

By His Wounds We Are Healed

A Series of Services for the Season of Lent

Week 5: The Wounds of Stealing Order of Service

Jesus is accused of forbidding the paying of taxes.

Opening Hymn ... "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure by the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

Response

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

C Amen.

P By a perversion of justice, Christ was taken away.

C Who could have imagined his future?

P For he was cut off from the land of the living,

C stricken for the transgression of God's people.

P Christ was wounded for our transgressions,

C crushed for our iniquities;

P upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

C and by his wounds we are healed.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C Most merciful God, we confess to you that we have broken your commandments by our own thoughts, words, and deeds. We have stolen from you in our failure to love, serve, and obey you. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as we ought, and we have not cared for your creation. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and give us the healing power of your love that we may walk again in your ways and live to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

C God is gracious and merciful, and desires that we be made free of the burden of our sins. Through Jesus Christ, who bore the cross for our sake and for the sake of the whole world, there is healing, hope, and life. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

P Amen.

Hymn ... "Amazing Grace"

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
The Lord has promised good to me; his Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Old Testament Reading ... Exodus 20:15

You shall not steal.

Epistle Reading ... Romans 13:1-7

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgement. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due to them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due.

Gospel Reading ... Luke 23:1-5

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

Sermon Hymn ... "By Your Wounds We All Are Healed"

Jesus, Savior of the people, giver of unending grace,
Heal our lives that now are feeble; bless us in this holy place.
You have come to earth convicted as a child of gentle reign.
By your wounds we all are heal-ed; sing the song of glad refrain!

Jesus, by your teaching, healing, sharing meal with one and all,
You invite all those believing, everyone who hears your call,
Warming hearts in hope unbounded, spreading love throughout the plain.
By your wounds we all are heal-ed; sing the song of glad refrain!

When the cries to crucify you were the wounding words to hear,
Even then, you made all things new with forgiveness, love, and cheer!
By our sin you were afflicted, on the cross you bore death's pain,
By your wounds we all are heal-ed; sing the song of glad refrain!

Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the People

P Let us pray for the Church, for all in need, and for the whole of God's creation. That throughout these forty days of Lent, you may give your people hope that it is Jesus, our Lord, who leads the way and takes into his body on the cross the sins of the whole world.

C Heal us, O God.

P For all that you provide us in this life and for all that you provide for all people everywhere, that we may put away envy and be grateful for your gifts.

C Heal us, O God.

P That we may recognize those in need, especially the hungry and the poor, pray for them, work for change in government for their good, and seek to uphold them from the resources of our own charity.

C Heal us, O God.

P That those who are sick or suffering may be blessed with better health and wholeness.

C Heal us, O God.

P For those who are dying, that, leaving all their earthly things behind, they may come to embrace the greater treasures in your eternal presence.

C Heal us, O God.

P Into your healing, wounded hands for our sake, we commend all for whom we pray.

C By Christ's wounds, we are healed. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

P May the healing presence of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn ... "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God.
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.