

**C:** O Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive us.  
**P:** We confess that it is easier to talk the talk rather than walk the walk with you.  
**C:** O Lord, have mercy upon us, forgive us, and hear us as we pray.  
**All:** We thank you, Jesus, that you were totally committed to doing the Father's will while you were here on earth. Your commitment was evident when you not only said these words but lived them. "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can only do what he sees the Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does." As we take this nail home tonight and nail it into the base of the cross, let it remind us of the pain you endured for our sin. Thank you for your total commitment to our salvation. Help us to live a more committed life toward you and your kingdom. We ask this in your holy, precious name, as we continue in the prayer you taught us, Our Father, who art in heaven, . . .

**Offering/ Offertory**

Renew! #187 "Purify My Heart"

*Purify my heart, touch me with your cleansing fire.  
 Take me to the cross; your holiness is my desire.  
 Breathe life in me, kindle a love that flows from your throne.  
 Oh, purify my heart. Purify my heart.*

**Closing Prayers**

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn**

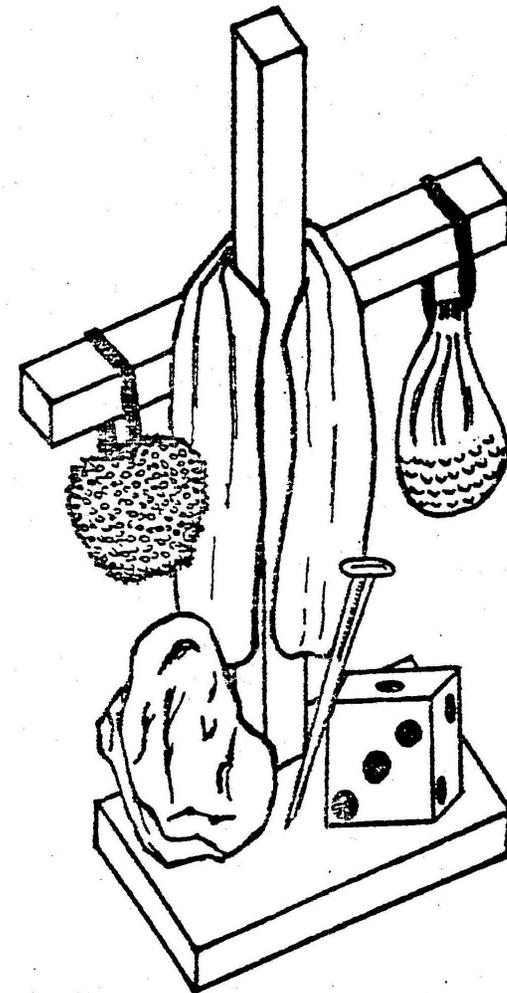
#107 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

*Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;  
 The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,  
 A home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
 From the burning of the noontide heat and burdens of the day.*

*Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see  
 The very dying form of one who suffered there for me.  
 And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:  
 The wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.*

*I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;  
 I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;  
 Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,  
 My sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.*

**For He is our peace...  
 ...through the CROSS**



**CROSS/PEACE**

Lenten mid-week worship

March 18, 2020

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

**Opening Hymn: #98 “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”**

*Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?  
Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?*

*Was it for sins that I have done he groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!*

*Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut its glories in  
when God, the mighty maker, died for his own creatures' sin.*

*Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears,  
dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt my eyes to tears.*

*But tears of grief cannot repay the debt of love I owe;  
here, Lord, I give myself away: it's all that I can do.*

**Lenten Response**

P: Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of all mercies, and the God of all consolation.**

P: Seek the Lord while he may be found.

**C: Call upon him while he is near.**

P: Let the wicked abandon their ways,

**C: and the unrighteous their thoughts.**

P: Let them turn to the Lord for mercy,

**C: to our God, who is generous in forgiving.**

P: All you who are thirsty, come to the water.

You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat.

Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk.

**C: Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of all mercies, and the God of all consolation.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Lord, while a single nail may not seem that important, when three single nails held you on a cross, those nails became three of the most important nails the world has ever known and used. Those nails kept you on a cross where you were committed to die for the sin of the entire world--past, present, and future. While those nails brought you great pain, it was for the joy set before you that you endured the cross for us. Amen.

**First Lesson: 1 Kings 19:15-21**

*When Elisha succeeded Elijah as the prophet of the Lord, he showed his commitment by returning home to bury his plowing equipment and slaughtering his oxen for food for all to eat.*

**Second Lesson: Acts 14:21-28**

*When Paul and Barnabas returned to faith communities he had founded earlier, they committed them to the Lord with prayer and fasting. Upon approval, these communities shared what God had done by opening up doors to the Gentiles.*

**Gospel: Luke 23:26-33**

*While none of the gospel writers mention the nails that kept Jesus on the cross, Luke reminds us that Jesus' death was by Roman crucifixion. The nails meant death by suffocation.*

**Message**

“Nailed” (object: a single nail)

**Hymn Journey During Lent**

#482 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.*

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!*

**Lenten Litany**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, by your agony on the cross, you have won for us peace with God and the promise of life everlasting.

**C: We give you our thanks and praise.**

P: O Lord, by letting the soldiers nail you to the cross, those nails in your flesh symbolized your commitment, not only to die on the cross but your commitment to die for our sins.

**C: We give you our thanks and praise.**

P: O Lord, by allowing yourself to be nailed to the cross, you were committed to doing the Father's will to save humanity from God's wrath and punishment.

**C: We give you our thanks and praise.**

P: We confess that our commitment to you is partial at best. We confess our lack of commitment to do the Father's will in our lives,

**C: O Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive us.**

P: We confess our commitment is stronger to many other things in this life than our commitment is to you.