

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church

“His Final Steps Led to a Tomb”

A Series of Special Services for Lent

Midweek 4

March 15, 2023



Welcome to all who gather to worship the Lord this day!



You've probably heard this question before: "Would you want to know the time, place, and way in which you are going to die?" As a pastor, I'd suggest you should have a ready to go, "Absolutely not!" answer. Why? Because if we were to know when and where we were going to die, we would live differently, and probably not for the better. We'd give into temptations that "aren't going to kill us," and we'd fail to do a lot of the good that God has called us to! All of which makes Jesus' journey through **his final steps** that much more amazing. He knew exactly what was ahead for him, yet his selfless

love for you and me pushed him forward through **his final steps**. May God bless you on this pilgrimage of faith through our Lenten midweek services to have your path enlightened by His Word!

Call to Worship (7:00) "There Is a Redeemer" - PLS 7-8 Handbells

Welcome

Opening Song: "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" #435

Invocation

P *In the name of the Father and of the ~~F~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C Amen.

P *This is the day which the Lord has made;*

C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P *From the rising of the sun to its setting,*

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P *Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,*

C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

P *Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,*

C **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

P *Christ was wounded for our transgressions.*

C **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

P *From the rising of the sun to its setting,*

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

C **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.**

Confession and Absolution

P *Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

P *Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P *I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,*

C **and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P *Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P *Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ~~F~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Collect of the Day

P *Let us pray. When I was in the pit of despair, Lord, you lifted me out. Though your anger blazed down on me because of my sin, you sent your Son to take the brunt of your anger so that I might be spared. Now I rejoice in the splendor of your grace and proclaim your saving deeds to those who will yet praise you as their only Savior. Amen.*

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 59:12-20

¹²For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities: ¹³transgressing, and denying the

LORD, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words. ¹⁴Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. ¹⁵Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice. ¹⁶He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him. ¹⁷He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak. ¹⁸According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies; to the coastlands he will render repayment. ¹⁹So they shall fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the Lord drives. ²⁰“And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the LORD.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

⁸For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. ⁹As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. ¹⁰For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. ¹¹For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter. ¹²So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God. ¹³Therefore we are comforted.

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-6,16-21

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was... ¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” ¹⁷Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

+ Sermon & Prayers +

Sermon Hymn: “Jesus, Lead Thou On” #718

Sermon: “His Final Steps Led to a Tomb” by *Pastor Larry Yaw*

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

P *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.*

... Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P *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.*

C **Amen.**

Offering: “*Coins for Christ*” is an important part of the Mission funding at Pilgrim. Through this program all loose coins in the offering plate are donated to a mission project. During March, “Coins for Christ” is supporting **Lutheran Heritage Foundation.**

Offering - *The offering is received near the sanctuary doors.*

+ Celebration of the Lord’s Supper +

Preface

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Lift up your hearts.*

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P *Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P *O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

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.**

Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C **And also with you.**

Communion Hymns: (8:30) "The Miracle" - 5-8 Choir

"Jesus Comes Today With Healing" #620

"Thanks to Thee, O Christ Victorious" #548

Communion Blessing & Dismissal

Post-Communion Prayer:

P *Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

Benediction

P *The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.*

C **Amen.**

P *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

Closing Song: "There Is a Redeemer"

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain: Thank You, O my Father, For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Hope for sinners slain. *Refrain*

When I stand in glory, I will see His face;
There I'll serve my King forever In that holy place. *Refrain*

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Lent 2023 Schedule

Services at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm

Soup suppers begin at 5:30 pm

3/15—Pastor Yaw, St. John's-Pulaski

3/22—Pastor Wangelin, Zion-Wayside

3/29—Pastor Baye, Hope-De Pere



*St. John Pulaski
and His cross at the*

by confessing that it is "All about Jesus for you, and all about Jesus through you." By making Jesus for you known personally in Word and Sacrament, Jesus comes to his people to forgive, renew, restore, and equip His people with His blessings. Pastor Yaw has been serving St. John's Pulaski since 2012, and has been in ministry for 16 years. He's grateful to God that he has been able to perform over 100 baptisms in his time at St. John. Originally from Ohio, Pastor Yaw went to Concordia River Forest (now Chicago), and received his first Call as Pastor to St. Paul Rockford, where Pastor Malme served prior to coming to Pilgrim. Another Pilgrim connection? Mr. Duane Longmire, retired Pilgrim teacher, was Pastor Yaw's football and basketball coach in Ohio, and both Duane and Keri Longmire taught him when he was in grade school.

*keeps Jesus Christ
center of all they do*