

March 30, 2022

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

God writes His Word on our Lives, building us into a Family engaged in Spirit-filled Service.



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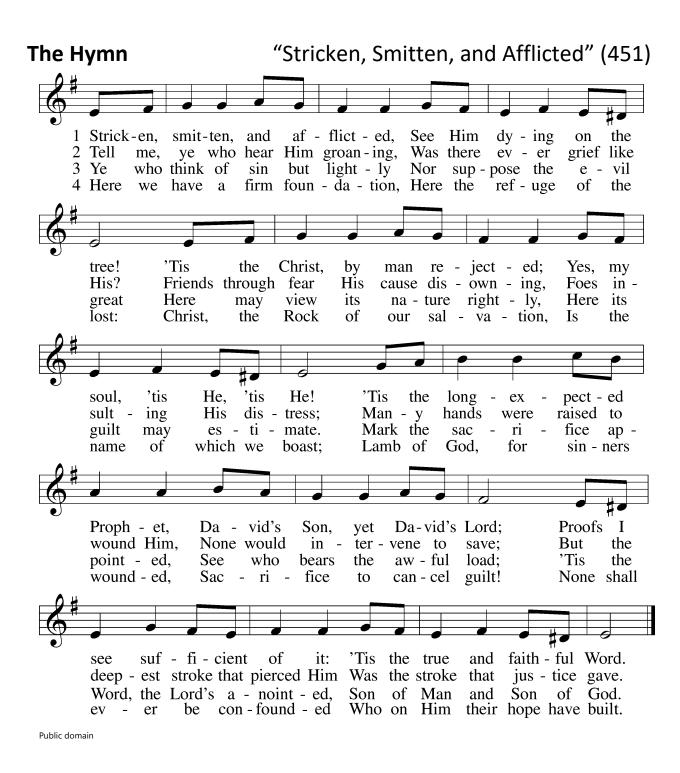
Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are available from the ushers

BARABBAS

Barabbas was a heartless, brutal criminal with anger in his heart and blood on his hands. Custom dictated that Pontius Pilate should release one prisoner at the feast of Passover. Pilate knows Jesus is innocent and tries to get the crowd to ask for Jesus' release, but the crowd calls instead for Barabbas. The crowd condemns the innocent Jesus and demands that the guilty Barabbas receive a pardon. We are Barabbas. We are guilty and sinful and deserving of death. But we are also Barabbas in that Jesus takes our place, takes our punishment, and sets us free.

Opening Sentences

- P O Lord, open my lips,
- C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C make haste to help me, O Lord.



The First Reading

Zechariah 9:11-12

 ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of My covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The New Testament Reading

¹⁵Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

The Gospel Reading

³³So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about Me?" ³⁵Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You over to me. What have You done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But My kingdom is not from the world." ³⁷Then Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice." ³⁸Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in Him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

2 Corinthians 3:15-18

John 18:33-40

The Lenten Responses

- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (528 v 1-5) The Hymn 1 Oh, for thou sand tongues sing My a to 2 My gra cious Mas and God, As _ ter my 3 Je That sus! The name that charms our fears, 4 He breaks pow'r of celed sin; He the can -5 Look Him. Your un to ye na tions; own O Re - deem - er's praise, The of great glo ries my sist claim, То spread through all the me to pro -'Tis bids in the our sor - rows cease; mu sic blood sets the pris - 'ner free. His can make the fall - en God, Look and be saved through ye race. ο The God and King, tri - umphs of His grace! The earth broad, hon - ors of Thy a name. 'Tis life health sin ner's ears, and and peace. foul _ est clean; His blood a _ vails for me. Be jus - ti fied faith a lone, by grace.

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The Message

The Prayers

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

- P O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C And let my cry come to You.
- P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

- P O Lord, when the guilty was chosen instead of Your Son and He went to the cross, we saw both the depth of our sin and the greatness of Your mercy. Deliver us from every pride and arrogance that in humility of faith and repentance we may abide in Christ and He in us all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- P God, the strength of the weak and the consolation of all who put their trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers on behalf of Your servants, [*especially* . . .], that by Your power their sickness may be turned to health according to Your good and gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- 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.
- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.

