

Places of the Passion

The Temple



February 24, 2021
7:00 PM

Places of the Passion

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

327 Avenue C, SE
Winter Haven, FL 33880

863.293.8447
www.glwh.org

February 24, 2021
7:00 PM

(Indicates when congregation is to stand.)*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“God’s Amazing Grace”
(Trinity Bells)

arr. L. Larson

THE WELCOME

*THE SILENT PROCESSIONAL

*THE INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

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

People: **Amen.**

Reader: When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, many went up from the country to Jerusalem for their ceremonial cleansing before the Passover. They kept looking for Jesus, and as they stood in the temple courts they asked one another, “What do you think? Isn’t He coming to the festival at all?” But the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who found out where Jesus was should report it so that they might arrest him. *(John 11:55-57)*

Leader: Let us ever walk with Jesus.

People: **To see the depths of His love.**

Leader: To behold the gift of His forgiveness.

People: **To gaze upon the heights of His grace.**

Leader: To marvel at the magnitude of His mercy.

People: **Today we walk with Jesus to the Temple.**

Leader: Because Passover is coming.

People: **And the Son of Man will be crucified.**

***THE HYMN** (*sung to the tune of "Go to Dark Gethsemane"*)

**In the steps our Savior trod Let us follow faithfully,
Where the sinless Son of God Went to set us sinners free;
Mark each footstep in the strife Of the Way, the Truth, the Life.**

**In God's house, with holy ire, See the Son of God appear,
Cleansing, like a chast'ning fire, Ev'ry desecration here.
Let our heart be cleansed from sin Where He comes to dwell within.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Kings 8:22, 25-30, 41-43

²² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven...²⁵ "Now LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, 'You shall never fail to have a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons are careful in all they do to walk before me as you have done.'²⁶ And now, O God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.²⁷ "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!²⁸ Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, O LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day.²⁹ May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place.³⁰ Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive...⁴¹ "As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name –⁴² for men will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm - when he comes and prays toward this temple,⁴³ then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 3:16

¹⁶ Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

BELL ANTHEM

"The Power of the Cross"
(Trinity Bells)

arr. P. Bettcher

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:12-13, 23-27

¹² Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ¹³ "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a 'den of robbers.'" ²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John's baptism - where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or from men?" They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?'" ²⁶ But if we say, 'From men' - we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We don't know." Then he said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE SERMON HYMN

"God Himself Is Present"

Hymn 907

**God Himself is present: Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple; all within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone on this throne is our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever.**

**God Himself is present: Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!" Hear the hymn ascending,**

Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow your ear to us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Your Church now raises.

Fount of ev'ry blessing, purify my spriit,
Trusting only in our merit.
Like the holy angels, worshiping before You,
May I ceaselessly adore you.
Let Your will ever still rule Your Church terrestrial
As the hosts celestial.

THE MEDITATION

“The Temple in Jerusalem”

***THE SONG RESPONSE**

“Create in Me”

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Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

***THE PRAYERS**

The words of Hymn 780, “O Lord, Hear My Prayer” are sung by the soloist, and then the congregation joins in singing between each petition.

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: When I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; Come and listen to me.*

P: Lord Jesus Christ, when people were cleansing their houses for the Spring Passover, You came to Your Father's House to cleanse it of human greed and sinful filth. Lord, have mercy and cleanse my heart.

**C: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: When I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; Come and listen to me.**

P: When You spoke in the temple, some listened, some questioned, and some ignored. Tune my ears to hear Your voice over the noises of our world. Lead me to cling to You in faith, and show my love for You in acts of charity toward my neighbor.

**C: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: When I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; Come and listen to me.**

P: In baptism, You put Your Name on us. Wash my heart clean and fill me with Your Spirit. Make me to be Your temple. Purify me and sanctify me for worthy service.

**C: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: When I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; Come and listen to me.**

P: Bless us this sacred season of Lent, that we may follow You in faithful obedience, living the prayer which You have taught us:

***THE 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.

***THE BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***THE BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Our Gracious God calls us as His servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.

People: **By His Spirit, He gives us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that His hand is leading us and His love supporting us, through our Savior Jesus ✕ Christ, who walks with us. Amen.**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

“Abide with Me”

Hymn 878

(sts. 1, 3 & 6)

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

THE POSTLUDE

THE PARTICIPANTS

The Preacher
The Liturgist
The Organist
The Elder on Duty
The Welcome Team Greeter
At the Welcome Center
The Welcome Team Ushers

The Rev. Charles T. Reich
Vicar Michael Duffy
Wynn Bonner
Rhonda Wise
Dan Trinklein
Edie Trinklein
Donna Enzor, Steve Griffith,
Carl Rod, Larry Walker

CREDITS

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Benediction adapted by GLWH, based on a prayer 193, *LSB Hymnal* p. 311.

Acknowledgments

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