

Lenten Midweek Service 3

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Afton, Minnesota

February 28, 2018 – 6:30 P.M.

Living Lent: “The Dove Reveals an Angry Savior”

A Lenten Opening..... Melody: “O Sacred Head” (*Stand.*)

Remember, earth-born mortal, the dust from which you came,

And know that life’s last portal returns you to the same!

Let ashes tell the story, from dust its lesson learn:

Beyond life’s fleeting glory to dust you shall return!

Like flow’rs cast in the furnace, our lives are quickly spent.

To dust, O God, You turn us and call us to repent:

“Turn back, O mortals, grieving o’er your iniquity,

That, steadfast love receiving, you may My mercy see.”

For You, O gracious Father, want not the sinner’s death,

But that we, turning, rather may breathe the Spirit’s breath.

Let true repentance holy our daily lives employ,

That we may trust You solely and find in You our joy.

O God, You once did fashion our lives from earth’s frail dust.

Through Jesus’ Cross and Passion help us Your grace to trust.

For Christ was born of Mary our mortal dust to share,

Our sin and guilt to carry, our ransom to prepare.

P *In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C Amen.

P *“Even the stork in the sky knows her appointed season, and the dove, the swift and the thrush observe the time of their migration. But My people do not know the requirements of the Lord.”*

C **Because of our sin, “the land mourns, and all who live in it waste away; the beasts of the field, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea are dying.”**

P *Let us therefore confess our sins to God, sincerely repent of them and seek His mercy.*

C **Holy God, I have not respected Your house of prayer as I should. I am no more worthy to be here than the money changers and sellers of doves whom Jesus drove out. I am Your child in my baptism, but I have lived as though You and my neighbor did not matter. I have broken all Your laws in my heart, in my words, and in my actions. My sin is my fault and no one else's. God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

P *“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity.”*

Accomplish Your salvation in us, most gracious Lord,
Through Jesus' Cross and Passion, according to Your Word.
Let us show forth Your favor while in the world we live,
And with Your saints forever eternal life receive.

P *Lift up your hearts and rejoice! God has heard your cry for mercy and seen your sorrow for sin. His own word promises that “he who believes and is baptized shall be saved,” and that “if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” By the command of my Lord Jesus Christ and in His stead, I therefore announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now, go, and bring forth fruit in keeping with repentance.*

C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 2Wie Schön Leuchtet PM (*Be seated.*)

(In this styling, phrases of the hymn interrupt the reading of the Psalm. The tune is introduced before the reader's first line. The final chord of each phrase is held softly over the spoken words.)

P *“I have set My king on Zion, My holy hill.”*

Oh, haste, my soul, your song to raise;
Do not delay your Lord to praise;
Bow down in adoration.

P *The Lord said to Me, "You are My son; today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."*

All glory to the Lord belongs,
Whose praise resounds in grateful songs,
The Lord of all creation.

P *Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear; tremble and bow down to Him, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way; for His wrath is quickly kindled.*

Hearing, fearing, bow before Him
And adore Him, ev'ry nation.
Praise the God of our salvation!

P *Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.*

Holy Gospel Matthew 21:12-13 (*Stand.*)

Pastor: ¹² *And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."*

Theme Hymn Melody: Erhalt uns, Herr (*Be seated.*)

Aflutter, doves, a sign of peace, are sent into the air, released,
As tables clatter, Jesus' shouts are driving chastised merchants out.

Such wrath ignited, Lord of Love, from clink of coin and coo of dove:
'Gainst sanctity of God's house, spurned, Your fierce and holy anger burned.

Grant us, O Christ, such prayerful hearts and rev'rent, as Your love imparts,
To seek Your Father's house as we prepare for prayer eternally.

Homily: The Dove Reveals an Angry Savior

Offering

(Note to our visitors: You are our guests this evening! Please do not feel the need to make a contribution to our Offering. We would ask all visitors and members to sign the Register Pad as the Offering is being collected. Also, Prayer Cards are available in the pew racks for special intercessions during the time of congregational prayer.)

Offering Prayer.....Melody: Dunstan (*Stand.*)

Create in me a heart that's pure. Renew my spirit, steadfast, sure.
Deliver me from sin's allure. Accept the gifts I bring.

Forgive me all my shameful wrong. Restore to me salvation's song,
That I may join the grateful throng. Accept the gifts I bring.

Then I shall see Christ's glorious face, alive forever by His grace,
Dwelling in that most holy place. Accept the gifts I bring.

Prayers of God's People

Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

P Ask the animals, and they will teach you. Let every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them sing,

C Which of these does not know that the Lord has done this?

P Hosanna to the Son of David!

C From the lips of children You have ordained praise.

P The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing VerseMelody: Erhalt uns, Herr

The animals the story tell. Teach us, O Lord, to learn it well,
And lead us, as our days are spent, to live in love while living Lent.

(Be seated.)