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HYMNS: 51 61 790 48 v. 3

PSALM: Turn Your ear toward me, O LORD! Answer me! For I am wretched and needy.

Protect my life! For I am faithful to You. Save Your servant, who trusts in You! You are my God.

Be gracious to me, O Lord! For I am calling out to You all day long.

Make the soul of Your servant glad! For to You, O Lord, I am lifting up my soul.

For You, O Lord, are kind and ready to forgive, and very merciful toward all who call on You.

Listen, O LORD, to my prayer! Pay attention to the voice of my pleas for favour!

In the day of my distress I am calling out to You. For You will answer me.

There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord, and there are no deeds like Yours.

All the nations that You have made **will come and worship** before **You**, O Lord. They will honour Your name.

For You are great and You do wonderful things. You alone are God.

Teach me Your way, O LORD! I shall walk in Your truth. Make my heart concentrate on fearing Your name!

I shall praise You, O Lord, my God, with all my heart. I shall honour Your name for ever.

For Your mercy toward me is great, and You will rescue my soul from the depths of Sheol.

O God, arrogant people have been attacking me, and a band of ruthless people have been seeking my life, and they have had no regard for You.

However, You, O Lord, are **a compassionate and gracious God**, slow to become angry, and abundant in mercy and truth.

Turn to me and be gracious to me! Give Your strength to Your servant, and save the son of Your female servant!

Grant me a sign of Your goodness, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame! For You, O LORD, have been helping me and comforting me.

Psalm 86

COLLECT: Lord our God, You did not forget the pierced body of Your Son, and His sighing was not hidden from You. In Your kindness look also on us, Your children, weighed down with sins, and grant us the fullness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

SERMON: Hebrews 10:5-12 Jesus is our self-sacrificing High Priest

Hebrews 10:5-12

⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, He said: “You have not wanted sacrifice and offering, but You have prepared a body for Me. ⁶ You have had no pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin. ⁷ Then I said: ‘Look! I have come (It has been written about Me in the scroll of the book). I have come to do Your will, O God.’” ⁸ First Christ says: “You have not wanted sacrifices, offerings, burnt offerings, and sacrifices for sin,” which are offered according to the Law, and “You have had no pleasure in them.” ⁹ Then He has said, “Look! I have come to do Your will.” He does away with the first, in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ By this will we have been made holy, through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all. ¹¹ Every priest stands ministering every day, and repeatedly offering the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² However, when this Priest had offered one sacrifice for sins, which is good for ever, He sat down at the right hand of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Drawn from the Four Gospels, Part 4

In the morning, the council of elders of the people, including the chief priests and the scribes, held a meeting. They brought Jesus before their council and asked, “Are You the Christ? Tell us!”

He replied to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe Me. If I ask you a question, you will not answer. However, from now on **the Son of Man will be sitting at the right hand of the power of God.**”

All of them asked, “Are You, then, the Son of God?”

He answered them, “As you say: I am He.”

They asked, “Why do we need any more testimony? We ourselves have heard Him say it.”¹

All the chief priests and elders of the people came to a decision against Jesus, to put Him to death. They bound Him, led Him away, and handed Him over to Pilate, the

¹ Luke 22:66-71

governor. When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus had been condemned, he was filled with remorse and took the thirty silver coins back to the chief priests and elders. He said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.”

However, they said, “What is that to us? You should see to it!”

So he threw down the pieces of silver into the temple and departed. Then he went away and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are the price of blood.”

They made the decision to use them to buy the Potter’s Field, as a burial place for foreigners. Therefore that field has been called “the Field of Blood” to this day. Then what had been spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, **“I took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of Him who had been valued, whom those of the children of Israel had valued, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord had commanded me.”**²

So they took Jesus from Caiaphas to the governor’s quarters. It was early in the morning. The Jews themselves did not go into the governor’s quarters, to avoid becoming unclean, and to enable them to eat the Passover. So Pilate came outside to them, and asked, “What accusation are you bringing against this Man?”

They answered him, “If He were not a criminal, we would not have handed Him over to you.”

Pilate therefore told them, “You take Him, and judge Him according to your Law!”

The Jews answered him, “We are not permitted to execute anyone.”

This happened that the statement that Jesus had made might be fulfilled, when He indicated the kind of death He was going to die.³

They began to accuse Him: “We found that He makes our people disloyal, keeping them from paying taxes to Caesar, and saying that He is Christ, a King.”

Pilate asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered him, “Yes, it is as you say.”⁴

While the chief priests and elders were accusing Him, He did not answer at all. Then Pilate asked Him, “Do You not hear how much testimony they are bringing against You?”

However, Jesus made no reply to him, even about a single statement, so that the governor was very amazed.⁵

Then Pilate went into the governor’s quarters again and called for Jesus. He asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?”

² Matthew 27:1-10

³ John 18:28-32

⁴ Luke 23:2-3

⁵ Matthew 27:12-14

Jesus answered, “Are you saying this of yourself, or have others told you about Me?”
Pilate answered, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own people and the chief priests have handed You over to me. What have You done?”

Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If My kingdom belonged to this world, My attendants would fight, to prevent Me from being handed over to the Jews. However, now My kingdom is not from here.”

Therefore Pilate asked Him, “Then are You a king?”

Jesus answered, “You are correct in saying that I am a king. I have been born for this reason, and I have come into the world for this reason, that I may testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to My voice.”

Pilate asked Him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again, and told them, “I do not find any ground for complaint in Him.”⁶

However, they kept insisting, “He stirs up the people by teaching all over Judea. He began in Galilee and has come here.”

When Pilate heard that, he asked if the Man was a Galilean. When he found out that Jesus was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, because for a long time he had wanted to see Him. For he had been hearing about Him and was hoping to see some miracle done by Him. Herod asked Him many questions, but Jesus did not answer him at all. The chief priests and the scribes were standing there and accusing Him vehemently. Herod and his soldiers treated Jesus with contempt and mocked Him. They put a splendid garment on Him and sent Him back to Pilate. On that very day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other. For before this they had been enemies of each other.

Then Pilate called the chief priests, the rulers, and the people together. He told them, “You have brought this Man to me as one who is inciting the people to rebellion. Now, look! I have examined this Man before you and found Him innocent of the charges that you are making against Him. No, neither has Herod. For he has sent Him back to us; and, as you can see, He has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I shall chastise Him and release Him.”⁷

P: Here ends the reading.

The congregation stands.

⁶ John 18:33-38

⁷ Luke 23:5-16