



**The
Hands
of the
Passion**

**HANDS OF HYPOCRISY
(CAIAPHAS)**

Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church
Guest Preacher: Joel Voss
March 17th, 2021

HYMN: JESUS, MY GREAT HIGH PRIEST

359



1 Je - sus, my great High Priest, Of - fered his blood and
 2 To Christ, my sub - sti - tute, Will I com - mit my
 3 My ad - vo - cate ap - pears For my de - fense on
 4 Should all the hosts of death And pow'rs of hell un -



died; My guilt - y con - science seeks No sac - ri -
 cause; He an - swers and ful - fills His Fa - ther's
 high; A gra - cious Fa - ther hears And lays his
 known Put their most dread - ful forms Of rage and



fice be - side. His pow'r - ful blood did once a -
 bro - ken laws. Be - hold my soul at free - dom
 thun - der by. Not all that hell or sin can
 mis - chief on, I shall be safe, for Christ dis -



tone, And now it pleads be - fore the throne.
 set— My Je - sus paid the dread - ful debt!
 say Shall turn his heart, his love, a - way.
 plays Su - pe - rior pow'r and guard - ian grace.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt.
 Tune: BEVAN (66 66 88) John Goss, 1800-80.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:

C: **God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.**

M: If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,

C: **We lie and do not live by the truth.**

M: If we claim to be without sin,

C: **We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.**

C: **Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of the Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.**

Silence for private confession.

M: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYER

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 2

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

M: Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

C: **The kings of the earth take their stand and
the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.**

M: “Let us break their chains,” they say, “and throw off their fetters.”

C: **The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.**

M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

C: **“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.

C: **Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance,
the ends of the earth your possession.**

M: You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

C: **Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

M: Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way,
for his wrath can flare up in a moment.

C: **Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, Is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

REFRAIN

PSALM PRAYER

M: Lord God, you anointed your Son to be King for the sake of your Church. Help us, as members of his kingdom, to serve him faithfully and to come to the full knowledge of his grace and glory, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

PASSION HISTORY FROM MARK 14:66-15:15

⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him.

“You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,” she said.

⁶⁸ But he denied it. “I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway.

⁶⁹ When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “This fellow is one of them.” ⁷⁰ Again he denied it.

After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.”

⁷¹ He began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.”

⁷² Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

15 Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate.

² “Are you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate.

“Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied.

³ The chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ So again Pilate asked him, “Aren’t you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of.”

⁵ But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

⁶ Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. ⁷ A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. ⁸ The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

⁹ “Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate, ¹⁰ knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.

¹² “What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them.

¹³ “Crucify him!” they shouted.

¹⁴ “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

¹⁵ Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

SEASONAL RESPONSE

C: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

SERMON HYMN: HE STOOD BEFORE THE COURT



1 He stood be - fore the court On trial in - stead of
 2 These are the crimes that tell The tale of hu - man
 3 The sen - tence must be passed, The un - known pris - 'ner
 4 Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is



us; He met its pow'r to hurt, Con - demned to
 guilt; Our sins, our death, our hell— On these the
 killed; The price is paid at last, The law of
 done; We live, for he has died, Our con - dem -



face the cross— Our King, ac - cused of treach - er -
 case is built. To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays
 God ful - filled. He takes our blame, and from that
 na - tion gone. In Christ are we both dead and



y; Our God, a - bused for blas - phe - my!
 dumb. The guilt is ours; no an - swers come.
 day Th' ac - cu - ser's claim is wiped a - way.
 raised, A - live and free— his name be praised!

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938, alt. © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company).
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SERMON ON MARK 14:55-65

Hands of Hypocrisy

⁵⁵ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. ⁵⁶ Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree.

⁵⁷ Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: ⁵⁸ “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this man-made temple and in three days will build another, not made by man.’” ⁵⁹ Yet even then their testimony did not agree.

⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” ⁶¹ But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer.

Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?”

⁶² “I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

⁶³ The high priest tore his clothes. “Why do we need any more witnesses?” he asked. ⁶⁴ “You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?”

They all condemned him as worthy of death. ⁶⁵ Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy!” And the guards took him and beat him.

LORD’S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

EVENING PRAYER

M: O Father of all mercies, be present with us this night. We give thanks for another day filled with Your grace, encouraged by Your promises, guided by Your wisdom, crowned with Your victories. Grant us now a night of rest and recuperation that we may serve You yet another day; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father’s Son, will be with us in truth and love.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN: GOD, WHO MADE THE EARTH AND HEAVEN

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1 God, who made the earth and heav - en, Dark -
 2 And when morn a - gain shall call us To
 3 Guard us wak - ing, guard us sleep - ing, And,
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, throned in heav - en, All -



ness and light, You the day for work have
 run life's way, May we still, what - e'er be -
 when we die, May we in your might - y
 ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, free - ly



giv - en, For rest the night. May your
 fall us, Your will o - bey. From the
 keep - ing All peace - ful lie. When the
 giv - en— Blest Three in One, Grant us



an - gel host de - fend us, Slum - ber sweet
 pow'r of e - vil hide us; In the nar -
 last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord,
 grace, we now im - plore you, Till we lay



your mer - cy send us, Ho - ly dreams and
 row path - way guide us; Nev - er be your
 do not for - sake us, But to reign in
 our crowns be - fore you And in wor - thier



hopes at - tend us All through the night.
 smile de - nied us, All through the day.
 glo - ry take us With you on high.
 strains a - dore you While a - ges run.

Text: composite, 19th century, alt.
 Tune: AR HYD Y NOS (84 84 888 4) Welsh melody, 18th century.