



# **HIS FINAL STEPS**

**Steps to a  
Tomb**

February 22, 2023



Ash Wednesday

**WELCOME, GUESTS!!!** We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out the guest register in the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

**ORDER OF SERVICE: ASH WEDNESDAY: IMPOSITION OF ASHES, P. 146 (CWOS )**

*\*\*Please Remain Seated\*\**

**OPENING PSALM:**

**PSALM 51**

*\*\*Spoken Responsively\*\**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions.

**Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

**Surely, I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.**

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

**Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.**

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

**Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

**Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.**

Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me,

**and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.**

O Lord, open my lips,

**and my mouth will declare your praise.**

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

**The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;

**build up the walls of Jerusalem.**

Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you;

**then bulls will be offered on your altar.**

*\*\*Silence for Meditation\*\**

### **INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin, we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author, and perfecter of our faith, who, for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection; we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

*\*\*\*Silence for Meditation\*\**

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

Most holy and merciful Father,

**We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault, by our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

**We confess to you, O Lord.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people

**We confess to you, O Lord.**

Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

**We confess to you, O Lord.**

Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

**We confess to you, O Lord.**

Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us

**We confess to you, O Lord.**

Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

**Forgive us, O Lord.**

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

**Forgive us, O Lord.**

For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

**Forgive us, O Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

*Those who desire to receive the sign of ashes come forward. Baptized children may come forward at their parents' discretion.*

#### **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*As the ashes are applied to the forehead of each person:*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

*After you have received your ashes please remain standing:*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation

**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

**Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

#### **ABSOLUTION**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

***\*\*Please be Seated\*\****

# HYMN:

#305

## FROM DEPTHS OF WOE I CRY TO YOU



1 From depths of woe I cry to you; Lord, hear me,  
 2 Your love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out  
 3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in  
 4 My soul is wait - ing for the Lord As one who



I im - plore you. Bend down your gra - cious ear to me;  
 my trans - gres - sion. The best and ho - liest deeds must fail  
 my own mer - it; It rests up - on his faith - ful Word  
 longs for morn - ing; No watch - er waits with great - er hope



My prayer let come be - fore you. If you kept  
 To break sin's dread op - pres - sion. Be - fore you  
 To them of con - trite spir - it. That he is  
 Than I for his re - turn - ing. I hope as



rec - ord of my sin And held a - gainst me  
 none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear your  
 mer - ci - ful and just— This is my com - fort  
 Is - rael in the Lord; He sends re - demp - tion



what I've been, How could I stand be - fore you?  
 strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.  
 and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.  
 through his Word. We praise him for his mer - cy.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-3, alt.; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 4.  
 St. 4 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.  
 Tune: AUS TIEFER NOT (87 87 887) Martin Luther, 1483–1546, alt.

## PASSION READING:

## LESSON ONE

## SERMON HYMN:

#104

### GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the  
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; View the Lord of  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid his



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see.  
life ar - raigned. Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!  
at his feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,  
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from his  
Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,  
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"  
Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.  
pain, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.  
hear him cry; Learn of Je - sus Christ to die.  
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GETHSEMANE (77 77 77) Richard Redhead, 1820–1901.

## SERMON:

## His Final Steps led to a Tomb

### SERMON TEXT

### JOHN 11 (SELECTED VERSES)

**OFFERING** – THE OFFERING PLATE WILL BE PASSED AT THIS TIME. **GUESTS AND VISITORS--SHOULD YOU BE INCLINED TO GIVE, WE THANK YOU!**  
**KNOW THIS SERVICE IS OUR GIFT TO YOU.**

**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

### RESPONSORY PRAYER

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**For you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of Truth.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of Your eye.

**Hide us under the shadow of your wings, Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear my Prayer:

**And let my cry come to you.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping, that we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

#### **SONG OF SIMEON**



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



C: A - men.

## CLOSING HYMN

#713

IN SILENT PAIN THE ETERNAL SON

**\*\*Pastor will sing the first verse, please join on following verses\*\***

1. In silent pain th' eternal Son Hangs derelict and still;  
In darkened day his work is done, Fulfilled the Father's will.  
Uplifted for the world to see He hangs in strangest victory,  
For in his body on the tree He carries all our ill.
2. He died that we might die to sin And live for righteousness;  
The earth is stained to make us clean And bring us into peace.  
For peace he came and met its cost; He gave himself to save the lost;  
He loved us to the uttermost And paid for our release.
3. For strife he came, to bring a sword, The truth to end all lies;  
To rule in us, our patient Lord, Until all evil dies;  
For in his hand he holds the stars, His voice shall speak to end our wars,  
And those who love him see his scars And look into his eyes.

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b 1938 © 1992 The Jubilate Group; admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.  
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**Lent Series** – “His final steps” The series ponders the significance of the people and places on Jesus’ resolute final steps to the cross and three days later, his first steps from the tomb.

Midweek Two – 7:00 pm February 28 – “His Final Steps Led to a Dinner Celebration”

Midweek Three – 7:00 pm March 7 – “His Final Steps Led to His Father’s House”

Midweek Four – 7:00 pm March 14 – “His Final Steps Led to a Fig Tree”

Midweek Five – 7:00 pm March 21 – “His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks”

Midweek Six – 7:00 pm March 28 – “His Final Steps Led to His Enemy”

Palm Sunday – 10:30 am April 2 – “His Final Steps Led to a Donkey”

Maundy Thursday – 7:00 pm April 6 – “His Final Steps Led to the Upper Room”

Good Friday – 7:00 pm April 7 – “His Final Steps led to the Place of the Skull”

Easter – 10: 30 am April 9 – “His First Step Led Outside His Tomb”

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