

March 15, 2023
Lent IV

**HIS
FINAL
STEPS**

**His Final Steps
Led to Some Greeks**

Remain seated

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.
Amen.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High,
to herald your love in the morning,
your truth at the close of day.

410 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

CW 410



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and
2 Was it for crimes that I had done he
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the



did my Sov - 'reign die? Would he de - vote that
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
shut its glo - ries in when God, the might - y
his dear cross ap - pears, dis - solve my heart in
debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head for such a worm as I?
grace un - known, and love be - yond de - gree!
mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.
thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.
self a - way— 'tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Tune: Hugh Wilson, 1766–1824 Text and tune: Public domain

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

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

Silence for personal reflection

Confession

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you

in our thoughts,

in our words,

in our deeds,

and in all that we have not done.

Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deliver and restore us,

that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ,
and in him we are forgiven.

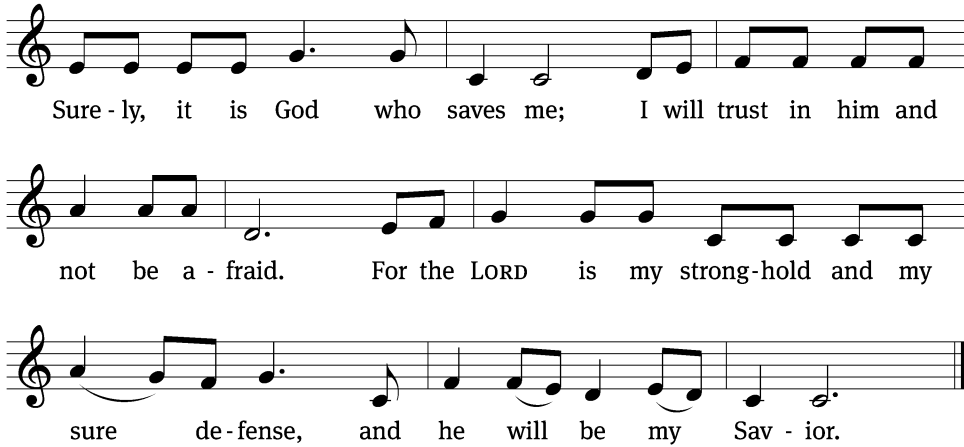
Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun,
when we shall serve him in newness of life.

Amen.

31E Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

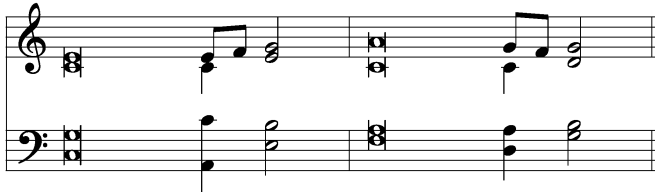
Psalm 31E

Refrain



Sure - ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and
not be a - fraid. For the LORD is my strong - hold and my
sure de - fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Tone



In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Be my rock of / refuge,
a strong fortress to / save me.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my / faithful God. *Refrain*
My times are / in your hands;
save me in your un- / failing love.
How abundant are the / good things
that you have stored up for those who / fear you.
Be strong and / take heart,
all you who hope / in the LORD.
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Prayer

God our Father, we praise your name for the marvelous universe you have created, and we pray for humility to understand our role in it. Show us that your Son is the only man who can rule this world with true wisdom and power. Give us full confidence that all things are under the control of Christ, who lives and rules with you and the Holy Spirit as one God, now and forever. Amen.

Passion History Reading - Lesson 4

As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both chief priests and experts in the law. They brought Jesus into their Sanhedrin and said, “If you are the Christ, tell us.”

But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer me or release me. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

They all said, “Are you then the Son of God?”

He said to them, “I am what you are saying.”

Then they said, “Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from his own mouth!” Then the chief priests with the elders and experts in the law, together with the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

Then when Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders and said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? That’s your problem.”

He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money.” They reached a decision to buy the potter’s field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners. So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for him, and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord commanded me.

Early in the morning, the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium.

They did not enter the Praetorium themselves, so that they would not become ceremonially unclean. (They wanted to be able to eat the Passover meal.) So Pilate went out to them and said, “What charge do you bring against this man?”

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

Pilate told them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.”

The Jews said, “It’s not legal for us to put anyone to death.” This happened so that the statement Jesus had spoken indicating what kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled.

They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.”

Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

“It is as you say,” Jesus replied.

The chief priests accused him of many things. When he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

Pilate questioned him again, “Are you not going to answer anything? See how many charges they are bringing against you!”

But Jesus still did not answer anything, so Pilate was amazed.

Pilate went back into the Praetorium and summoned Jesus. He asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered, “Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you about me?”

Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?”

Jesus replied, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But now my kingdom is not from here.”

“You are a king then?” Pilate asked.

Jesus answered, “I am, as you say, a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

“What is truth?” Pilate said to him.

After he said this, he went out again to the Jews and told them, “I find no basis for a charge against him.”

But they kept insisting, “He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here.”

When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time he had wanted to see him, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle performed by him. He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing him. Herod, along with his soldiers, treated him with contempt and ridiculed him. Dressing him in bright clothing, Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

397 My Song Is Love Unknown

CW 397 sts. 1-4



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
stow, but such dis - dain! So few the longed - for Christ would
sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their
spite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I that for my sake
know! But oh, my friend, my friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
who at my need his life did spend!
and for his death they thirst and cry.
them - selves dis - please and 'gainst him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683; alt. Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879-1962 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks

397 My Song Is Love Unknown

CW 397 sts. 5-7



5 They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made a -
6 In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might
7 Here might I stay and sing; no sto - ry so di -



way. A mur - der - er they save, the Prince of life they
have; in death no friend - ly tomb but what a stran - ger
vine, nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like



slay. Yet cheer - ful he to suf - f'ring goes
gave. What may I say? Heav'n was his home
thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet praise



that he his foes from death might free.
but mine the tomb where - in he lay.
I all my days could glad - ly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683, alt. Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879-1962 Text and tune: Public domain

Offering

Stand

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

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;
when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

O Lord, support us all day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

968 In Peace, Lord, You Let Your Servant

CW 968

In peace, Lord, you let your ser-vant now de-part ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which
you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993

Text: Public domain Tune: © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722518

Benedicamus

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

Be Seated

783 Abide with Me

CW 783 sts. 1, 5-7



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 5 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
 7 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me!
 I tri - umph still if thou a - bide with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-1889 Text and tune: Public domain

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Lent Schedule

“His Final Steps” ponders the significance of the people and places on Jesus’ resolute final steps to the cross and three days later, his first steps from the tomb. Join us on Wednesdays at 7 pm as we prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Easter.

Mar 15 Lenten Worship

His Final Steps Led to Some Greeks

Mar 22 Lenten Worship (Pastor Smith)

His Final Steps Led to His Enemies

Mar 29 Lenten Worship (Pastor Neumann)

His Final Steps Led to a Fig Tree

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