



HIS FINAL STEPS

Midweek Lent #3

~ His Final Steps...Led to His Enemies ~



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Midweek Lent #3

*Theme: His Final Steps...
His Final Steps Led to His Enemies*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

THEME OF THE DAY: Our midweek Lent series theme is ***His Final Steps***. The series ponders key moments from the account of Jesus' passion that demonstrate the thorough completeness of his saving work for us, the breadth and depth of his love for us, and the strength of his union with us.

Tonight we welcome Pastor Allen Schleusener as our guest preacher. Pastor Schleusener serves our sister church, Mt. Olive, in St. Paul. We are grateful for his work to share God's Word with us tonight.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Allen Schleusener (Mt. Olive, St. Paul)

Piano: Jessica Klatt

Order of Worship



Preservice Music & Words of Welcome

Please remain seated.

M: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night, and peace at the last.

C: Amen.

M: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: To sing praise to your name, O Most High;

M: To herald your love in the morning,

C: Your truth at the close of day.

M: Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

C: Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
And to you, my brothers and sisters,
That I have sinned in thought, word, and deed.**

By my fault,

By my own fault,

By my own grievous fault.

For this I pray to God Almighty to have mercy on me.

Forgive all my sins,

And bring me to everlasting life.

M: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun when we shall serve him in newness of life.

C: **Amen.**

(4pm) Children's Anthem

Were You There?

Salem School Jubilate Choir

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

(7pm) Men's Chorus Anthem

Near the Cross

Words and Music by Fanny J. Crosby & William M. Doane

Jesus Keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream flows from Cal'ry's mountain.

Chorus: In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
'Til my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

At the cross I stood one day. Love and mercy found me;
There the bright and morning Star shed Its beams around me. **Chorus**

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. **Chorus**

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
'Til I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. **Chorus**

Sermon Text

Luke 20:9-19

⁹He went on to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. ¹²He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.

¹³"Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.'

¹⁴"But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. 'This is the heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ¹⁵So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

"What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others."

When the people heard this, they said, "God forbid!"

¹⁷Jesus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written:

" 'The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone?'

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed."

¹⁹The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

Sermon

“His final steps led to his enemies”

Please remain seated after the sermon.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.



We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your
name, your king - dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our
dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins, as
we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de -
liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the

pow - er, and the glo - ry are yours
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn: He Stood Before the Court

CW 408

1 He stood be - fore the court on trial in - stead of
2 These are the crimes that tell the tale of hu - man
3 The sen - tence must be passed, the un - known pris - 'ner
4 Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is

us; he met its pow'r to hurt, con - demned to
guilt; our sins, our death, our hell— on these the
killed; the price is paid at last, the law of
done; we live, for he has died, our con - dem -

face the cross— our King, ac - cused of treach - er -
case is built. To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays
God ful - filled. He takes our blame, and from that
na - tion gone. In Christ are we both dead and

y; our God, a - bused for blas - phe - my!
dumb. The guilt is ours, no an - swers come.
day th'ac - cu - ser's claim is wiped a - way.
raised, a - live and free— his name be praised!

After the hymn, the congregation and pastor read the Passion History responsively.

THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Part #2— Gethsemane

PASTOR: Jesus told his disciples, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." Peter replied,

CONGREGATION: "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

PASTOR: Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, this very night before the rooster crows you will disown me three times." But Peter insisted emphatically,

CONGREGATION: "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you."

PASTOR: And all the others said the same. Then Jesus went with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, a place called Gethsemane. Jesus and his disciples went into it. Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. On reaching the place, Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray. Pray that you will not fall into temptation."

He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, James and John, along with him and began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." Jesus withdrew about a stone's throw, knelt down, and fell on the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. He said,

CONGREGATION: "Father, everything is possible for you. If you are willing, take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will. Not my will, but yours be done."

PASTOR: An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." He went away a second time and prayed,

CONGREGATION: "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

PASTOR: When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. Returning to the disciples the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

PASTOR: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns, and weapons.

Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." Going at once to Jesus, Judas approached Jesus to kiss him and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus asked him,

CONGREGATION: "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss? Friend, do what you came for."

PASTOR: Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?" They replied,

CONGREGATION: "Jesus of Nazareth!"

PASTOR: "I am he," Jesus said. Judas the traitor was standing there with them. When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them, "Who is it you want?"

CONGREGATION: "Jesus of Nazareth!"

PASTOR: Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. If you are looking for me, then let these men go."

CONGREGATION: This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me."

PASTOR: Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said,

CONGREGATION: "Lord, should we strike with our swords?"

PASTOR: One of Jesus' companions, Simon Peter, reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

Jesus said to Peter, "No more of this! Put your sword back into its sheath, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Shall I not drink the cup the Father has

given me? Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how, then, would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

CONGREGATION: And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

PASTOR: Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour - when darkness reigns! This has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled."

CONGREGATION: Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest.

PASTOR: All the disciples deserted him and fled. A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.

(Verses compiled from the New International Version)

After the reading, the congregation joins in the seasonal response.

C: All we, like sheep, have gone astray. Each of us has turned to his own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds, we are healed.

Silence for meditation.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Our special midweek services during the season of Lent will continue next week. Guest pastors from sister WELS churches join us as we journey to the cross with Christ and look at some of the destinations on **His Final Steps**. Each Wednesday, we hold services at 4pm & 7pm, with a fellowship meal served from 5-6:30pm. Past services can be accessed at our website: www.salemlutheran.org/worship.

His Final Steps...

Wednesday, Feb 22 — ...Led to a Dinner Celebration

Wednesday, March 1st — ...Led to a Tomb

Wednesday, March 8th — ...Led to His Enemies

Wednesday, March 15th — ...Led to a Fig Tree

Wednesday, March 22nd — ...Led to Some Greeks

Wednesday, March 29th—...Led to His Father's House

Sunday, April 14th — (Palm Sunday) ...Led to a Donkey

Holy Thursday, April 18th — ...Led to the Upper Room

Good Friday, April 19th — ...Led to the Place of the Skull

Easter Sunday Dawn, April 21st (7am) — Hymns and Communion

Easter Sunday Festival, April 21st (8 & 10:45am) —

His *First* Steps Led Outside His Tomb

PREPARING FOR Easter

Easter for Kids

Salem's Easter for Kids program is coming up on the Saturday of Easter weekend (April 8th) from 10am –12pm. Parents are invited to stay and “travel” with their kids to different stations as Salem members share the joy of Easter with adults and kids alike. Easter for Kids is open to all children up to 5th grade. Easter for Kids is a great chance for the unchurched to learn about our Savior too. Invite a friend! Register to attend on our website at www.salemlutheran.org/easter.



Easter Breakfast

Each year Salem members enjoy an Easter breakfast together as part of our Easter celebration, We will continue this tradition this year! Please find the signup poster on the board in the church entry to see what items we need this year and ways to help. Thank you for serving and making our Easter joy a little brighter!

Welcome to worship!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help. Please take note of a few helpful things:

- † **Restrooms** are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Both men's and women's restrooms are equipped with **diaper changing tables** for your convenience.
- † Our sanctuary is equipped with an amplified "loop" system for **hearing assistance**. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position.
- † You will find a **connection card** in your pew. We ask members and guests to share their names and contact info, and invite you to share requests for contact or prayers.
- † Salem members give an **offering** to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing and pray and grow with us in our services. Please note these special worship aids and helps for families:

- † Children's bulletins & "*quiet bags*" for your child's use in worship are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- † If your child needs to be nursed or quieted for a few moments you can use our "*cry room*" down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is shown live on a TV in the room.
- † Sunday mornings, before the hymn of the day and sermon, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for a short devotion on God's Word. Parents may accompany their children as they wish.

Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.

