A LENTEN LITURGY OF EVENING PRAYER

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

Lent Mid-Week 3 March 3, 2021

LENTEN THEME - "BOLD LOVE"

The world needs Christians who are bold in faith and Spirit-inspired love. This Lent we gather mid-week for renewal and inspiration in the bold love of Jesus. Many Christians are well aware of what took place on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. But what took place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week? These three days contain bold action of Jesus, bold teaching, and bold confrontation with the religious leaders. Ash Wednesday reminds us of Christ's bold solution to the dreadful problem of sin and death. The other five midweek services of this series explore the "Bold" events that took place between Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday. May the Holy Spirit kindle bold faith and love in us this Lenten season.



Feb 17 Genesis 3:19 "Bold Solution" (Ash Wed.)

Feb 24 Mark 11:15–19 "Bold Action"

March 3 Mark 12:28–37 "Bold Questions"

March 10 Matthew 23:1–12 "Bold Teaching"

March 17 John 12:23–36 "Bold Final Appearance"

March 24 Luke 22:1-6 "Bold Deal"

AS WE GATHER

As we journey through this Lenten season and the days of Holy Week, we find Jesus on the Tuesday before His crucifixion teaching and being asked various questions. Upon being asked which commandment is the greatest, Jesus says to love—with love for God and love for one's neighbor. We may find we are lacking in either of these commands to love. Let us find hope in the reality that because Christ first loved us, we are empowered to love others.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Pastor John Benito, piano

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

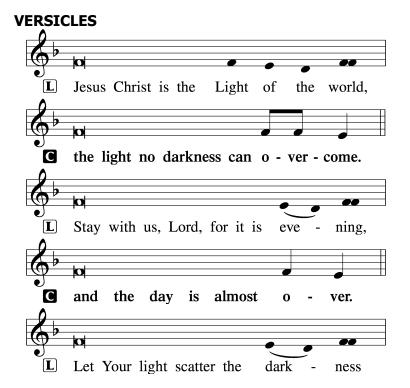
Pastor Stephen Heimer

INVOCATION

- ightharpoonup In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P As we turn our eyes to Holy Week, we find the scribes asking Jesus questions.
- **They want to know which commandment is most important.**
- P Jesus' answer is twofold. Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength,
- and love your neighbor as yourself.
- **P** These two commands are grounded in love.
- **■** Lord, grant that we love God and others as Christ loves us.
- P And grant that we turn away from hate and indifference
- and share the love of Christ.

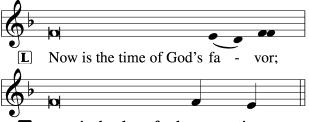


+ SERVICE OF LIGHT +

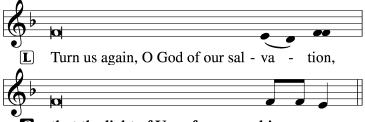




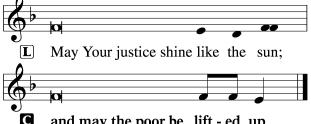
VERSICLES (LENT)



now is the day of sal-va tion.



that the light of Your face may shine on us.



and may the poor be lift - ed up.

PHOS HILARON



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:





+ PSALMODY +





PSALM PRAYER

Let us pray. Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON (The Lord is one, and we are to love Him with all our heart.) **Deuteronomy 6:4–9**

⁴"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

EPISTLE LESSON (To love our neighbors as ourselves as we bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit.) Galatians 5:13–23

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

GOSPEL LESSON (Jesus is asked a bold question: which commandment is the most important of all?) **Mark 12:28–37**

²⁸One of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" ²⁹Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹The second is this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³²And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. ³³And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

³⁵And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? ³⁶David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.' ³⁷David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?" And the great throng heard him gladly.

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

"In God the Father I Believe" (tune: "Old Hundredth" LSB 805)

- In God the Father I believe. Made heaven and earth and all we see. Loved He the world so that He gave His Son that we all may be saved.
- 2 In Jesus Christ, I do believe God's Son the Spirit did conceive In Virgin Mary, born to die Then rise to reign and judge on high.
- In God the Spirit I believe and all God's Holy Church are we.

