or grief, those we name now...and those we name in our hearts. Comfort them with the promises of Your Word and lead us to opportunities to serve them in Jesus' name. Our God and Savior, during this Lenten season,
People: Set the cross of Jesus before us to guide us in the way of trust.

Pastor: Lord God, help us by Your Spirit to depend on You each day, in all of the circumstances of our lives. Teach us not to rely on our own understanding, but to trust You in all things. We know that You will guide us. Our God and Savior, during this Lenten season,
People: Set the cross of Jesus before us to guide us in the way of trust.

Pastor: Lord God, as we rely on You for help now in this earthly life, we know that we can trust in You for our eternal salvation through faith in Jesus. Our Lord has promised, "Surely I am coming soon" (*Revelation 22:20*). We look forward to the fulfillment of that promise and to life in Your presence forever. Our God and Savior, during this Lenten season,
People: Set the cross of Jesus before us to guide us in the way of trust. Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION** (*Proverbs 3:5-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14*)

Pastor: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

People: In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

Hymn 729

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.**

**I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.**

**I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy By Thy blood.**

**I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.**

**I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.**

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever And for all.**

THE PARTICIPANTS

Preacher	The Rev. Chris Hazzard, Christ, Lakeland
Liturgist	The Rev. Brendon T. Moore
Organist	Sandy Hulse
Sound Technician	Rodney Steffen
Elder on Duty	Dennis Rick
Lector	Dan Trinklein
Greeters	Fred & Linda Aceto
Ushers	Nick Nicholson, Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker

CREDITS

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