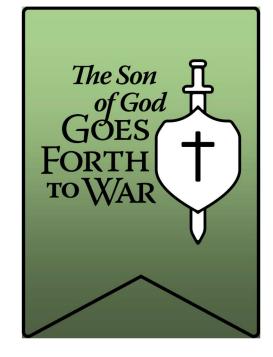
March 25, 2020



The Battle Continues

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Atonement Lutheran Church



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Our Mission: Boldly and Joyfully Sharing The Good News of Jesus' Love and Forgiveness.

Jesus, Lead Us On

422



		March 25, 2020 Mid-week Lent										
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Opening H	ymn: .	Jesus, L	ead Us	s On		CW	# 422	Stz 1–	2			

L: (*please rise*) In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden. Amen. (Pause)

O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy, and in your faithfulness come to my relief. Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before. Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, for I put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed and troubled by my sins. I confess that I am deeply sorry for them.

L: We confess our private sins before you and ask you to hear us. (Pause)

Jesus says to us, his people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe that the work of Jesus alone saves me.

L: Because of the promises of our Savior Jesus, I do forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life. Believe his word; go and sin no more. Lord God, we thank for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence as we proceed through the darkness of this world. Amen. *(be seated)*

Passion History:

Matthew 26:50-68

L: Men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹ With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁵² "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" ⁵⁵ At that time 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 arrest me. ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

C: ⁵⁷ Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. ⁵⁸ But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

L: ⁵⁹ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹ and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'"

C: ⁶² Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God."

L: ⁶⁴ "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

C: ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What do you think?"

L: "He is worthy of death," they answered. ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him ⁶⁸ and said, "Prophesy to us, Christ. Who hit you?" (*The Gospel of our Lord*)

Seasonal Response: (together)

All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds, we are healed.

Hymn: In the Hour of TrialCW # 116



Sermon: The Battle Continues Hebrews 4:15 (NIV 84)

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

Prayer: (please rise) Lord God, our refuge and strength, when the restless powers of this world and the fury of Satan rise up against your people, watch over us and keep us safe. Be with us in every time of trouble and bring us to the New Jerusalem where you live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer: (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

Together we pray Luther's Evening Prayer:

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands, I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have not power over me. Amen

L: The grace of our Lord **†** Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen (seated)

Closing Hymn: Jesus, Lead Us On..... CW # 422 Stz 3-4