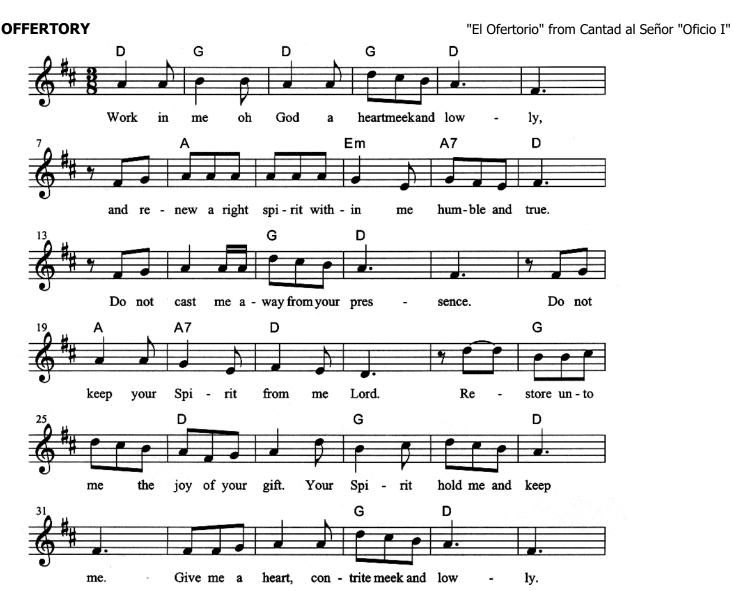
 His "saints" by grace through faith we live Forever in victry ovr the grave

SERMON Bold Love: "Bold Questions"

OFFERING

"Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"

Mariachi San Pablo



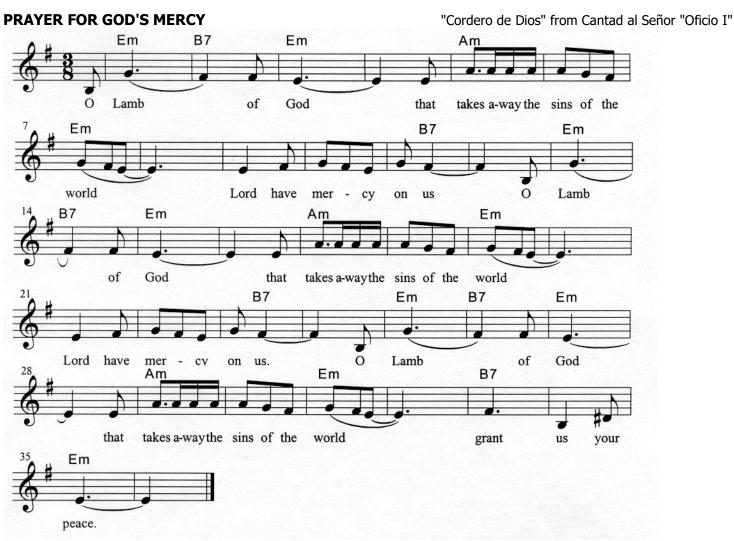


+ PRAYER +

- P O Lord, hear my prayer.
- And let my cry come to You.

various petitions may be offered

- P O God, You have commanded us to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Strengthen us by Your own redeeming love that we might reflect Your steadfast love to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.



EVENING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



"Our Father" LSB 958



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BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

John 20:31

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.
- The grace of our Lord

 → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- Amen. C

CLOSING HYMN

"O Savior, Precious Savior" LSB 527 (sung to the tune of "Church's One Foundation" LSB 644)

- O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love; O name of might and favor, All other names above, We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing; We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our holy Lord and King.
- O bringer of salvation, Who wondrously hast wrought Thyself the revelation Of love beyond our thought, We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing; We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our gracious Lord and King.
- O grant the consummation Of this our song above In endless adoration And everlasting love; Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where perfect praises ring, And evermore confess Thee, Our Savior and our King!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE Mariachi San Pablo

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Zion Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am—3:00pm

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You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at www.zionelpaso.org. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

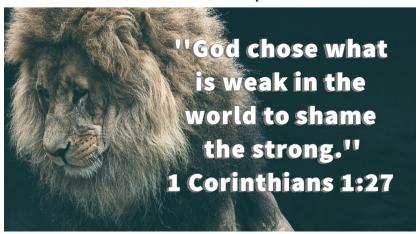
Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

This Week's Memory Verse

This week's memory verse:



View more from Zion's "At Home in the Word" on our website: https://www.zionelpaso.org/at-home



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