

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

10:30 am

Paul's Prison Protection – The Plot to Kill Paul

Zion Lutheran Church
1400 South Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105

www.zionlutheransf.com

 **Zion Lutheran Sioux Falls**

AS WE GATHER

Our Bible Reading of the Day is Acts 23:12–24. When Paul's nephew overhears a plot by the Jews to assassinate Paul, he tells Paul, who tells his prison guards. They take the young man to the Roman tribune, who takes action to protect Paul from the plot. Now guarded by at least 470 soldiers, spearmen, and horsemen, Paul is safely moved to Caesarea to await a hearing before Governor Felix.

OPENING PRAISE SONG: “Because He Lives” Matt Maher

Verse 1

I believe in the Son I believe in the risen One
I believe I overcome By the power of His blood

Chorus

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends Because He lives

Verse 2

I was dead in the grave I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name He rolled the stone away

Chorus

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends Because He lives

Bridge

I can face tomorrow Because He lives
Every fear is gone I know He holds my life my future in His hands

End Chorus

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives Because He lives

WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GIDEONS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God.

Pastor: Beloved of God, let us confess together that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that daily we have sinned against our gracious God and deserve His punishment now and eternally. We have sought our own ways and have not always kept the Sabbath in ways that honor Him. We have transgressed His Law in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

People: Almighty God, we repent of our sins and seek Your mercy. Be gracious to us, and for the sake of Jesus, grant us Your forgiveness so that, as Your redeemed people, we find the joy of absolution and with renewed hearts serve You in time and in eternity.

Pastor: God is gracious and forgiving. He has shown His merciful power in ways that renew, restore, and heal. To those who come to Him with repentant and contrite hearts, our Lord says, “Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. 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: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAISE SONG: “Build My Life” Younker | Martin | Kaple | Redman | Barrett

Verse 1

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You We live for You

Verse 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart And lead me in Your love to those around me

Verse 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart And lead me in Your love to those around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone And I will not be shaken
(Repeat Bridge)

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart And lead me in Your love to those around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone And I will not be shaken
(Repeat Bridge)

CCLI Song # 7070345

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: Almighty God, You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. Continue to send Your messengers to preserve Your people in true peace that, by the preaching of Your Word, Your Church may be kept free from all harm and danger; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

TIME IN THE WORD

READING OF THE DAY: Acts 23:12-24

The next morning some Jews formed a conspiracy and bound themselves with an oath not to eat or drink until they had killed Paul. More than forty men were involved in this plot. They went to the chief priests and the elders and said, “We have taken a solemn oath not to eat anything until we have killed Paul. Now then, you and the Sanhedrin petition the commander to bring him before you on the pretext of wanting more accurate information about his case. We are ready to kill him before he gets

here.” But when the son of Paul’s sister heard of this plot, he went into the barracks and told Paul. Then Paul called one of the centurions and said, “Take this young man to the commander; he has something to tell him.” So, he took him to the commander. The centurion said, “Paul, the prisoner, sent for me and asked me to bring this young man to you because he has something to tell you.” The commander took the young man by the hand, drew him aside and asked, “What is it you want to tell me?” He said: “Some Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul before the Sanhedrin tomorrow on the pretext of wanting more accurate information about him. Don’t give in to them, because more than forty of them are waiting in ambush for him. They have taken an oath not to eat or drink until they have killed him. They are ready now, waiting for your consent to their request.” The commander dismissed the young man with this warning: “Don’t tell anyone that you have reported this to me.” Then he called two of his centurions and ordered them, “Get ready a detachment of two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen to go to Caesarea at nine tonight. Provide horses for Paul so that he may be taken safely to Governor Felix.”

Here ends the Reading.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God; the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I

acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERING SONG: Living Hope Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven And spoke Your name into the night

Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory To wear my sin and bear my shame

The cross has spoken I am forgiven The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior, I’m Yours forever Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope Oh God You are my living hope

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

COMMUNION SONG: Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me Jonny Robinson |
Michael Farren | Rich Thompson Song # 7121852

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my Redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Savior He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need His power is displayed
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
(Repeat)

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me Yet not I but through Christ in me

COMMUNION SONG: Who You Say We Are © Steven Curtis Chapman

Verse 1

Oh how great is the love The Father has lavished on us
That we should be called the children of God
Oh how great was the cost The Father was willing to pay
So we could be called the children of God

Pre-Chorus 1

And all that we can say is thank You, thank You
And all that we can say is thank You, thank You

Chorus 1

We are Your sons we are Your daughters Hallelujah we are who You say we are
So we lift our hands and cry Abba Father
Hallelujah we are who You say we are Hallelujah we are who You say we are

Verse 2

Oh how great is Your amazing grace That took us as orphans and slaves
 And made us Your heirs and gave us Your name
 There's nothing more that we could ever do You finished it all on the cross
 And rose from the grave and brought us with You

Pre-Chorus 1

And all that we can say is thank You, thank You
 And all that we can say is thank You, thank You

Chorus 1

We are Your sons we are Your daughters Hallelujah we are who You say we are
 So we lift our hands and cry Abba Father

Hallelujah we are who You say we are Hallelujah we are who You say we are

Pre-Chorus 1

And all that we can say is thank You, thank You
 And all that we can say is thank You, thank You

Pre-chorus 2

And all that we can say is thank You, thank You Jesus
 And all that we can say is thank You, thank You

Chorus 2

We are Your sons we are Your daughters Hallelujah we are who You say we are
 So we lift our hands and cry Abba Father Hallelujah we are who You say we are

Chorus 1

We are Your sons we are Your daughters Hallelujah we are who You say we are
 So we lift our hands and cry Abba Father

Hallelujah we are who You say we are Hallelujah we are who You say we are

End Tag

Hallelujah we are who You say we are

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 Who You Say Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

DISMISSAL of the COMMUNICANTS and PRAYER**BENEDICTION****CLOSING SONG: “We Believe”** Hooper | Fike | Ryan**Verse 1**

In this time of desperation When all we know is doubt and fear
 There is only one foundation We believe We believe
 In this broken generation When all is dark You help us see
 There is only one salvation We believe We believe

Chorus

We believe in God the Father We believe in Jesus Christ
 We believe in the Holy Spirit And He's given us new life
 We believe in the crucifixion We believe that He conquered death
 We believe in the resurrection And He's coming back again
 We believe

Verse 2

So let our faith be more than anthems Greater than the songs we sing
 In our weakness and temptations We believe We believe

Chorus

We believe in God the Father We believe in Jesus Christ
 We believe in the Holy Spirit And He's given us new life
 We believe in the crucifixion We believe that He conquered death
 We believe in the resurrection And He's coming back again

Bridge

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
 In the here and now let love invade
 Let the church live loud our God we'll say
 We believe

And the gates of hell will not prevail
 For the pow'r of God has torn the veil
 Now we know Your love will never fail
 We believe We believe

Chorus

We believe in God the Father We believe in Jesus Christ
 We believe in the Holy Spirit And He's given us new life
 We believe in the crucifixion We believe that He conquered death
 We believe in the resurrection And He's coming back

Ending

He's coming back again He's coming back again
 We believe We believe

SEND OFF

Leader: At Zion we are committed to reaching out, strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!