

# **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*A North American Lutheran Church Congregation*

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March 28, 2024

**PRELUDE** *Please gather in silence to prepare for worship*

*Stand*

**GATHERING HYMN (Vs 1 & 2)**

**Go to Dark Gethsemane**

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in four parts, corresponding to the four voices. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, the second system covers the next two lines, and the third system covers the final two lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady, rhythmic pattern of chords, providing a harmonic foundation for the vocal parts.

1 Go to dark Geth-se-m - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;  
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;  
3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor-ing at his feet,  
4 Ear-ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;

your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf-f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin-ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

## **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

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

**C Amen.**

**P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Please kneel, sit or stand*

**P** Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**P** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C Amen.**

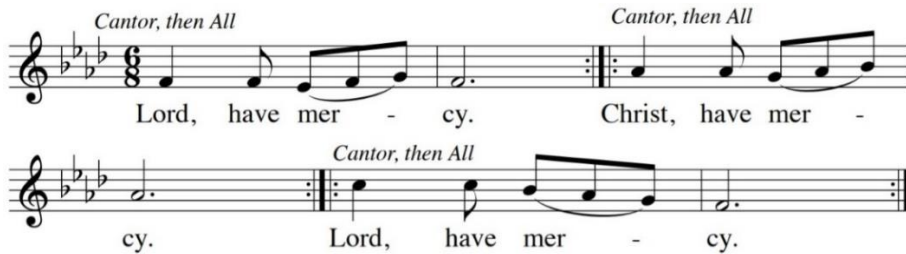
*Stand*

## **GREETING**

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

**C And also with you.**

## KYRIE



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Pastoral Prayer

C **Amen.**

*Be seated*

## FIRST READING: EXODUS 24:3-11

<sup>3</sup>When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD has said we will do." <sup>4</sup>Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said.

He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>5</sup>Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD. <sup>6</sup>Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar. <sup>7</sup>Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey." <sup>8</sup>Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

<sup>9</sup>Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up <sup>10</sup>and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as bright blue as the sky. <sup>11</sup>But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 116:12-19

R <sup>12</sup>What shall I return to the LORD  
for all his goodness to me?

C <sup>13</sup>**I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful servants.**

<sup>16</sup>Truly I am your servant, LORD;  
I serve you just as my mother did;  
you have freed me from my chains.

<sup>17</sup>**I will sacrifice a thank offering to you  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people,

<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the house of the LORD—  
in your midst, Jerusalem.**

**Praise the LORD.**

## SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:16-17

<sup>16</sup>Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup>Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Praise and hon-or to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!



Praise and hon-or to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!

## GOSPEL: JOHN 13:1-17; 34-35

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

<sup>2</sup>The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. <sup>3</sup>Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; <sup>4</sup>so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. <sup>5</sup>After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

<sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

<sup>7</sup>Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

<sup>8</sup>"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

<sup>9</sup> “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.” <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

<sup>12</sup> When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. <sup>13</sup> “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup> I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

<sup>34</sup> “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Be seated*

**SERMON** “The Way of the Towel”

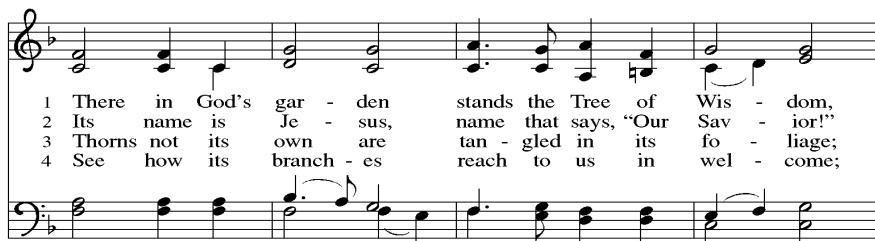
Pastor Phil Hohulin

*Moment of silent reflection after sermon*



## HYMN OF THE DAY

## There in God's Garden



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it,  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man -  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,  
 this my resurrection;  
 into your hands, Lord,  
 I commit my spirit.  
 This have I searched for;  
 now I can possess it.  
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,  
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion  
 offers in mercy  
 healing, strength, and pardon.  
 Peoples and nations,  
 take it, take it freely!"  
 Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

