



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**April 2, 2025**

# Reflections on Repentance - Relying on God's Grace

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## Welcome to St. John's!

### Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing

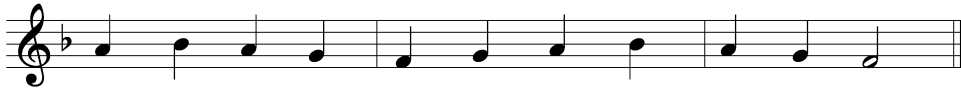
CW 400 sts. 1-3



1 Sweet the mo - ments, rich in bless - ing, which be -  
2 Here we rest in won - der, view - ing all our  
3 Here we find the dawn of heav - en while up -



fore the cross we spend, life and health and  
sins on Je - sus laid; here we see re -  
on the cross we gaze, see our tres - pass -



peace pos - sess - ing from the sin - ner's dy - ing friend.  
demp - tion flow - ing from the sac - ri - fice he made.  
es for - giv - en, and our songs of tri - umph raise.

## Confession of Sins

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**the maker of heaven and earth.**

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
**we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.**

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.

**Amen.**



4 Oh, that, near the cross a - bid - ing, we may  
5 Lord, in lov - ing con - tem - pla - tion fix our



to the Sav - ior cleave, naught with him our  
hearts and eyes on you till we taste your



hearts di - vid - ing, all for him con - tent to leave!  
full sal - va - tion and your un - veiled glo - ry view.

- CW 400 sts. 4-5

## Prayer

When I was in the pit of despair, Lord, you lifted me out. Though your anger blazed  
down on me because of my sin, you sent your Son to take the brunt of your anger so  
that I might be spared. Now I rejoice in the splendor of your grace and proclaim your  
savings deeds to those who will yet praise you as their only Savior.

**Amen.**

## Passion History: Trial before Pilate

Luke 23:1-25

*The Scripture readings that begin today are called the Passion History. Unlike the ordinary meaning of the word passion, the meaning of this word as it applies to the series of readings during Lent is based on the original Latin and Greek. Passio (Latin) and pascha (Greek) speak of suffering as reflected in our contemporary word compassion (“suffering with someone”). So we read a history of the suffering and death of our Savior. The readings each week are taken from gospel account of Luke.*

<sup>1</sup>Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. <sup>2</sup>And they began to accuse him, saying, “We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king.”

<sup>3</sup>So Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

“You have said so,” Jesus replied.

<sup>4</sup>Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.”

<sup>5</sup>But they insisted, “He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here.”

<sup>6</sup>On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. <sup>7</sup>When he learned that Jesus was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

<sup>8</sup>When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform a sign of some sort. <sup>9</sup>He plied him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer.

<sup>10</sup>The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him. <sup>11</sup>Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate. <sup>12</sup>That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies.

<sup>13</sup>Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, <sup>14</sup>and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. <sup>15</sup>Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. <sup>16</sup>Therefore, I will punish him and then release him.”

<sup>18</sup>But the whole crowd shouted, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!” <sup>19</sup>(Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.)

<sup>20</sup>Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. <sup>21</sup>But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

<sup>22</sup>For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him.”

<sup>23</sup>But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. <sup>24</sup>So Pilate decided to grant their demand. <sup>25</sup>He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.

## Glory Be to Jesus

CW 402 sts. 1, 3-5



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, who in bit - ter pains  
3 Blest through end - less a - ges be the pre - cious stream  
4 A - bel's blood for venge - ance plead - ed to the skies,  
5 Oft as earth ex - ult - ing lifts its praise on high,



poured for me the life - blood from his sa - cred veins.  
which from end - less tor - ment did the world re - deem.  
but the blood of Je - sus for our par - don cries.  
an - gel hosts re - joic - ing make their glad re - ply.

## Tonight's Message: Relying on God's Grace

Psalm 51:7

<sup>7</sup>Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

## Glory Be to Jesus

CW 402 sts. 2, 6



2 Grace and life e - ter - nal in that blood I find;  
6 Lift we, then, our voic - es, swell the might - y flood;



blest be his com - pas - sion, in - fi - nite - ly kind.  
loud - er still and loud - er praise the pre - cious blood!

## Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Blessing

Go in peace. Christ Jesus has set you free.  
**Thanks be to God.**

# All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

CW 788



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night for all the  
2 For - give me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the ill that  
3 Teach me to live that I may dread the grave as  
4 Oh, may my soul on thee re - pose and may sweet



bles - ings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,  
I this day have done, that with the world, my -  
lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die that  
sleep mine eye - lids close, sleep that shall me more



King of kings, be - neath thine own al - might - y wings.  
self, and thee I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.  
so I may rise glo - rious at the awe - full day.  
vig - 'rous make to serve my God when I a - wake.

- 5 When in the night I sleepless lie,  
my soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;  
let no ill dreams disturb my rest,  
no pow'rs of darkness me distress.
- 6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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## Serving Us Tonight:

Pastor Jim Roecker  
St. Andrews Lutheran, St. Paul Park, MN



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