

Midweek Lenten Series: Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Week of Lent 2: The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land

Opening Dialogue *(from Psalm 61)*

Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.

From the end of the earth I call to you.

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I;

you are my refuge, a strong tower.

Let me abide in your tent forever,

and find refuge under the shelter of your wings.

You, O God, have heard my vows.

I will always sing praises to your name.

Gathering Song *In The Cross Of Christ I Glory*

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

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 salvation, you are the rock in whom we take refuge. Hear our cry and make our way safe. Plant our feet on solid ground.

Support us with your love shown to us through the cross of Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Reading: *1 Peter 2:4-10*

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: *Matthew 7:24-27*

Reflection

Hymn of the Day *Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land*

Refrain: Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a weary land, a weary land;
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a shelter in a time of storm.

1 No one can do like Jesus,
not a mumbling word he said;
he went walking down to Lazarus' grave,
and he raised him from the dead. *Refrain*

2 When Jesus was on earth,
the flesh was very weak;
he took a towel and girded himself
and he washed his disciples' feet. *Refrain*

3 Yonder comes my Savior,
him whom I love so well;
he has the palm of victory
and the keys of death and hell. *Refrain*

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 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Dismissal

Go in peace, led by the cross of Christ.

Thanks be to God.