

Midweek Lenten Service

March 3, 2021

PRE-SERVICE HYMN SING

BELLS

OPENING RESPONSES

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RESPONSIVE PSALM 41

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 15:12; 17:1-4 (ESV)

And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing. Moreover, Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Let me choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. I will come upon him while he is weary and discouraged and throw him into a panic, and all the people who are with him will flee. I will strike down only the king, and I will bring all the people back to you as a bride comes home to her husband. You seek the life of only one man, and all the people will be at peace." And the advice seemed right in the eyes of Absalom and all the elders of Israel. L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven"

#877

EPISTLE READING

Acts 3:14-19 (ESV)

But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name--by faith in his name--has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out. L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

John 18:1-11 (ESV) P:

The Holy Gospel according to St John the eighteenth chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.** When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one." Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?" L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

RESPONSORY FOR LENT

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HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing"

#421

SERMON

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

#783 (vs 1,4-5 only)

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

EVENING PRAYER

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BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

"O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken"

#439 vs 1-5, 15

"Return From Betrayal" 2 Samuel 15:12; 17:1-4 Psalm 41 Acts 3:14-19 John 18:1-11 *ESV*

Introduction and Goal

Our theme for today revolves around betrayal. As we look at the lessons read earlier, may we see ways that our own sins pull us away from God. We will hear His call to return to Him because He offers reconciliation, forgiveness, and peace.

The particular event we wish to look at this evening is Jesus' _____ by Judas Iscariot.

We will first look at an older betrayal, that of King David by his own son _____ and his trusted adviser Ahithophel.

It starts with that awful affair between David and _____.

One of the major impacts of David's sin is that _____ in the family.

Ahithophel betrayed his friend _____ .

The _____ by Ahithophel haunted David.

You and I may understand the _____ that betrayal causes.

Our actions may amount to a _____ of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is quite possible that we have betrayed Jesus in order to put _____ on the throne.

The _____ of our betrayal?

Our actions may not follow Jesus' words as He commissions _____ to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

This is not _____ to hear.

God says, "Return to Me! I want you to be true to Me, but even when you fail at that, I have already stepped in to provide _____ !"

He offers _____. He offers _____. And He offers the _____ to turn back and receive His blessings.

When we return to God, we receive _____ that He has promised.