



MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

March 3, 2021 - 6:30PM

AS WE GATHER: *Rolling Stones* - Drawing on the rich imagery of rocks and stones in Scripture, this Lenten sermon series centers around the compelling metaphor of stones. These metaphors illustrate God's will for our lives and our failure to trust, follow and obey Him in all things. These stones show us our sins and our need for a Savior, Jesus, the Rock of our Salvation. Join us this Lenten season as we journey to the Cross of Christ and the forgiveness that He won for us. This series begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17, and continues Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings during Lent.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #437

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
 And did my sov'reign die?
 Would He devote that sacred head
 For such a worm as I?
- 2 Was it for crimes that I had done
 He groaned upon the tree?
 Amazing pity, grace unknown,
 And love beyond degree!
- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide
 And shut his glories in
 When God, the mighty maker, died
 For His own creatures' sin.
- 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face
 While His dear cross appears,
 Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
 And melt mine eyes to tears.
- 5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay
 The debt of love I owe;
 Here, Lord, I give myself away:
 'Tis all that I can do.

INVOCATION

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips.
People: And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
People: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
All: Amen.

CANTICLE #908 *"Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear"*

- 1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.
- 2 Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.
- 3 To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity.

THE LITANY OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

People: We confess to you, Merciful Father,
That we have not loved You with our whole heart.

Pastor: We confess to you, Jesus, our Savior,

People: **That we have been heartless to our families, friends and neighbors.**

Pastor: We confess to you, Spirit Comforter,

People: **That we have hardened our hearts against You.**

Pastor: O Lord,

People: **Have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

People: **Have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,

People: **Have mercy. Amen.**

(Time for silent reflection and confession)

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CANTICLE #422

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

1 On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 11:16-25

Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: Though I removed them far off among the nations, and though I scattered them among the countries, yet I have been a sanctuary to them for a while in the countries where they have gone.' ¹⁷ Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.' ¹⁸ And when they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. ¹⁹ And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰ that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. ²¹ But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, declares the Lord GOD."

²² Then the cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel was over them. ²³ And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain that is on the east side of the city. ²⁴ And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me in the vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to the exiles. Then the vision that I had seen went up from me. ²⁵ And I told the exiles all the things that the LORD had shown me.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 3:1-3

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? ² You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. ³ And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION**"Rolling Stones: Hard-Hearted"**

Pastor Jeff Schubert


HYMN #851

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

- 1 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the_unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.
- 3 Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?
- 4 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Create in Me"


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



LITANY

Pastor: Let us pray for the Church here and around the world, and people everywhere in their various needs. For everyone weighed down by their bondage to sin and an inability to stop sinning by thought, word, and deed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: For the sake of Christ's sacrifice, heavenly Father, open their ears to hear the Gospel anew; free them to live before You in Your kingdom.

Pastor: For everyone who has fallen prey to society's distorted morality, let us pray to the Lord.

People: For the sake of Christ's sacrifice, heavenly Father, surround them with faithful and caring members of the Body of Christ; call them back in repentance and hope.

Pastor: For those who keep the peace at home or are deployed abroad, for those who provide care and guidance in relationships, finances, and health, and for those who respond to natural disasters and crises of various sorts, let us pray to the Lord.

People: For the sake of Christ's sacrifice, heavenly Father, accompany them with Your Holy Spirit; protect them from harm, and give them wisdom in all circumstances.

Pastor: For ourselves and the Church around the world as we seek to live according to Your will, let us pray to the Lord.

People: For the sake of Christ's sacrifice, heavenly Father, assure us that we are Your redeemed children; forgive our errors, and send us to serve in faithfulness and love.

Pastor: These and any other things You would have us ask,
heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the
sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy
name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on
earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive
those who trespass against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is
the kingdom and the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.

CLOSING LENTEN COLLECT

Pastor: Dear Father in heaven, who having created us
knows well our frailties, purify our motives for all
our works, that they proceed from faith in Christ,
our Redeemer, and be done because we love You
above all else; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who
with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with
dominion over us forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of
God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with
you all.

People: Amen.

CLOSING CANTICLE #783, 1,4,5,6 *"Take My Life and Let It Be"*

1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
 Not a mite would I withhold;
 Take my intellect and use
 Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
 It shall be no longer mine;
 Take my heart, it is Thine own,
 It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
 At Thy feet its treasure store;
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for Thee.

Guest Pianist: Annie Schmidt

Acolytes: Aidan Koper & Brady Newton

Sound: Todd Radke

Elder: John Uttech