



# GOD ON TRIAL

TESTIMONY

Midweek Lent 3

February 28, 2024

## **GOD ON TRIAL**

The unbelieving world has always insisted on putting God on trial. As our society becomes more secular, we Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God—and his people—are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model—and our motivation—in Jesus. This series takes us back to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

Ash Wednesday/Midweek 1 .....	Accusations.....	Job 40:1,2; 42:1-6
Midweek 2 .....	Restraint .....	Luke 22:47-53
<b>Midweek 3 .....</b>	<b>Testimony .....</b>	<b>Matthew 26:57-75</b>
Midweek 4 .....	Misconceptions .....	Luke 23:1-12
Midweek 5 .....	Truth .....	John 18:33-40
Midweek 6 .....	Sympathy .....	Luke 23:26-34
Holy Thursday .....	Respite .....	Luke 22:7-20
Good Friday .....	Evidence .....	Matthew 27:38-54

## **OFFERING**

*You may place your offering in the one of the plates located in the church entryway. Or to give electronically, go to [redeemertucson.com/offerings](http://redeemertucson.com/offerings).*



## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Preacher**

**Organist/Pianist**

Pastor Adam Mueller

Tina Christianson

# † ORDER OF SERVICE †

## OPENING HYMN

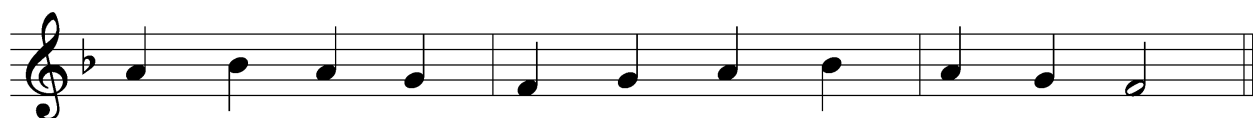
*Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing* | 400:1-2,5



1 Sweet the mo - ments, rich in bless - ing, which be -  
2 Here we rest in won - der, view - ing all our  
5 Lord, in lov - ing con - tem - pla - tion fix our



fore the cross we spend, life and health and  
sins on Je - sus laid; here we see re -  
hearts and eyes on you till we taste your

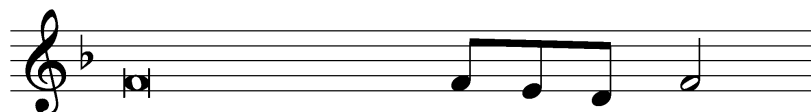


peace pos - sess - ing from the sin - ner's dy - ing friend.  
demp - tion flow - ing from the sac - ri - fice he made.  
full sal - va - tion and your un - veiled glo - ry view.

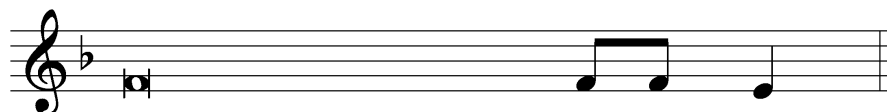
*Text: alt. Walter Shirley, 1725-1786; James Allen, 1734-1804*  
*Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745, alt.*

*Stand*

## OPENING SENTENCES



Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

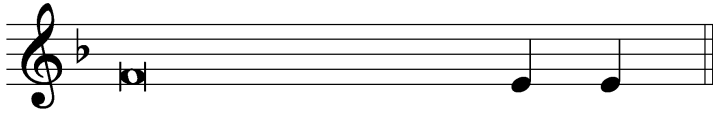


**the light no darkness can o - ver - come.**





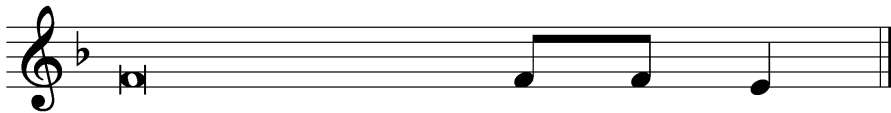
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



**and the day is almost o - ver.**



Be our light and scat - ter the darkness,



**and hear our evening prayer and praise.**

## HYMN OF LIGHT

*Phos hilaron*<sup>1</sup>



1 Glad - d'ning light of pur - est glo - ry, shin - ing  
 2 In the fad - ing light of eve - ning, as the  
 3 For your gift of life un - end - ing, joy - ful



down from heav'n on high, from the ev - er -  
 set - ting sun de - parts, Fa - ther, Son, and  
 voic - es ev - er sing hymns of praise that



liv - ing Fa - ther— hail, most bless - ed Je - sus Christ!  
 Ho - ly Spir - it— we a - dore you, Lord our God.  
 right - ly hon - or, Son of God, your sav - ing name.

