



**The
Hands
of the
Passion**



MIDWEEK LENT 6

March 24, 2021



Welcome!

The members of Saint Peter Lutheran Church welcome you! If you have no church of your own, we encourage you to worship with us again and consider making this church your home.

THE SEASON OF LENT The word Lent comes from an Old English word for spring (“lengthen,” spring is when the days grow longer). For the last 1700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of special preparation. While it is a time of repentance and renewal, our 40 days of Lent are lived in the certain hope of the resurrection.

TODAY’S THEME *Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate)*
Some hands in the passion story are cleaner than others. Pilate’s were clean on the outside, as he tried to wash himself of his responsibility. But, it is not for nothing we confess, “He was crucified *under Pontius Pilate.*”

Saint Peter Lutheran Church

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Public Worship	Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays at 4:30 & 6:30 p.m. (During Advent and Lent)
Online streamed services	Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.
Serving Today:	Preacher — Pr. Jack Kelly Liturgist — Pr. Justin Heise Organ/piano — Jennie Boeder A/V Technician — Steve Willett

THE HANDS OF THE PASSION

Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate)

OPENING HYMN

“I Gave My Life for Thee”

Christian Worship #454



1 I gave my life for thee; My pre - cious
2 My Fa - ther's home of light, My rain - bow -
3 I spent long years for thee In wea - ri -
4 I suf - fered much for thee, More than my
5 And I have brought to thee Down from my



blood I shed That thou might'st ran - somed be
cir - cled throne, I left for earth - ly night,
ness and woe That an e - ter - ni - ty
tongue may tell, Of bit - t'rest ag - o - ny,
home a - bove Sal - va - tion full and free,



And quick - ened from the dead. I gave my
For wan - d'rings sad and lone. I left it
Of joy thou might - est know. I spent long
To res - cue thee from hell. I suf - fered
My par - don and my love. Great gifts I



life for thee; Come, give thy - self to me!
all for thee; Come now and fol - low me!
years for thee; Come, spend thy years for me.
much for thee; Come, bear thy cross with me.
brought for thee; Come, bring thy gifts to me.

6 Oh, let thy life be spent,
Thy years for me be giv'n,
As I for thee was sent
To bear thee home to heav'n.
I gave my life for thee;
Come, give thy life to me.

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

C: Amen.

M: This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:

C: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

M: If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,

C: We lie and do not live by the truth.

M: If we claim to be without sin,

C: We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of the Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.

Silence for private confession.

M: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER

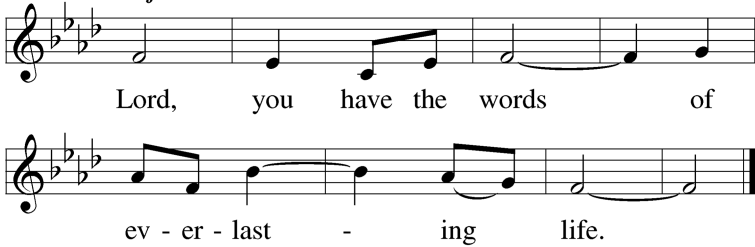
M: O Lord, your Word is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. Guide our footsteps by your Word so that we may remain steadfast in faith, love you with all our hearts, and love our neighbor as ourselves.

Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PSALM 119B

Refrain



Lord, you have the words of
ev - er - last - ing life.

Psalm tone



*

Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees;*
then I will keep them to the end.
Give me understanding, and I will keep your law*
and obey it with all my heart.
Direct me in the path of your commands,*
for there I find delight.

Refrain

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;*
preserve my life according to your Word.
Fulfill your promise to your servant,*
so that you may be feared.
How I long for your precepts!*
Preserve my life in your righteousness.

**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.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
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PSALM PRAYER

P: O Father, we are laid low in the dust; preserve us according to your word. Teach us your decrees. Cause us to understand the way of your Son, that we may meditate on your wonderful deeds. When our souls are weary with sorrow, strengthen us according to your Word. Keep us from deceitful ways; be gracious to me and guide us by your law. We have chosen the way of faithfulness; we have set our hearts on your Word. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

VIDEO ANTHEM

Grades 4-5

“Yet Not I, but through Christ In Me”

PASSION READING

Mark 15:16-47

Death and Burial

¹⁶The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. ¹⁷They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. ¹⁸And they began to call out to him, “Hail, king of the Jews!” ¹⁹Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. ²⁰And 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.

