

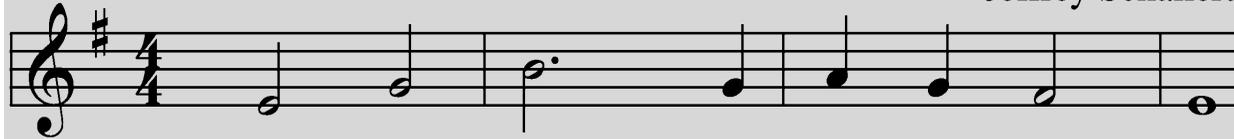
CHOIR PRACTICE TONIGHT! If you would like to sing for Palm Sunday, Good Friday & Easter Sunday, **please come to the choir practice following both services today.**

Next week's Lent theme is "Father Forgive Us for Despising Christ's Claim"

Christ, by Countless Foes Surrounded

(Pontius Pilate)

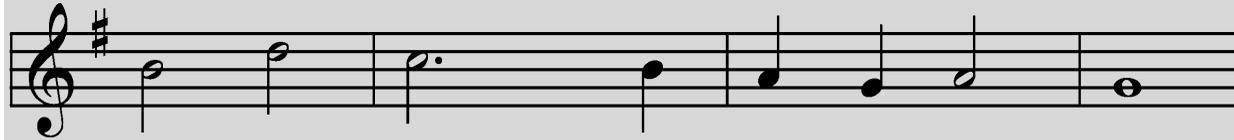
Jeffrey Schallert,



1 Christ, by count - less foes sur - round - ed,
2 "Warned by dreams of mid - night ter - ror
3 When the path of truth grows cold - er,



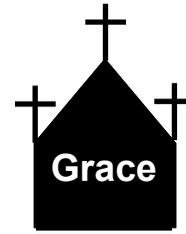
From the depths of woe un - sound - ed,
To a - void his fate - ful er - ror,
Make our spir - its ev - er bold - er.



Lift - ed up his voice to heav - en:
Weak - ly he con - demned the guilt - less.
But, if in our fear we fal - ter,



"Fath - er, may they be for - giv - en!"
Scorn - ing truth, em - braced in - jus - tice!"
Cleanse us at your ho - ly al - tar.



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Worship Services Sundays 8:00 & 10:45am, Mondays 6:30pm

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM!



**Theme: "Father Forgive Us For...
Abandoning Your Truth!"**



March 7, 2018

“Father, Forgive Us for Abandoning Your Truth!”

Opening Hymn #125: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him.

M: When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C: Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

M: I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD”

C: And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

M: O Lord God, be with us during this hour of prayer. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in your sight.

C: Forgive us our sins, O Lord, and through your Son, make us worthy to stand in your courts. Amen.

BE SEATED

Psalm 51b (page 87)

Psalm Prayer with a spoken “Amen.”

Reading of the Passion History Part 4 - (see colored insert)

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

Sermon Hymn: “Christ, by Countless Foes Surrounded” (see back of bulletin)

Sermon Text: John 18:33-38

³³ Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

³⁴ “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”

³⁵ “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”

³⁶ Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

³⁷ “You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

³⁸ “What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him.”

Sermon Theme: “Forgive Us When We Abandon Your Truths!”

1. We sometimes think they don’t fit into our lives.

2. Father, fit our lives to your eternal truths.

Offering

STAND

Prayers

M: Lord God, we confess our many sins to you. We have often failed to stand up for your truths when they are under assault by the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature.

C: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love.

M: For the sake of your Son, whose earthly judge rejected the truths he offered, forgive our weak acceptance of what is true and right.

C: According to your great compassion, blot out our transgressions.

M: Make us true champions of your truth and your Word, so that through us many may come to know him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

C: Forgive us our sins, O Lord, and through your Son, make us worthy to stand in your courts. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Hymn #127: “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

Prayer for Peace

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Hymn #590: “God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven”

*Thank you to our pianists: 4:15 Darci Matzke & 6:30 Amibeth Olderman.
Thank you also to Pastor Arndt from St John’s Two Rivers for being with us today.*

**All are invited to join us for supper served between services tonight
- hosted by our Grace Circle Ladies. Thank you Ladies!**