



The Hands of the Passion

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
March 3, 2021

The Hands of the Passion

Hands of Misguided Zeal

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Bells

Opening Hymn

Jesus! and Shall it Ever Be | **Hymn 347**

Jesus! and shall it ever be A mortal man ashamed of thee?
Ashamed of thee, whom angels praise, Whose glories shine through endless days?

Ashamed of Jesus? Just as soon Let midnight be ashamed of noon.
'Tis midnight with my soul till he, Bright Morning Star, bids darkness flee.

Ashamed of Jesus, that dear friend On whom my hopes of heav'n depend?
No; when I blush, be this my shame, That I no more revere his name.

Ashamed of Jesus? Yes, I may When I've no guilt to wash away,
No tear to wipe, no good to crave, No fear to quell, no soul to save.

Till then-nor is my boasting vain-Till then I boast a Savior slain;
And oh, may this my glory be: That Christ is not ashamed of me.

Invocation

(Pastor/Congregation)

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: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalm 38

O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger **or discipline me in your wrath.** For your arrows have pierced me, **and your hand has come down upon me.** Because of your wrath there is no health in my body; **my bones have no soundness because of my sin.** My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear. **My wounds fester and are loathsome because of my sinful folly.** I am bowed down and brought very low; **all day long I go about mourning.** My back is filled with searing pain; **there is no health in my body.** I am feeble and utterly crushed; **I groan in anguish of heart.** All my longings lie open before you, O Lord; **my sighing is not hidden from you.** My heart pounds, my strength fails me; **even the light has gone from my eyes.** For I am about to fall, **and my pain is ever with me.** I confess my iniquity; **I am troubled by my sin.** O LORD, do not forsake me; be not far from me, O my God. **Come quickly to help me, O Lord my Savior.**

Hymn

Wondrous Are Your Ways, O God | Hymn 307 v 2

Search me, God, and know my heart, Lord of truth and mercy.
From afar, O Lord, you know All my thoughts, my secrets.
And if any wicked way Should be found within me,
Cleanse, forgive me by your grace; By your Spirit guide me.

Psalm Prayer

M: Lord our God, you did not forget the pierced body of your Son and his sighing was not hidden from you. In your kindness look also on us, your children, weighed down with sins, and grant us the fullness of your mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

The Passion History

Trial and Denial

Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials bound Jesus and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there, and brought Peter in. It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself. Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in the synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said." When Jesus had said this, one of the officials nearby struck him in the face. "Is that any way to answer the high priest?" he demanded. "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "speak up about it. But if I spoke the truth, why did you hit me?" Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas, the high priest. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this man-made temple and in three days will build another, not made by man!' Yet even then their testimony did not agree." Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" But Jesus remained silent and gave him no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?" "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" They all condemned him as worthy of death. Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophecy! Who hit you?"

And the guards took him and beat him. While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. “You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,” she said. But he denied it. “I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway. Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “This fellow is one of them.” Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” One of the high priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, “Didn’t I see you with him in the olive grove?” Then he began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.” Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly. Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. When Judas, who betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. “I have sinned,” he said, “for I have betrayed innocent blood.” “What is that to us?” they replied, “That’s your responsibility.” So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself. The chief priests picked up the coins and said, “It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money.” So they decided to use the money to buy the potter’s field as a burial place for foreigners. That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: “They took the thirty silver coins, the price set on him by the people of Israel, and they used them to buy the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”

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

In the Hour of Trial | Hymn 116

In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me
Lest by base denial I unworthy be.
When you see me waver, With a look recall,
Nor for fear or favor Ever let me fall.

With forbidden pleasures Should this vain world charm
Or its tempting treasures Spread to work me harm,
Bring to my remembrance Sad Gethsemane
Or, in darker semblance, Cross-crowned Calvary.

Should your mercy send me Sorrow, toil, and woe,
Or should pain attend me On my path below,
Grant that I may never Fail your cross to view;
Grant that I may ever Cast my care on you.

When my life is ending, Though in grief or pain,
When my body changes Back to dust again,
On your truth relying, Through that mortal strife,
Jesus, take me, dying, To eternal life.

Sermon Text

John 18:4-11

⁴Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who are you looking for?” ⁵“Jesus the Nazarene,” they replied. “I am he,” Jesus told them. Judas, the betrayer, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus told them, “I am he,” they backed away and fell to the ground. ⁷Then Jesus asked them again, “Who are you looking for?” “Jesus the Nazarene,” they said. ⁸“I told you that I am he,” Jesus replied. “So if you are looking for me, let these men go.” ⁹This was to fulfill the statement he had spoken: “I did not lose any of those you have given me.” ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. ¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath. Shall I not drink the cup my Father has given me?”

“Hands of Misguided Zeal”

Pastor Barenz

Presenting of Our Offering

“Peter’s Denial”

By Mary Dorn Lippert

I do not know the man; I don’t care who this person is,
I never saw the man, so if you think I’m one of His,
you are mistaken, and, I’ll tell you once again, I do not know the man!
I swear to God that I am innocent of what is going on
I only came because I felt the cold and here the fire is warm.
I’m just a fisherman, who lives beside the sea,
What is a Jew who calls Himself a king to me?

He comes from Galilee; There are a lot of people who have
come from Galilee, and even though I'm from there, too,
what does He mean to me? I've told you all I can.

I do not know the man!

Upon a courtyard wall the morning sunrise cast
a crimson glow; And silhouetted on the wall a rooster
then began to crow. When Peter turned and wept,
for faith he had not kept, Repentant tears
were shed for all the times he said,

I do not know the man; I don't care who this person is,
I never saw the man, so if you think I'm one of His,
you are mistaken, and, I'll tell you once again,

I do not know the man! I do not know the man! I do not know the man!

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Evening Prayer

M: All praise to you, our God, this night for all the blessings of the light. Keep us,
yes, keep us, King of kings beneath your own almighty wings. Forgive us, Lord,
through your dear Son for sins that we this day have done, that as we sleep, peace
we would hold with all, with you, within our souls.

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 | **Hymn 591**

O Trinity, most blessed light, O Unity of sov'reign might,
As now the fiery sun departs, Oh, shine your light into our hearts.

To you our morning song of praise, To you our evening prayer we raise;
May we your glory evermore In lowly reverence adore.

All praise to God the Father be And to the Son eternally,
Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore.