

# In Their Own Words

*Wednesday Lenten Worship Series*

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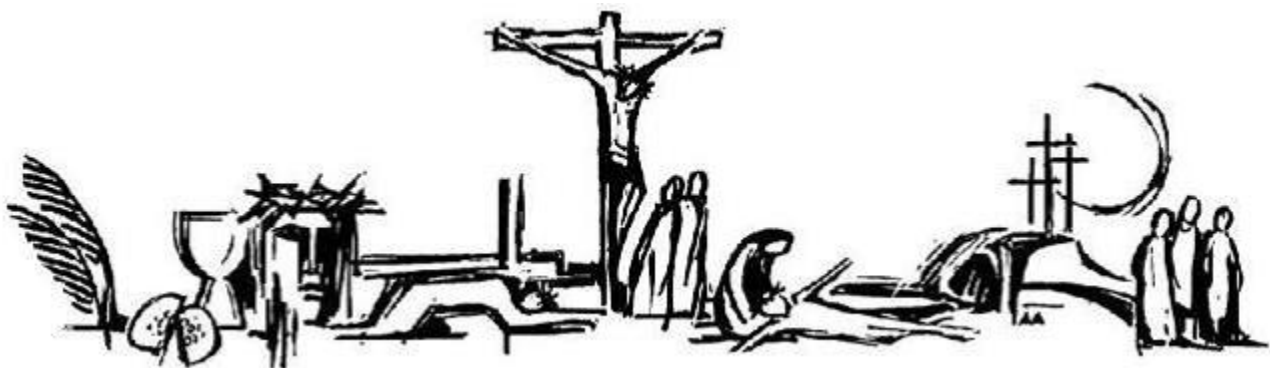
**Wednesday, March 22, 2023 + 7:00pm**

**THE 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF LENT**

St. Martin's Lutheran Church + Archbold, Ohio

[www.the-welcome-place.org](http://www.the-welcome-place.org)

Sunday Worship, 9am + Sunday School, 10:20am



*Welcome to Wednesday worship. Our Lenten worship theme is based on a series of monologues "In Their Own Words." We will explore individuals connected to Jesus' ministry and the events surrounding Holy Week.*

*TONIGHT: Centurion, as presented by Bill Phelps  
Deacon Steve Basselman, Worship Leader*

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader  
**Bold text is spoken by the Congregation**

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## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

## OPENING DIALOGUE

*Please Stand*

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;

**hear my voice when I cry to you.**

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,

**the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,

**and guard the door of my lips.** *(from Psalm 141)*

I lie down and go to sleep;

**I wake again, because you sustain me.** *(from Psalm 3)*

Hear my prayer, O Lord:

**listen to my cry.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye;

**hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

In righteousness I shall see you;

**when I awake, your presence will give me joy.** *(from Psalm 17)*

## PRAYER

In many and various ways God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets.

**But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.** *(Hebrews 1:1)*

Gracious and holy God, as we gather for worship this night give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Give us a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; all in response to the gift of your Son, our Savior, who died and rose again.

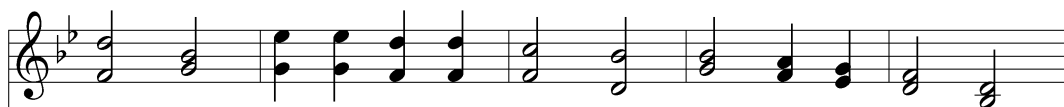
**Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

*"OH, HOLY JESUS"*



1. Oh, ho - ly Je - sus, how have you of - fend - ed that mor - tal  
 2. Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on you? A - las my  
 3. For me, kind Je - sus, was your birth and suf - f'ring, your mor - tal



judg - ment has on you de - scend - ed? By foes de - rid - ded,  
 trea - son, Je - sus, has un - done you. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
 sor - row, and your life's full of - f'ring; your death of an - guish



by your own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
 I it was de - nied you; I cru - ci - fied you.  
 and your bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### 1<sup>ST</sup> JOHN 1:1-10

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup> this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup> what we have seen and heard we also declare to you so that you also may have fellowship with us, and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.<sup>4</sup> We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.<sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;<sup>7</sup> but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.<sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.<sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. oblation

### MATTHEW 26:57-66

<sup>33</sup> When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.<sup>34</sup> At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"<sup>35</sup> When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."<sup>36</sup> And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."<sup>37</sup> Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.<sup>38</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.<sup>39</sup> Now when the centurion who stood facing him saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

<sup>42</sup> When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath,<sup>43</sup> Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.<sup>44</sup> Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead, and summoning the centurion he asked him whether he had been dead for some time.<sup>45</sup> When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.<sup>46</sup> Then Joseph bought a linen cloth and, taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS: CENTURION

## PRAYERS

Beneath the cross of Jesus, we lift up our joys and our concerns to God.

*A brief silence to collect our thoughts...*

O Lord, amid the shifting sands of this world,

**be our rock and our foundation.**

In the fears and uncertainties of our lives,

**be our home and our resting place.**

When we lay our sins before you,

**be our comfort and our guide.**

As we gaze upon the cross of Christ,

**be our hope and our salvation.**

*Additional prayer petitions are offered...concluding with...*

I give thanks to you, my heavenly Father,

**through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today, and I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. For into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen** *(Martin Luther's Evening Prayer)*

O God our help, our hope, our shelter and our home; hear us as we pray:

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen**

## BENEDICTION - *Based on Galatians 2:19-20*

People of God, you have been crucified with Christ,  
and it is no longer you who live, but it is Christ who lives in you.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

*"The Old Rugged Cross"*

1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross,  
 2 Oh, that old rug - ged cross so de - spised by the world,  
 3 In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,  
 4 To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,

the em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame;  
 has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;  
 a won - drous beau - ty I see;  
 its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;

and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best  
 for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove,  
 for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,  
 Christ will call me some day to my home far a - way,

for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.  
 to . . . . bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.  
 to . . . . par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.  
 where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

*Refrain*

So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross,  
cross, the old rug - ged cross,

till my tro - phies at last I lay down;

I will cling to the old rug - ged cross,  
cross, the old rug - ged cross,

and ex - change it some day for a crown.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Wednesday Worship** during Lent will continue at 7:00pm through March 29.

**Chancel Choir** rehearses after worship tonight.

**Family Movie Night . . .** has been rescheduled for this Friday, **March 24**. An evening of food, fellowship, and entertainment. Hotdogs, popcorn, and chips will be served at 6:30pm and the movie, “Minions: Rise of Gru”, will start at 7:15. Invite a friend.

**Wednesday Night Kids Program . . .** Jake has re-launched our Wednesday Night Elementary Kids program. This will take place from 6-7:00 pm for K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. He is still looking for some volunteers who would like to help as Small Group Leaders, Large Program Leaders and Floaters. If this is something you are interested in, come and speak with Jake soon. He would love to fill you in on his vision and plans.

### *Holy Week*

Palm Sunday – April 2 at 9:00am

Maundy Thursday – April 6 at 7:00pm

Good Friday – April 7 at 7:30pm (*Please note the later time for Good Friday*)

### *Easter Sunday - April 9*

7:00am Worship, Easter Vigil Sunrise

8:00am Breakfast

9:00am Sunday School (*ending at 9:45*)

10:00am Worship

### *In Their Own Words - Wednesday Worship Series*

**FEBRUARY 22 + JUDAS**

**MARCH 1 + CAIAPHAS**

**MARCH 8 + PILATE**

**MARCH 15 + MARY MAGDALENE**

**TONIGHT: MARCH 22 + CENTURION**

**MARCH 29 + MARY**