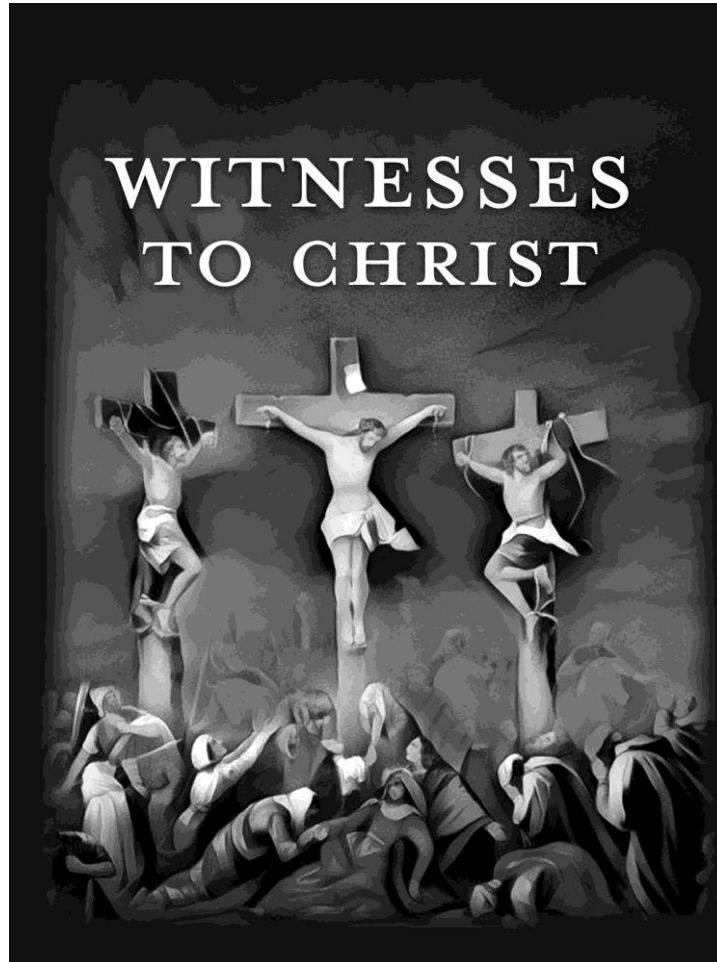


# THE FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

April 6, 2022 12:15pm & 6:30pm



## Pontius Pilate

### As We Gather

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.

## Call to Worship

### Prelude

### Welcome

#912

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

### Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

### Opening Sentences

P As we continue our Lenten journey, we meet the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate.

C **Pilate condemns Jesus to death by crucifixion.**

P Pilate tries to release Jesus,

C **but the crowds demand Barabbas.**

P Pilate washes his hands of Jesus' blood,

C **but Pilate is still guilty. Pilate caves to blackmail.**

P Pilate cares more about keeping his position

C **than he does about executing an innocent man.**

### Confession and Absolution

P Pilate can proclaim his own innocence and justify himself all he wants. He is still guilty. He is still a selfish sinner with a hardened heart who is complicit in the death of not only an innocent man, but of the sinless Son of God. We might be tempted to point a finger at Pilate to justify ourselves, but truth be told, we, too, struggle with hardened hearts. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him with repentant hearts and seek His forgiveness. Together we confess:

C **Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You in what we have done and in all that we have failed to do. 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. We do not seek to wash our hands of these sins, Lord, but we seek Your forgiveness. We seek Your washing and renewal through the blood of Christ.**

P Almighty God, in His grace and mercy, has given His only Son, Jesus, to die and rise for our forgiveness and our salvation. As a called and ordained servant of our crucified and risen Lord, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. We are washed clean and forgiven by the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ!**

P The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, the eleventh chapter.

<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.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

*Psalm 26*

P Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

**C Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind.**

P For Your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in Your faithfulness.

**C I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.**

P I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

**C I wash my hands in innocence and go around Your altar, O LORD,**

P proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all Your wondrous deeds.

**C O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

**C in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

P But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

**C My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD. 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.**

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 4:1–6*

P The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, the fourth chapter.

<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.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*John 19:1–16*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the nineteenth chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

#571

God Loved the World So That He

Gave

*sts. 1–4*

Sermon

*Witness to Christ: Pontius Pilate*

Card Collection

Prayers

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.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

# To God Be the Glory



1 To God be the glo - ry, great things He has done, So  
 2 To God be the glo - ry, great mer - cy He's shown: He  
 3 To God be the glo - ry, His Word is great truth, In -  
 4 To God be the glo - ry, His great - ness di - vine Now  
 5 To God be the glo - ry, great things He has done, Our



loved He the world that He gave us His Son. Who  
 saved us and cleansed us and made us His own; Re -  
 struct - ing and guid - ing since days of our youth: The  
 of - fers for - give - ness with bread and with wine, And  
 lives have been touched by the light of His Son— Called



yield - ed His life an a - tone-ment for sin And  
 newed by the Spir - it, re - born from a - bove, That  
 Law to re - prove, to cor - rect, and to train; The  
 fed by His bod - y and blood in this place, We  
 out of the dark - ness of death and de - spair; Made



o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 we might be jus - ti - fied by His rich love!  
 Gos - pel to com - fort, to heal and sus - tain.  
 taste and we see the Lord's won - der - ful grace!  
 priests in His king - dom, His deeds to de - clare.

## Refrain



1-4 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His  
 5 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His



voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re -  
 voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re -



joice! O come to the Fa - ther, through Je - sus the  
 joice! Sing praise to the Fa - ther, sing praise to the



Son, And give Him the glo - ry, great things He has done!  
 Son, Sing praise to the Spir - it— our God, Three in One!

## St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)

901 West Jefferson Avenue  
Effingham, IL 62401

**Phone:** (217) 342-4334

**Christian Education:** Sun. 9:15am

**E-mail:** office@stjohnsLCMS.net

**Website:** stjohsLCMS.net

**Preschool Website:** eaglesnestpreschool.com

**Services:** Sat. 5:30pm – Sun. 8:00am & 10:30am

*“A Fellowship of Hope, Teaching, Serving, and Proclaiming”*

Mike Burdick, Sr. Pastor Gary Fortkamp, Visitation Pastor Sandy Esker, Preschool Director

Organists: Jerry Starner & Jamie Lotz

Elders: Jim Schroeder & Gayland Bourland

Acolyte: Reese Wendling

### Worship with us

5:30 pm Saturday 8:00 & 10:30am Sunday

### Maundy Thursday w/Holy Communion

April 14 at 12:15pm and 6:30pm

*Judas Iscariot, John 13:21–30*

### Good Friday

April 15 at 12:15pm and 6:30pm

*John, the Gospel Writer, John 19:25–37*

### The Resurrection of Our Lord w/Holy Communion

April 17 at 6:00am, 8:00am, and 10:30am

*Mary Magdalene, John 20:1–18*

### Acknowledgments

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