

April 6, 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

## PONTIUS PILATE

Pontius Pilate, a witness to Christ, consented to order Jesus' execution. Pilate may wash his hands and proclaim his own innocence in the death of Jesus, but Pilate is guilty. Pilate is caught between a rock and a hard place. Instead of doing what is right, Pilate has Jesus' flesh ripped, shredded, dressed in purple, and crowned with thorns. His hard heart is complicit in the death of Christ. While it may be an uncomfortable thought, Pilate's failures make us examine our own complicity in the evil of others. How have we deceived ourselves in proclaiming innocence? How have we been pressured into allowing evil to occur? Thanks be to God that our journey to the cross shows us Jesus' forgiveness.

### Opening Sentences

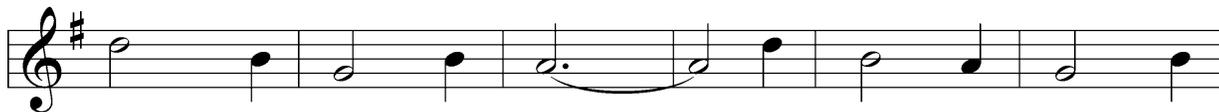
- P O Lord, open my lips,  
C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**  
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

## The Hymn

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” ( 437)



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And  
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He  
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And  
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While  
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that  
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,  
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y  
His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in  
debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?  
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!  
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.  
thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.  
self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

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## The First Reading

*Ezekiel 11:17-21*

<sup>17</sup>“Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.’ <sup>18</sup>And when they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. <sup>19</sup>And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, <sup>20</sup>that they may walk in My statutes and keep My rules and obey them. And they shall be My people, and I will be their God. <sup>21</sup>But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, declares the Lord GOD.”

## The New Testament Reading

*2 Corinthians 4:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

## The Gospel Reading

*John 19:1-16*

<sup>1</sup>Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged Him. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head and arrayed Him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They came up to Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck Him with their hands. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing Him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in Him." <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" <sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him." <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law He ought to die because He has made Himself the Son of God." <sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>So Pilate said to Him, "You will not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You and authority to crucify You?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over Me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered Me over to you has the greater sin."

<sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." <sup>13</sup>So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus

out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" <sup>15</sup>They cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." <sup>16</sup>So he delivered Him over to them to be crucified.

## 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.**

The Hymn

“No Tramp of Soldier’s Marching Feet” ( 444)



1 No tramp of sol - diers' march - ing feet  
 2 And yet He comes. The chil - dren cheer;  
 3 What fad - ing flow'rs His road a - dorn;  
 4 Now He who bore for mor - tals' sake



With ban - ners and with drums, No sound of mu - sic's  
 With palms His path is strown. With ev - 'ry step the  
 The palms, how soon laid down! No bloom or leaf but  
 The cross and all its pains And chose a ser - vant's



mar - tial beat: “The King of glo - ry comes!”  
 cross draws near: The King of glo - ry's throne.  
 on - ly thorn The King of glo - ry's crown.  
 form to take, The King of glo - ry reigns.



To greet what pomp of king - ly pride  
 A - stride a colt He pass - es by  
 The sol - diers mock, the rab - ble cries,  
 Ho - san - na to the Sav - ior's name



No bells in tri - umph ring, No cit - y gates swing  
 As loud ho - san - nas ring, Or else the ver - y  
 The streets with tu - mult ring, As Pi - late to the  
 Till heav - en's raf - ters ring, And all the ran - somed



o - pen wide: “Be - hold, be - hold your King!”  
 stones would cry “Be - hold, be - hold your King!”  
 mob re - plies, “Be - hold, be - hold your King!”  
 host pro - claim “Be - hold, be - hold your King!”

## 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 O Lord God, by the example of Your blessed Son, grant us grace to accept patiently the suffering of this present time. Until we receive the full revelation of Your glory and full relief from all our afflictions, sustain us by Your healing grace through every trial. Hear us [*especially for . . . and*] for all in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Lord Jesus, though ruthless Pontius Pilate declared Your innocence before the crowds, You who knew no sin became sin for us. Grant that the shame You bore for us on the cross give us the greatest honor so that we might always see that only in suffering can we behold who You truly are, our glorious King

and Savior; for You live and reign with the Father 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.**

## The Hymn

“On My Heart Imprint Your Image” 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!