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## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED**

**C We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Kneel/sit/stand*

## **THE PRAYERS**

- A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need:
- A Gracious Father, thank you for sending your only Son, Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior. Let us work towards humbly serving and loving others as Jesus modeled for us. Help us to embrace his “new commandment” and love others as he has first loved us. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Sending Savior, let us be a witness to your healing powers and salvation through your Son, Jesus Christ. “Grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness . . . while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, bestow your wisdom, strength, protection, and courage upon all who serve in our armed forces. Grant also these virtues to all elected representatives of our republic. Guard them from corruption and temptation. Conform their wills to your will and enable them to lead according to your statutes. Assist them to ensure the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness to all, from first heartbeat to last. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

Lord of the Church, bless the leaders of our denomination: our bishop Dan Selbo; his assistants Amy, Brad, Gemechis, Phillip, Andrew, Eric, Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky; and the staff and faculty of our North American Lutheran Seminary. Raise a new generation of pastors to shepherd your flock. Enhance the missional efforts of all congregations that faithfully proclaim your word. Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

*Stand*  
**PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.

*Be seated*  
**OFFERING**

Special Music

*Stand*  
**OFFERTORY**

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711  
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## DIALOGUE

*Presider* The Lord be with you. *All* And al - so with

*Presider* you. Lift up your hearts. *All* We

*Presider* lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the

*All* Lord our God. It is right and just.

## PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Almighty and merciful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth, and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly

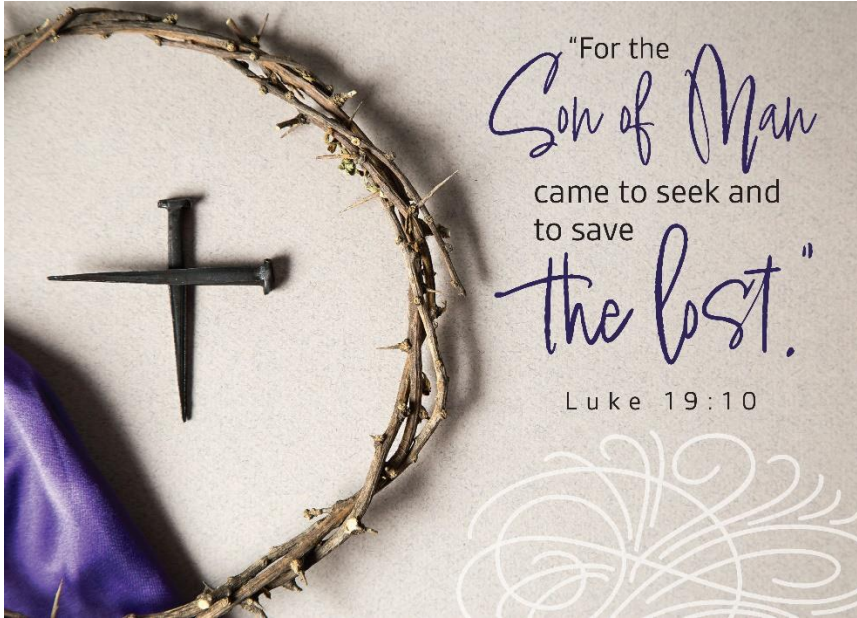
Lord, God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are

