



Shocking Repentance in Nineveh

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Seymour, Indiana
March 15, 2023**

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

March 15, 2023

Welcome to Worship! Jonah is the John 3:16 of the Old Testament! In the book of Jonah, God reveals his unfathomable love for all people, not just the neat and clean and those who have it all together, but the sinful, the vile, and wicked. And because of this, Jonah helps us to see the very heart of God. No sinner is too far gone for God to seek their salvation. The same God who is willing to stoop down and save Nineveh and Jonah, is the same God who stoops down to save you!

Welcome to the Lutheran Men's Chorus, who sings for us in the 7:00 p.m. service.

+++ Service of Prayer & Preaching, Page 260 +++

THE PRELUDE: 4:30 "Adagio from Organ Concerto IV" -G.F. Handel

7:00 "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"

THE OPENING HYMN: "The Law of God Is Good and Wise" **Hymn 579**

- 1 The Law of God is good and wise And sets His will before our eyes,
Shows us the way of righteousness, And dooms to death when we transgress.
- 2 Its light of holiness imparts The knowledge of our sinful hearts
That we may see our lost estate And turn from sin before too late.
- 3 To those who help in Christ have found And would in works of love abound
It shows what deeds are His delight And should be done as good and right.
- 4 But those who scornfully disdain God's Law shall then in sin remain;
Its terror in their ear resounds And keeps their wickedness in bounds.
- 5 The Law is good; but since the fall Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die And has no pow'r to justify.
- 6 To Jesus we for refuge flee, Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne, Saved by His grace through faith alone.

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Stand

THE OPENING VERSICLES (LENT): (page 260)

L: This is the day which the Lord has made;

C: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: the name of the Lord is to be praised.

L: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

L: Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

C: let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

L: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C: He was bruised for our iniquities.

L: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C: 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.**

THE PASSION READING

LEADER: 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. Jesus replied,

MEN: "I have spoken openly to the world. 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."

WOMEN: When Jesus had said this, one of the officials nearby struck Him in the face. He said,

LEADER: "Is this the way you answer the high priest?"

MEN: "If I said something wrong, testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?"

LEADER: 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:

CONGREGATION: "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this man-made temple and in three days will build another, not made by man.'"

WOMEN: Yet even then their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

LEADER: "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?"

WOMEN: But Jesus remained silent and gave him no answer. Again the high priest asked Him,

LEADER: "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"

MEN: "I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

WOMEN: The high priest tore his clothes. He asked,

LEADER: "Why do we need any more witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?"

WOMEN: 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.

LEADER: 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 and said,

WOMEN: "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus."

LEADER: But he denied it and said,

MEN: "I don't know or understand what you're talking about."

LEADER: Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. He went out into the entryway. When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around,

WOMEN: "This fellow is one of them."

LEADER: Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter,

CONGREGATION: "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean."

LEADER: One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him,

WOMEN: "Didn't I see you with Him in the olive grove?"

LEADER: Then he began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them,

MEN: "I don't know this man you're talking about."

LEADER: 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,

MEN: "Before the rooster crows twice, you will disown me three times."

LEADER: 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. He said,

MEN: "I have sinned, for I have betrayed innocent blood."

CONGREGATION: "What is that to us? That's your responsibility."

LEADER: 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,

CONGREGATION: "It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money."

LEADER: 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:

CONGREGATION: "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."

+++ 4:30 THE ANTHEM: "Let Me Learn of Jesus"

+++ 7:00 THE ANTHEM: "How Beautiful"

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+++ 7:00 THE ANTHEM: "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"

THE LENTEN RESPONSORY: (page 263)

L: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

L: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

L: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SERMON HYMN: "The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace" **Hymn 580**

- 1 The Gospel shows the Father's grace, Who sent His Son to save our race,
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died That we might thus be justified.
- 2 It sets the Lamb before our eyes, Who made the atoning sacrifice,
And calls the souls with guilt oppressed To come and find eternal rest.
- 3 It brings the Savior's righteousness To robe our souls in royal dress;
From all our guilt it brings release And gives the troubled conscience peace.

- 4 It is the pow'r of God to save From sin and Satan and the grave;
It works the faith which firmly clings To all the treasures which it brings.
- 5 It bears to all the tidings glad And bids their hearts no more be sad;
The weary, burdened souls it cheers And banishes their guilty fears.
- 6 May we in faith its message learn Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
May we in faith its truth confess And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

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THE SERMON: "Shocking Repentance in Nineveh!"

+++ 7:00 THE ANTHEM: "The Day the Savior Died for Me"

THE PRAYERS: (page 265)

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind,
let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for
the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us
all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all
who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned,
and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

THE EVENING PRAYER: (page 266)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

THE BLESSING: (page 267)

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

L: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: **Amen.**

+++ 7:00 THE ANTHEM: "Go Now in Peace"

THE CLOSING HYMN: "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

Hymn 423

- 1 Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.
- 2 Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.
- 3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

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THE POSTLUDE: "Now Rest Beneath Nights Shadows" -Flor Peeters

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Serving in Worship

Preacher: Pastor Will Fredstrom. **Lector:** Pastor James A. Rodriguez, Jr.

Liturgists: Pastor Philip E. Bloch, Vicar Case Farney, Pastor Ralph Blumenberg

Organist: Mr. Paul Scheiderer **Children's Choir** (4:30) **Brass** (7:00)

Lutheran Men's Chorus (7:00)

4:30 p.m. Audio: Aaron Bloch **Elder:** Steve Bobb, Joe Bullard

7:00 p.m. Ushers: Joe Brooks, Michael Brooks, Jeremiah Clay, Jeff Schneider, Mike Stuckwisch **Elder:** Carl Emily, Wes Baker **Counting:** Craig Moore, Luke Nolting, Brian Rohr, Mark Nolting, Chad Cooper, Parker Wiethoff **Acolyte:** Markus Wilde
Audio/Video: Kelly Luecke

+ IMMANUEL MIDWEEK SERVICES +

WEDNESDAYS, 4:30 & 7:00 P.M.

March 15 "Shocking Repentance in Nineveh!"

March 22 "Purification: The Refining Fire of Repentance"

March 29 "Saving from Sin's Slavery"

April 6 Maundy Thursday – "Forgiveness Covers Sin"

Communion 4:30 and 7; stripping of the altar

April 7 Good Friday – "The Cross Changes Everything"

Noontime, 12:15

Children 4:30

Tenebrae 7:30

April 9 Easter – "Rising to our New Life!"

Sunday 6:30, 9, 11:15; Monday at 7

Immanuel's mission is to connect people to the life, calling, and community of Christ. Founded in 1870, Immanuel is a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. We believe the Bible is God's inspired Word and that we are saved by grace, through faith in Jesus Christ, who died for our sins. Please take a brochure from the Information Center, or visit us on-line at www.immanuelseymour.com.