

Three Words of Truth

Is it I?

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Bells

Opening Hymn

“Savior, When in Dust to You”
Hymn 124

Invocation

(Pastor/Congregation)

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faintheartedness and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. Like the disciples, I have boldly declared loyalty to you only to fail to proclaim your name; I have foolishly listened to the devil's lies only to be crushed with guilt and shame. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Psalm 51a

page 86 in the front of the hymnal

Psalm Prayer

M: Almighty and merciful Father, you freely forgive those who, as David of old, acknowledge and confess their sins. Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Passion History

In the Upper Room

Now The Feast of Unleavened Bread was approaching, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to arrest Jesus and kill him, “But not during the feast,” they said, “or the people may riot.” Jesus said to his disciples, “As you know, the Passover is two days away and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.” Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over. On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He replied, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” And while they were eating, he said, “I tell you the truth—one of you will betray me.” They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely not I, Lord?” Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.” His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, “Ask him which one he means.” Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?” Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. “What you are about to do, do

quickly,” Jesus told him, but no one at the meal understood why Jesus said this to him. Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the Feast, or to give something to the poor. As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night. When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, then God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” Simon Peter asked him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus replied, “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.” While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat, this is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father’s kingdom.” Also a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them are given the title Benefactor. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Response

M: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

Hymn

“Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night”
Hymn 136

Sermon Text

Matthew 26:20-25
²⁰When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. ²¹As they were eating, he said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me.” ²²They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?” ²³He replied, “The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man is going just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.” ²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, replied, “Surely, not I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “Yes, you are the one.”

“Is it I?”

Pastor Matthew Guse

Offering and Prayer

Words of Institution

Grade 2 in 3:30 service

“There is a Green Hill Far Away”
LAPPY 296

There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell, what pains he had to bear,
But we believe it was for us he hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiv’n, he died to make us good
That we might go at last to heav’n, saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin.
He only could unlock the gate of heav’n and let us in.

Distribution Hymns

“Jesus Sinners Does Receive”
Hymn 304

“My Song Is Love Unknown”
Hymn 110

Evening Prayer

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and of the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

Hymn 592

