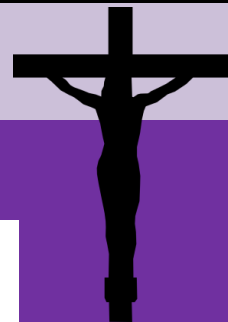


Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Teaching God's Word for our temporal and eternal benefit!



Services: Wednesday, March 22 at 11 AM & 7 PM

Church Year: Fourth Wednesday of Lent – 2017



Sermon: What was the Perspective of Barabbas on Jesus?

L = Leader ♦ C = Congregation ♦ A = All

Today's service is **Vespers** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 229-234).

PREPARATION:

1. **Bell:** Candle lighting. Please be seated.
2. **Visitors:** Please take a Visitor Packet and introduce yourself to the pastor!

3. **The Season of Lent:**

L: Jesus went to the cross for you and me!

C: Let us give Him thanks!

↑ **PSALM VERSES** (Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1):

L: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L: Hurry, O God, to deliver me;

C: hurry to help me, O Lord.

A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

L: Praise to You, O Christ,

C: Lamb of our salvation.

OPENING HYMN:

LSB 433, sts. 1-4

Glory Be to Jesus

1. **Glory be to Jesus,**
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins!
2. **Grace and life eternal**
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind!
3. **Blest through endless ages**
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem!
4. **Abel's blood for vengeance**
Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus
For our pardon cries.

LENT RESPONSORY:

L: Deliver me, O Lord, my God,
C: for You are the God of my salvation.
L: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust,
C: leave me not, O Lord, my God.
L: Deliver me, O Lord, my God,
C: for You are the God of my salvation.
A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
L: Rescue me from my enemies,
C: Protect me from those who rise against me.

SALUTATION and PRAYER: *Let Us Pray*

L: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
L: Dear LORD God, full of mercy, You permitted Jesus to be punished so that all sinners, including Barabbas, could be set free, so show us the sad truth about our sins and assure us of Your complete forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen. ↓



SERMON HYMN – Part 1: TLH 652, sts. 1-2
I Lay My Sins on Jesus

1. I lay my sins on Jesus,
The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
White in His blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.

2. I lay my wants on Jesus,
All fulness dwells in Him;
He healeth my diseases,
He doth my soul redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus,
My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases,
He all my sorrows shares.

SERMON and SCRIPTURE READINGS: "Our Buddy Bar-abbas" Mt. 27:15-26; Mk. 15:6-15; Lu. 23:17-25; Jn. 18:39, 40

See today's sermon handout!



SERMON HYMN – Part 2: TLH 652, sts. 3-4

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

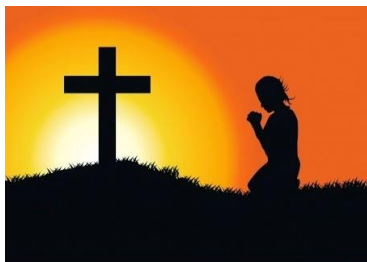
3. I rest my soul on Jesus,
This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces,
I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus,
Immanuel, Christ the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes
His name abroad is poured.
4. I long to be like Jesus,
Meek, loving, lowly, mild;
I long to be like Jesus,
The Father's holy Child.
I long to be with Jesus
Amid the heavenly throng
To sing with saints His praises,
To learn the angels' song.

OFFERING: *Let us honor the Lord!*

Jesus lived, suffered, and died save us; let us honor
Him with our giving!

⇒ Offertory:

⇒ Please complete your attendance slip!



↑ KYRIE, LORD'S PRAYER, OTHER PRAYERS:

L: Let us pray:

L: *O Lord,* **C: have mercy.**

L: *O Christ,* **C: have mercy.**

L: *O Lord,* **C: have mercy.**

L: Let us pray:

A: Our Father who art in heaven...

L: O Lord, hear our prayer.

C: And let our cry come to You.

L: Dear Father, as You planned our eternal rescue through Your Son, so help us to plan how we will rightly give You thanks!

C: Amen.

L: Dear Jesus, it was so unfair, You – *the sinless One*, taking the punishment for all of us – *the sinful ones*; as You died for us, so move us to live for You!

C: Amen.

L: Dear Holy Spirit, You have given us spiritual life through Jesus, enable us to understand the Bible, and give us the power to apply it in our daily lives, so move us to take full advantage of Your presence with us!

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION:

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C: Amen. ↓

CLOSING HYMN and ⦿ CANDLE

EXTINGUISHING: LSB 424

O Christ, You Walked the Road

- 1 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r
And fought our ancient foe.
- 2 No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.
- 3 No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.
- 4 When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,

Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.

5 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour
To fight our ancient foe.

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Free Food and Fellowship

✦ Each Wednesday in Lent at 12 & 6; *skip your own preparation and gather with us!*

Upcoming Sermons

Fourth Sunday in Lent, 3/26 (and Monday, 3/27): Psalm 142; Isaiah 42:14-21; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

Fifth Wednesday of Lent, 3/29: What was the Perspective of the Soldiers who Mocked Jesus?
Bible: Matthew 27:26-31; Mark 15:16-20

Fifth Sunday in Lent, 4/2 (and Monday, 4/3):
Psalm 130; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Rom. 8:1-11; John 11:17-27, 38-45

Sixth Wednesday of Lent, 4/5: What were the Perspectives of the Two Criminals on Jesus?
Bible: Matt. 27:44; Mark 15:32; Luke 23:39-43



Holy Week

Palm Sunday in Lent, 4/9: Psalm 118:19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Phil 2:5-11; John 12:12-19

Holy Thursday, 4/13: What was the Perspective of Judas on Jesus?

Bible: John 13:21-30; Matthew 26:21-25

Good Friday, 4/14: What was the Perspective of the Centurion on Jesus?

Bible: Matt. 27:33-43; Mark 15:22-32; Matt. 27:45-54; Mark 15:33-39; Luke 23:44-48

Easter Sunday, 4/16 (Service at 7:00; Breakfast at 8:30; Classes at 9:30; Service at 10:45):

What was the Perspective of God the Father on Jesus?

Bible: Psalm 16; Isaiah 53:4-11; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

CONNECT WITH US

Website:	BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com	Podcast:	"Benefit from the Bible"
Facebook:	"Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"	Address:	7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134
Church Office:	Monday – Thursday, 9:30 to 3:30	Kathy Green:	Secretary@blc7500.com ; 440-845-2230
Childcare Center:	Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00	Tricia Wise:	ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com ; 440-884-0430
Pastor Green:	Pastor@blc7500.com ; 440-292-5915	Church Body:	lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org

Lenten Symbols at Bethlehem:

- ✓ **The Color Purple:** It points to Jesus' passion, His suffering; by His wounds we are healed!
- ✓ **Crown of Thorns:** Jesus is the King of kings, yet He accepted that pain and shame for us!
- ✓ **Large Rugged Cross:** Jesus accepted horrible pain and our sins to open heaven for us!