

Jesus Condemned

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

03/22/2026

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

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

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

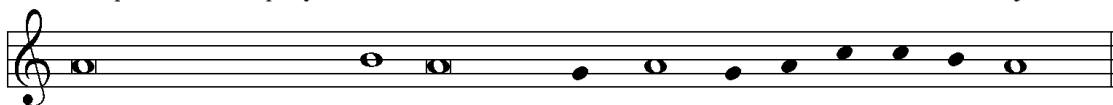
GATHERING HYMN: ELW#337 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**



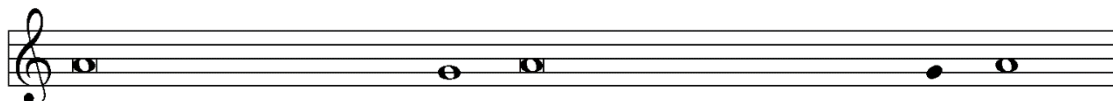
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



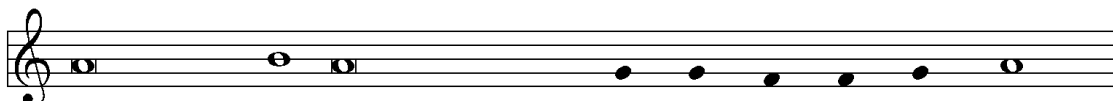
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

PSALM 70

L ¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

C ²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

L ³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.

C ⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the Lord!"**

L ⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

C **You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.**

JOHN 19:1-16a

L A reading from John: ¹Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple

robe. ³They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

⁸Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." ¹²From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar."

¹³When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY [ELW#351 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"](#)

SERMON: [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

PASTOR GREG'S CONTEXT-O-METER FOR THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

**WE ARE
HERE**

Prologue: The Word Made Flesh	1:1-18
The Book of Signs: Jesus' Public Ministry	1:19-12:50
The Book of Glory: Jesus' Final Hours	13:1-20:31
Epilogue: The Risen Lord and His Church	21:1-25

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

L Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

L We pray for the church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name. Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness, hope, and love. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up, prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters, and sustain places where biodiversity thrives. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L We pray for the nations. Unbind leaders trapped by fear to act boldly for justice, free all who live in places of war and violence, and guide refugees and asylum seekers to safety. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick. We pray for Barbara Ash, Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Bob Hardy, Mark Hughes, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L For whom or what else shall we pray?

- *For peace and reconciliation among the nations, especially in Iran, Lebanon, Gaza, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Venezuela...*
- *For families of those killed in airstrikes at rehab center in Afghanistan...*
- *For University of Kent students, staff, and families facing a meningitis outbreak...*
- *For extreme heat across areas of the United States...*
- *For all impacted by natural disasters, especially those facing historic wildfires in Nebraska...*
- *For the energy crisis and blackouts in Cuba...*
- *For communities grieving violence, especially Old Dominion University in Virginia and Temple Israel in Michigan...*
- *For TSA workers and airport travelers...*
- *For all immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers...*
- *For all affected by rising fuel and food costs and access...*

L We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save, and bring us up from our graves to life in you. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C **Amen**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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 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**

SENDING HYMN: [ELW#325 “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”](#)

P Go in peace. Love and serve God and neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Offering to be sent to
Robert Brackbill
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
9122 Sybert Drive
Columbia Hills
Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291

Announcements

- Wednesdays in Lent, 6 pm Soup and Bread Supper, followed by Lenten devotion
- April 2, 2026, 7:00 pm, Maundy Thursday – Holy Week Service
- April 5, 2026, 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service, Broadway Pier, Fells Point
- April 5, 2026, 9:30 am Easter Sunday Service, Epiphany

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Date	Day	Theme	Text	Leader(s)
Mar 22	Lent 5	Jesus Condemned	John 19:1-16a	Monica
Mar 29	Palm Sunday	Triumphal Entry	John 12:12-16	Pastor Greg

		Crucified Messiah	John 19:16b-22	
April 2	Holy Week	Jesus' Last Words	John 19:23-42	Pastor Greg
April 5	Easter	Resurrection	John 20:1-18	Heidi and Bob
April 12	Easter 2	Thomas	John 20:19-31	Julie and Dave
April 19	Easter 3	Paul's Conversion	Acts 9:1-19a	Ron
April 26	Easter 4	Paul and Silas	Acts 16:16-34	Monica
May 3	Easter 5	Paul's Sermon at Athens	Acts 17:16-31	Heidi and Bob
May 10	Easter 6	Partnership in the Gospel	Phil 1:1-18a	Julie and Dave
May 17	Easter 7	The Christ Hymn	Phil 2:1-13	Ron
May 24	Pentecost	Day of Pentecost Rejoice in the Lord	Acts 2:1-21 Phil 4:4-7	Monica

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