full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high -

est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

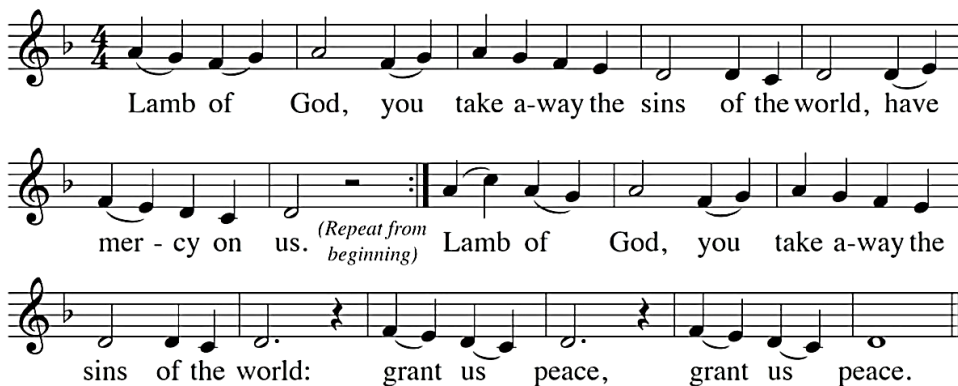
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**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.**

*Be seated*

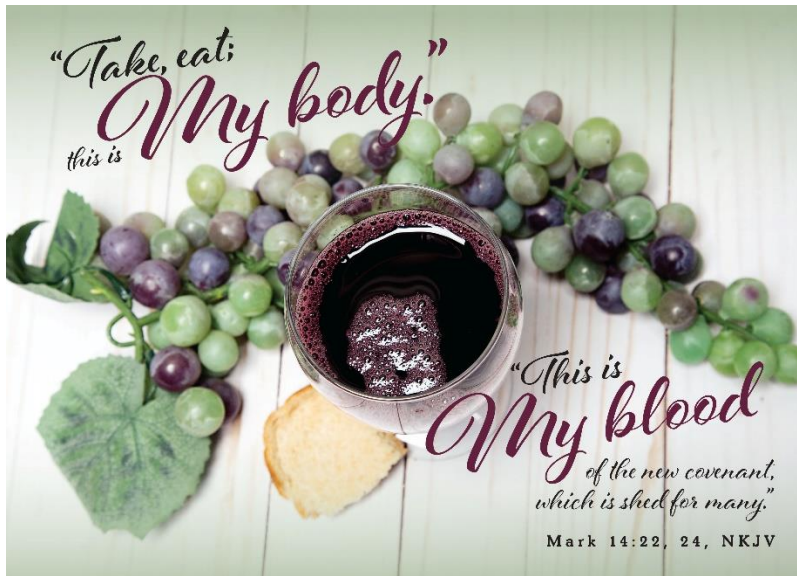
## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy on us. *(Repeat from beginning)* Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.



## COMMUNION

*\*White grape juice is in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers available at the rail upon request.*

We believe that Holy Communion is the sacrament of the real presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. As we partake of the \*bread and the \*wine, we trust Jesus' promise that we receive His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sin and strength to serve Him. If you are a baptized and repentant Christian who desires to commune with us, you are thereby publicly declaring your oneness in faith with us, and you too recognize the Lord's Body and Blood as fulfilling God's Covenant of Grace for us.

*The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

*The communicant may say: Amen.*

*Stand*

## PRAYER

**A** Let us pray.

**C** Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



## CLOSING HYMN (Vs 3 & 4)

### Go to Dark Gethsemane

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Go to dark Geth-se-ma - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;  
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;  
3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor-ing at his feet,  
4 Ear-ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;

your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf-f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin-ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

