

## Midweek Lenten Series: Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Week of Lent 5: I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place

**Prelude**

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

*Smith*

*Jeff Petersen, flute*

### **Opening Dialogue (from Psalm 57)**

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful,

**for in you my soul takes refuge.**

In the shadow of your wings I will take refuge,

**until the destroying storms pass by.**

I cry to God Most High,

**to God who is with me to the end.**

God will send from heaven and save me.

**God will send forth steadfast love and faithfulness.**

### **Gathering Song: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

## **Greeting**

God who created all, who bore the cross, and who dwells in us, be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **Prayers**

Together we pray,

**God of our redemption, keep us ever near the cross. Remind us of the extravagant love you showed to us through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Teach us to take up our cross and follow you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Reading:** *Colossians 1:15-20*

**Gospel Acclamation**      Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (LBW 93, st. 3)

**Jesus, may our hearts be burning with more fervent love for you; may our eyes be ever turning to behold your cross anew; till in glory, parted never from the blessed Savior's side, graven in our hearts forever, dwell the cross, the Crucified.**

**Gospel:** *Mark 8:31- 9:1*

## **Reflection**

### **Hymn of the Day: Lord Jesus, Think on Me**

- 1 Lord Jesus, think on me,  
and purge away my sin;  
from selfish passions set me free  
and make me pure within.
- 2 Lord Jesus, think on me,  
by anxious thoughts oppressed;  
let me your loving servant be  
and taste your promised rest.
- 3 Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity  
point out your chosen way.

## Prayers

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

*A brief silence.*

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.**

*Here other prayers may be offered.*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to 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.**

## Offering is Received

### Offering Prayer

Together we pray,

**God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Blessing *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.**

## **Sending Song: Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling**

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me.  
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
watching for you and for me.

### *Refrain*

"Come home, (Come home,)  
come home! (come home!)  
You who are weary, come home."  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*

3 Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,  
promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
pardon for you and for me. *Refrain*

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace, led by the cross of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**