

THE
SON OF GOD
GOES FORTH
TO WAR



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
LENT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
APRIL 1, 2020

THE WARRIOR - OUR SAVIOR FOR ETERNITY!

Welcome & Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

P: Dear Father in heaven, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening devotion. We thank you for providing all that we need for our bodies and lives. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins because of your undeserved, unconditional love. Speak to our hearts through your powerful Word. Dispel our sorrows and our fears with the comfort of your promises. Receive our prayers, our attentive meditation and our offerings as our thankful worship and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Passion History Reading 5 of 7

a compilation from the four gospels

“Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” With one voice they cried out to the governor: “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!” Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.

Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore, I will have him punished and then release him.”

But the Jews kept shouting: “If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar.”

When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge’s seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement. It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews: “Here is your king.”

But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!"

"Shall I crucify your king?" he asked.

They replied, "We have no king but Caesar."

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. He said: "I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your responsibility!"

But they replied, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!" Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him.

Then they led him out to crucify him.

As they 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. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say,

'Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then, 'they will say to the mountains: 'Fall on us!' and to the hills: 'Cover us!'"

'For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will they do when it is dry?'

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. They came to a place called Golgatha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. There they crucified him, along with the criminals – one on his right, the other on his left.

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate: "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews', but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews." Pilate answered: "What I have written, I have written."

Message from God's Word

John 6:66-68

"From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. 'You do not want to leave too, do you?' Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'"

You are a VIP (very important person) to Jesus...

1. Jesus is grieved by all who walk away from him;
2. Jesus is glorified by all who trust in him with a childlike faith;
3. Jesus gives eternal life through his Word.

Prayer of Thanks & Evening Prayer

P: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord: We pray for the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here; we pray for one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will.

(silent time for personal prayers for us and others)

P: Dear Father in heaven, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

God's Blessing

P: May the blessing of the eternal God be upon us: his light to guide us, his presence to shelter us, his peace to unite us, tonight and always – Amen!

*Offerings of worship may be given online at cocidaho.org/give.
You can also contact a staff member (secretary@cocidaho.org or 208-922-8422)
to schedule a time to bring your offering to church.*

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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Our Mission

Cross of Christ congregation exists to joyously proclaim the gospel of free salvation locally and worldwide. Through God's Word and Sacraments, we strive to win lost souls for Christ and nurture believers for lives of Christian service.



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