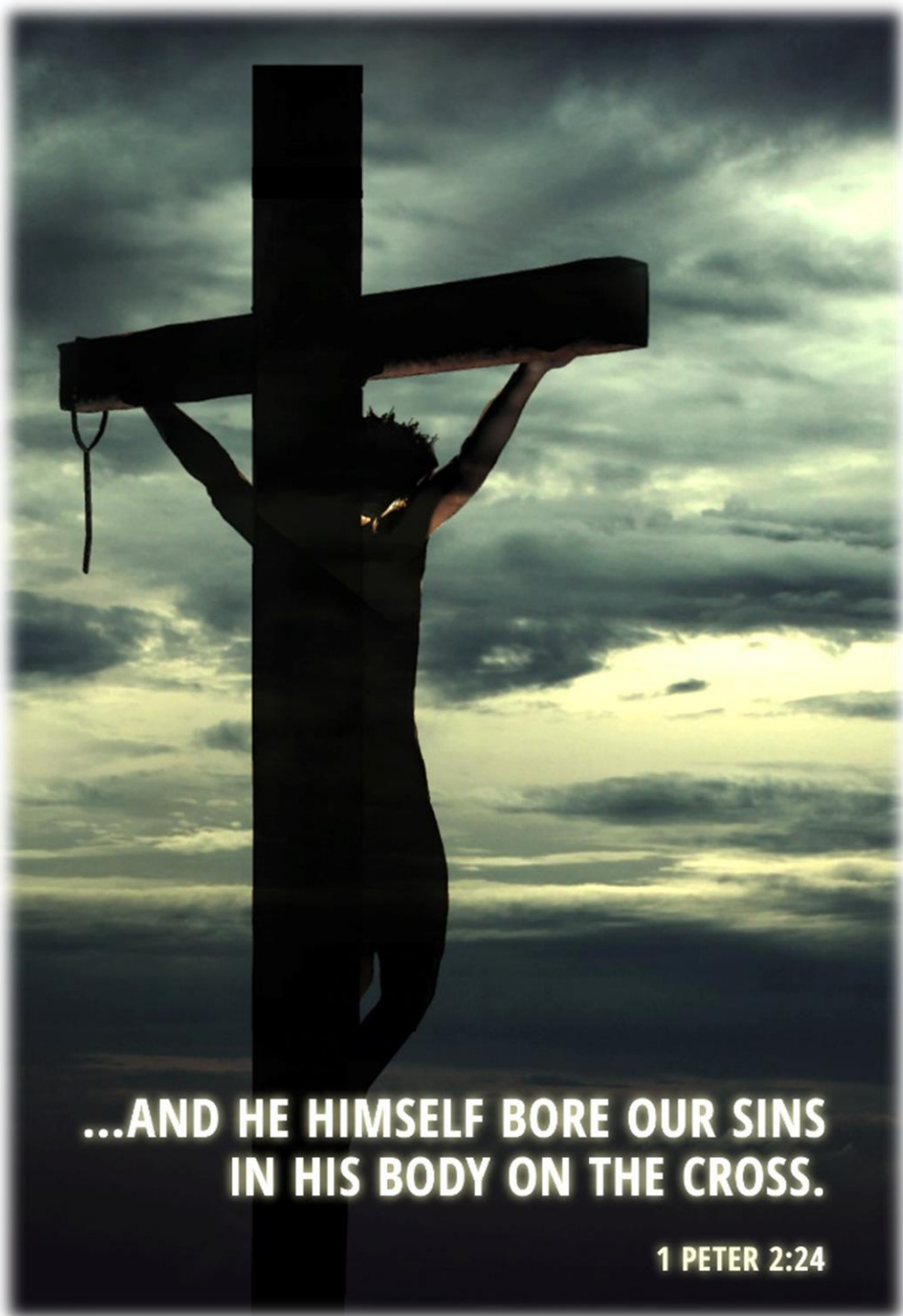
Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

*Be seated*

## **STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

***\*\*Please depart in reverent silence.***



**...AND HE HIMSELF BORE OUR SINS  
IN HIS BODY ON THE CROSS.**

**1 PETER 2:24**

As a congregation of the  
*North American Lutheran Church*  
we are guided by four core values:

1. Christ Centered
2. Mission Driven
3. Traditionally Grounded
4. Congregationally Focused



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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