



# **HIS FINAL STEPS**

**Led to His  
Father's House**

March 7, 2023



Third Midweek  
of Lent

**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.

The overall theme for the 2023 Lenten sermons is "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.

**ORDER OF SERVICE: THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE – CLOSE OF THE DAY, P. 128 (ELH)**

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace as it ends.

**Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord:

**Who made heaven and earth.**

Restore us again, O God of our salvation.

**And put away your anger towards me.**

Come quickly and save me O God, to deliver me.

**Come quickly to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, now and forevermore. Amen.**

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

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

**Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against you through my own fault, in thought, word, and actions. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life.**

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, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority; I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## HYMN:

#103

### GLORY BE TO JESUS



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains  
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;  
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream  
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance 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.  
Blest be his com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind.  
Which from end - less tor - ments 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.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian hymn, 18th century, abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.  
Tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN (65 65) Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76.

## PSALM FOR THE EVENING

PSALM 8

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

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!\*

**Set this glory of yours above the heavens.**

From the lips of little children and nursing babies you have established strength because of your foes,\*

**To put a stop to the enemy and the avenger.**

Whenever I look up at your heavens, the works of your fingers,\*

**The moon and the stars, which you have set in place.**

What man that you remember him,\*

**The son of man that you pay attention to him!**

Nevertheless, you, make him suffer need, apart from God for a while,\*

**But you crown him with glory and honor.**

All flocks and cattle, and even the wild animals, the birds of the sky, and the fish of the sea,\*

**Which pass through the currents of the seas.**

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!\*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever more. Amen

### Psalm Prayer

Lord, we bow down to you in thankful praise. You have made your ways known to both lowly and great on earth. You have not abandoned the work of your hands, but instead you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PASSION READING:

### LESSON THREE

### SERMON HYMN:

#128

### NOT ALL THE BLOOD OF BEASTS



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Is - rael's  
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our  
3 In faith I place my hand On that dear  
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den  
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the



al - tars slain Could give the guilt - y con - science  
sins a - way, A sac - ri - fice of no - bler  
head di - vine, As pen - i - tent - ly here I  
you did bear When hang - ing on the curs - ed  
curse re - move; We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful



peace Or wash a - way the stain.  
name And rich - er blood than they.  
stand And lay on him my sin.  
tree— I know my guilt was there!  
voice And sing his bleed - ing love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: SOUTHWELL (SM) William Daman, c. 1540–91.

**SERMON:**

**His Final Steps led to His Father's House**

**SERMON TEXT**

**MATTHEW 21: 12 – 17**

Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all those who were selling and buying in the temple. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a den of robbers!" The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the experts in the law saw the wonders he performed and heard the children calling out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant. They said to him, "Do you hear what they are saying?" "Yes," Jesus told them, "Have you never read, From the lips of little children and nursing babies you have prepared praise?" He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

*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**

Gracious Lord, according to your will and promise,

**you sent your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life.**

You planned his path to the cross,

**and he followed it perfectly.**

He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death

**but was not deterred as he proclaimed your kingdom to the least, the last, and the lost.**

As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior's passion and death,

**use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance.**

Humble us as we view the Savior in his humility,

**remembering and believing that he endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror.**

In his suffering show us our healing,

**in his grief show us our joy,**

and in his death show us our life.

**Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.**

### 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.

### Blessing

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.

**May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (†) the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit abide with you into this night and forever into eternity.



C: A - men.

# CLOSING HYMN

#121

## JESUS GRANT THAT BALM AND HEALING



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In your  
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci -  
 3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the  
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By your  
 5 O my God, my Rock and Tow - er, Grant that

ho - ly wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that  
 nate my sin - ful mind, Let me think a -  
 broad and eas - y road, With se - duc - tive,  
 wounds, Lord, is made whole; When I'm weak, your  
 in your death I trust, Know - ing death has

I am feel - ing Pains of bod - y and of mind.  
 bout your pas - sion, And new cour - age I shall find.  
 sin - ful vic - es, Let me think a - bout the load  
 cross re - vives me, Grant - ing new life to my soul.  
 lost his pow - er Since you crushed him in the dust.

Should some e - vil thought with - in Tempt my treach - 'rous  
 Or should Sa - tan press me hard, Let me then be  
 You were will - ing to en - dure; Then I'll flee all  
 Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet Ev - 'ry bit - ter  
 Sav - ior, let your ag - o - ny Ev - er help and

heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from sin - ning  
 on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was wound - ed,"  
 thoughts im - pure, Mas - ter - ing each wild temp - ta - tion,  
 cup I meet; For your all - a - ton - ing pas - sion  
 com - fort me; When I die be my pro - tec - tion,

Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.  
 That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.  
 Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.  
 Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.  
 Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.; tr. composite.  
 Tune: DER AM KREUZ (87 87 77 88) Johann B. König, 1691–1758.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Easter** – Would you like an opportunity to serve? We need flowers for our Easter celebration, 20 or more Easter Lilies for the sanctuary front. If you have not yet signed up here is your opportunity to add an Easter Lily (or two.) to our worship service, and you get to take yours home to enjoy afterward. They will need to be at church on April 8.

**Lenten Services** – the pastor created much confusion last week with the change of the Midweek services. We will worship on **TUESDAYS** at 7:00 pm, Sunday services for Palm Sunday and Easter will remain at 10:30 am with no Sunday School on Easter:

March 14: **Midweek 4**..... His Final Steps Led to a Fig Tree .....Mark 11:12-14,20-25

March 21: **Midweek 5**.....His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks.....John 12:20-33

March 28: **Midweek 6**..... His Final Steps Led to His Enemies.....Luke 20:9-19

April 2: **Palm Sunday** ..... His Final Steps Led to a Donkey ..... Matthew 21:1-11

April 6: **Maundy Thursday**: ..... His Final Steps Led to the Upper Room ..... Mark 14:12-17

April 7: **Good Friday** ..... His Final Steps Led to the Place of the Skull ..... Luke 23:26-33

April 9: **Easter Sunday**..... His *First* Steps Led Outside His Tomb .....John 20:11-18

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