<sup>1</sup> literally translates, light of hilarity, or gladdening light

## PRAYER

Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us, and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. By your Word keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

*Psalm 141*

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing up  
of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I  
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I  
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,  
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

## PSALM PRAYER

Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord, and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and forever in heaven, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

Be seated

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Teach Me, O LORD | 119(D)

**Cantor:** 1<sup>st</sup> refrain, verses **Congregation:** repeat 1<sup>st</sup> refrain/remaining refrains

*Refrain*

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes.

Oh, how I / love your law!  
I meditate on it / all day long.  
Your commands are always / with me  
and make me wiser than my / enemies.  
I have more insight than all my / teachers,  
for I meditate on your / statutes. **Refrain**

I have kept my feet from every / evil path  
so that I might o-/bey your word.  
How sweet are your words / to my taste,  
sweeter than honey/ to my mouth!  
I gain understanding from your / precepts;  
therefore I hate every / wrong path. **Refrain**

## READING OF THE PASSION HISTORY

*Gethsemane*

We all like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.





1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af-flict-ed, see him dy-ing on the  
 2 Tell me, as you hear him groan-ing, was there ev-er grief like  
 3 If you think of sin but light-ly nor sup-pose the e-vil  
 4 Here we have a firm foun-da-tion, here the ref-uge of the



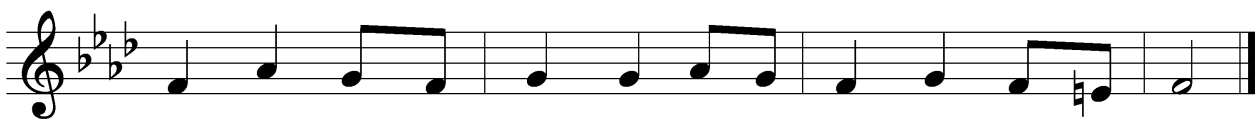
tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re-ject-ed; yes, my  
 his, friends through fear his cause dis-own-ing, foes in-  
 great, here you see its na-ture right-ly, here its  
 lost: Christ, the rock of our sal-va-tion, is the



soul, 'tis he, 'tis he. 'Tis the long-ex-pect-ed  
 sult-ing his dis-tress? Man-y hands were raised to  
 guilt may es-ti-mate. Mark the sac-ri-fice ap-  
 name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin-ners



Proph-et, Da-vid's son, yet Da-vid's Lord; proofs I  
 wound him, none would in-ter-vene to save; but the  
 point-ed, see who bears the aw-ful load; 'tis the  
 wound-ed, sac-ri-fice to can-cel guilt! None shall



see suf-fi-cient of it: 'tis the true and faith-ful Word.  
 deep-est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that jus-tice gave.  
 Word, the Lord's a-noint-ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
 ev-er be con-found-ed who on him their hope have built.

*Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855, alt.  
 Tune: Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850  
 Text and tune: Public domain*

<sup>57</sup> Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. <sup>58</sup> But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

<sup>59</sup> The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. <sup>60</sup> But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward.

Finally two came forward <sup>61</sup> and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.' "

<sup>62</sup> Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" <sup>63</sup> But Jesus remained silent.

The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God."

<sup>64</sup> "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

<sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. <sup>66</sup> What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered.

<sup>67</sup> Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him <sup>68</sup> and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?"

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

<sup>70</sup> But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

<sup>71</sup> Then he went out to the gateway, where another girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

<sup>72</sup> He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

<sup>73</sup> After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away."

<sup>74</sup> Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

Immediately a rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup> Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.



# SONG OF MARY

## Magnificat

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-  
joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor  
on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions  
will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great  
things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on  
those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.  
He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the  
proud in their con-ceil. He has cast down the might-y  
from their thrones and has lift-ed up the low-ly.



He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich  
 he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the  
 help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his  
 prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,  
 to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

## LENTEN PRAYER

Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening and the day is far spent.

Abide with us and with your whole Church.

Abide with us in the end of the day, in the end of our life, and in the end of the world.

Abide with us with your grace and goodness, with your holy Word and Sacrament,  
 with your strength and blessing.

Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us,  
 the night of fear and despair when death shall come.

Abide with us and with all the faithful through time and eternity.

**Amen.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

## 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.

## BENEDICAMUS



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

## BLESSING



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God

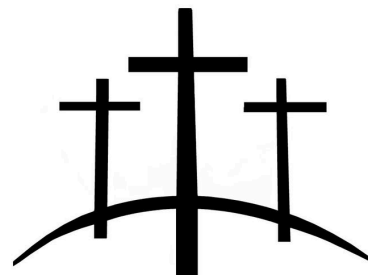


and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

*Be seated*





1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is  
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm



this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse  
 down be-neath God's right-eous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown  
 Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme,  
 free, I'll sing his love for me, and through e-ter-ni-ty



for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
 for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul.  
 I will sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

*Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, Lynchburg, 1811, alt.*

*Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835, ed. William Walker*

*Text and tune: Public domain*



**Next Wednesday, March 6:**

**"Misconceptions"**

*(Luke 23:1-12)*