²¹A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. ²²They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). ²³Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get.

²⁵It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS.

²⁷They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by hurled insults at him,

shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days,³⁰ come down from the cross and save yourself!”³¹ In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself!”³² Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe.” Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

³³ At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.³⁴ And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).

³⁵ When some of those standing near heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah.”

³⁶ Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down,” he said.

³⁷ With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

³⁸ The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.³⁹ And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”

⁴⁰ Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome.⁴¹ In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

⁴² It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached,⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body.⁴⁴ Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died.⁴⁵ When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph.⁴⁶ So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

SEASONAL RESPONSE

All: 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 OF THE DAY

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Christian Worship #110, v. 1-4



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew his way And his sweet prais - es
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and
5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might
stow, But such dis - dain! So few The longed - for
sing, Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas
spite? He made the lame to run; He gave the
way. A mur - der - er they save; The Prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my
Christ would know! But oh, my friend, My friend in -
to blind their King. Then “Cru - ci - fy!” Is all their
life they slay. Yet cheer - ful he To suff’r - ing



sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
deed, Who at my need His life did spend!
breath, And for his death They thirst and cry.
these Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst him rise.
goes That he his foes From death might free.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust.
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SERMON

“Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate)”

Text: Matthew 27:15-26

¹⁵ Now it was the governor’s custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. ¹⁶ At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷ So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, “Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” ¹⁸ For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him.

¹⁹ While Pilate was sitting on the judge’s seat, his wife sent him this message: “Don’t have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him.”

²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed.

²¹ “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked the governor.

“Barabbas,” they answered.

²² “What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” Pilate asked.

They all answered, “Crucify him!”

²³ “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

²⁴ 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. “I am innocent of this man’s blood,” he said. “It is your responsibility!”

²⁵ All the people answered, “His blood is on us and on our children!”

²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

OFFERING

The members of Saint Peter Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. May God bless us as we do his work! Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry. To give an offering with your smartphone, text "givesplc" to 77977 and click on the link that you receive. Offerings can be given by credit card, debit card, or your bank account. They can also be mailed to our building.

INTERCESSIONS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

EVENING PRAYER

P: 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: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“O Trinity, Most Blessed Light ”

Christian Worship #591



1 O Trin - i - ty, most bless - ed light, O U - ni -
2 To you our morn - ing song of praise, To you our
3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be And to the

ty of sov - 'reign might, As now the fi - ery sun de -
eve - ning prayer we raise; May we your glo - ry ev - er -
Son e - ter - nal - ly, Whom with the Spir - it we a -

parts, Oh, shine your light in - to our hearts.
more In low - ly rev - er - ence a - dore.
dore For - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

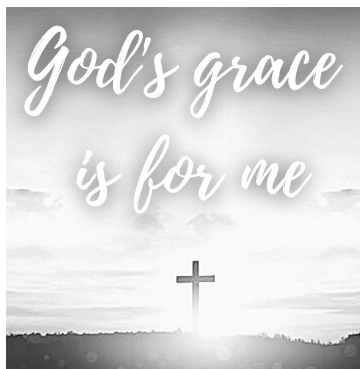
Text: attr. St. Ambrose, 340–97; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: O HEILIGE DREIFALTIGKEIT (LM) Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, alt.

Sunday Worship During Lent 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Our Sunday morning messages in Lent will walk through a key chapter in Paul's letter to the Romans. Romans 8 is written for believers—believers who hurt, believers who cry, believers ready to give up, believers about to die, believers who doubt, believers who worry, believers who struggle,

believers who feel they are nothing but “sheep to be slaughtered.” **Romans 8 is written for you and me.** Join us on Sundays in Lent as Romans 8 presents this most personal truth: ***God's grace is for me.***



March 28, Palm Sunday | Our King Comes to Us in Humility

Pastor Justin Heise

Service Notes

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