

Midweek Lenten Service

March 10, 2021



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

901 Cornwall Crescent

Dawson Creek, BC

AS WE GATHER

As we journey through this Lenten season and the days of Holy Week, we find Jesus teaching His disciples and the crowds. He warns them about the scribes and Pharisees, religious leaders of the time. Jesus says these leaders are hypocritical. They do not practice what they preach. They burden others with the heaviest forms of the law but refuse to do anything they command their hearers to do. Consider how different Jesus is from these leaders. When Jesus instructs us to love others, He shows us how, most especially in His willingness to go to the cross and die for us and our salvation.

HYMN # 430 – My Song is Love Unknown Vs 1,2,6,7

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: As we turn our eyes to Holy Week, we hear Jesus teaching about humility.

People: **He warns against the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees.**

Pastor: They put heavy burdens on others but refuse to carry those burdens themselves.

People: **They enjoy being noticed, exalted, and honored but refuse servanthood.**

Pastor: Jesus calls us to humbleness.

People: **Jesus calls us to serve.**

Pastor: Lord, grant that we repent of our hypocrisy

People: **and pick up our cross and follow Jesus.**

PSALM 55:1-8; 16-18; 22

¹ Give ear to my prayer, O God,
and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy!

² Attend to me, and answer me;
I am restless in my complaint and I moan,
³ because of the noise of the enemy,
because of the oppression of the wicked.

For they drop trouble upon me,
and in anger they bear a grudge against me.

⁴ My heart is in anguish within me;
the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

⁵ Fear and trembling come upon me,
and horror overwhelms me.

⁶ And I say, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove!
I would fly away and be at rest;

⁷ yes, I would wander far away;
I would lodge in the wilderness; *Selah*

⁸ I would hurry to find a shelter
from the raging wind and tempest."

¹⁶ But I call to God,
and the LORD will save me.

¹⁷ Evening and morning and at noon
I utter my complaint and moan,
and he hears my voice.

¹⁸ He redeems my soul in safety
from the battle that I wage,
for many are arrayed against me.

²² Cast your burden on the LORD,
and he will sustain you;
he will never permit
the righteous to be moved.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

READING *Philippians 2:1–11* (Following the example of humility set by Christ)

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

READING *Matthew 23:1–12* (Jesus warns about the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees.)

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN # 861 – Christ Be My Leader

COLLECTS

Pastor: O Lord, hear my prayer.

People: And let my cry come to You.

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by Your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's passion that we may obtain the forgiveness of our sins;
Lord in Your mercy.

People: Hear our Prayer

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You warned us about the danger of hypocritical religious leaders and the necessity of humility. Help us to follow Your example of humble obedience that we may be servants for all our days, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

**People: 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.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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

People: Amen.

HYMN #560 - “Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.
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