

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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Did Crucifying Jesus Transform Caiaphas?

April 21, 2024

Today's Lay Reader: Carol McMahon

Welcome

Prelude

Canzona on "Liebster Jesu"

Richard Purvis

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Come from our sanctuary or from your home. Come at 11 AM on Sunday or any time during the week. Come whenever and wherever you are. Come! Worship is called in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: **We come, ready to go beyond the Easter Sunday message and learn what happened next.**

Leader: The early church was bold, courageous and active. It was clear, nothing could stop it!

People: **Killing Jesus didn't stop it. What would Caiaphas and the other religious leaders do next?**

Hymn

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

1. Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness;
 2. 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ hath burst his pris - on,
 3. Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4. Neith - er might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,
 5. "Al - le - lu - ia!" now we cry to our King im - mor - tal,

God hath brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;
 with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal;
 who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;

loosed from Phar - aoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
 all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
 but to - day a - midst the twelve thou didst stand, be - stow - ing
 "Al - le - lu - ia!" with the Son, God the Fa - ther prais - ing,

led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
 that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.
 "Al - le - lu - ia!" yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

***Opening Prayer**

Living Word, whose love abides in us, you call us to love in truth and action. Give courage to share the kind of radical love that Jesus shared. Open our ears to the wisdom of those you send to teach us, who might otherwise be dismissed. Transform our hearts to love all people over all the earth. Amen.

Special Service of Dedication

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Sunday School Singers God Gave Us a Special Book

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Hymn His Name Is Wonderful

His name is won-der-ful, his name is won-der-ful, his name is

Detailed description: This block contains the first line of musical notation for the hymn. It features a treble and bass clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides accompaniment. The lyrics are: "His name is won-der-ful, his name is won-der-ful, his name is".

won-der-ful, Je - sus, my Lord. He is the might-y King,

Detailed description: This block contains the second line of musical notation. The treble clef melody continues with the lyrics: "won-der-ful, Je - sus, my Lord. He is the might-y King,". The bass clef accompaniment continues. The key signature remains one flat and the time signature is 3/4.

Mas-ter of ev-ery-thing; his name is won-der-ful, Je-sus, my Lord.

Detailed description: This block contains the third line of musical notation. The treble clef melody concludes with the lyrics: "Mas-ter of ev-ery-thing; his name is won-der-ful, Je-sus, my Lord." The bass clef accompaniment concludes. The key signature remains one flat and the time signature is 3/4.

He's the great Shep-herd, the Rock of all a - ges, al - might - y

God is he; bow down be - fore him, love and a -

dore him, his name is won - der - ful, Je - sus, my Lord.

Senior Choir

Once Upon a Tree

Pepper Choplin

Scripture Lesson

Acts 4:1-22

While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them, much annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there is the resurrection of the dead. So they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who heard the word believed, and they numbered about five thousand.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of

Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. So they ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one another. They said, "What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard." After threatening them again, they let them go, finding no way to punish them because of the people, for all of them praised God for what had happened. For the man on whom this sign of healing had been performed was more than forty years old.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Message

*Did Crucifying Jesus
Transform Caiaphas?*

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

My Lord, What a Morning

Robert Thygerson

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn

Lift High the Cross

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Fine

Harmony

1. Come, Chris-tians, fol - low this tri-um-phant sign. The
2. Each new-born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears
3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo-rious tree, as
4. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: Praise

hosts of God in u - ni - ty com - bine.
 on the brow the seal of him who died.
 thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

D.C.

Benediction

Postlude

"Allegro" from Westminster Suite

Henry Purcell

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