



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

www.WinterHavenLutheran.org

Rob Sauers, Pastor (920) 602-3242

Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145

Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184

Organist: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Joseph Weller

Acolyte: Seth Bernthal

As We Gather

Though we call Jesus King of kings, we often do not focus much on the nature of His kingdom. Today we continue our Lenten midweek series exploring how the kings of Judah are a shadow of Christ, the King of kings, who sits upon the throne of David, His father, forever. Each of the kings in Chronicles points us to Christ, who fulfills all the kingly promises which the kings of Judah were unable to realize in themselves. Today we consider Asa, the great-great-grandson of David, of whom Scripture says “[he] did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God” (2 Chronicles 14:2). He purchased peace for Israel and so prefigured Christ, who purchased peace with His own blood.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

TLH 145 – Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:5, 7-9; 2:2; Hebrews 4:16

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

- P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- 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.**

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 33:10-22

- P** The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
- C** **He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.**
- P** The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
- C** **The plans of His heart to all generations.**
- P** Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
- C** **The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.**
- P** The LORD looks from heaven;
- C** **He sees all the sons of men.**
- P** From the place of His dwelling He looks
- C** **On all the inhabitants of the earth;**
- P** He fashions their hearts individually;
- C** **He considers all their works.**
- P** No king is saved by the multitude of an army;
- C** **A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.**
- P** A horse is a vain hope for safety;
- C** **Neither shall it deliver any by its great strength.**
- P** Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him,
- C** **On those who hope in His mercy,**
- P** To deliver their soul from death,
- C** **And to keep them alive in famine.**
- P** Our soul waits for the LORD;
- C** **He is our help and our shield.**
- P** For our heart shall rejoice in Him,
- C** **Because we have trusted in His holy name.**
- P** Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us,
- C** **Just as we hope in You.**

Passion History

Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest

When Jesus had spoken these words, and when they had sung a hymn, He went to the Mount of Olives as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. They went over the brook Kidron, and they came to a garden named Gethsemane. Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have been raised I will go before you to Galilee."

But Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble." Jesus said to him, "Assuredly I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." But Peter spoke more vehemently: "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples.

When He came to the place, Jesus said to His disciples: "Sit here while I go and pray over there. Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, James and John, and He was withdrawn from the others about a stone's throw. And He began to be sorrowful, troubled, and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

And He went a little farther, and He knelt down. He fell to the ground on His face, and prayed. He said: "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Let this cup pass from Me; if it is Your will. Not My will, but Yours be done." Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony He prayed more fervently; and His sweat became like great drops of blood, falling down to the ground.

When He rose up from prayer, He came to His disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch with Me one hour?" He said to them, "Rise, watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing and ready, but the flesh is weak."

He went away again a second time and prayed, saying the same words, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done."

And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. So He left them and went away again and prayed the third time, saying the same words once more. Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough. Behold, the hour has come; the Son of Man is being betrayed

into the hands of sinners. Rise up, let us be going. He who betrays Me is at hand.” Now Judas, one of the twelve, who betrayed Jesus, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. He received a detachment of troops and officers from the chief priests and the scribes and elders of the people, and came there with lanterns and torches, and weapons; swords and clubs. And while Jesus was still speaking, this great multitude came, and the one called Judas went before them. Now Judas had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the one; take Him, and lead Him away safely.”

Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, “Whom are you seeking?” They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am He.” Then, when He said to them, “I am He”, they went backward and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, “Whom are you seeking?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He; therefore if you seek Me, let these go their way”, that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, “Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none.”

Judas drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. He went up to Him, and said to Him, “Hail, Master!” and kissed Him. And Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come? Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

When those who were around Jesus saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. And suddenly Simon Peter drew out his sword, and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus.

But Jesus answered and said, “Permit even this!” And He touched his ear and healed him. Then He said to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath; for all who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? But how then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus? Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?”

In that hour Jesus said to the chief priests and captains of the temple and elders who came to Him, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you in the temple, teaching, and you did not lay hands on Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.” All this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then the disciples forsook Him and fled.

Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body; and the young men laid hold of him. And he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

Confession of Faith

Luther's Explanation of the Second Article

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn

TLH 370 – My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Sermon Text

2 Chronicles 14:1-7; 16:1-13

¹ So Abijah rested with his fathers, and they buried him in the City of David. Then Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land was quiet for ten years. ² Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God, ³ for he removed the altars of the foreign gods and the high places, and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the wooden images. ⁴ He commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to observe the law and the commandment. ⁵ He also removed the high places and the incense altars from all the cities of Judah, and the kingdom was quiet under him. ⁶ And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the LORD had given him rest. ⁷ Therefore he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities and make walls around them, and towers, gates, and bars, while the land is yet before us, because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought Him, and He has given us rest on every side." So they built and prospered. ¹ In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. ² Then Asa brought silver and gold from the treasuries of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent to Ben-Hadad king of Syria, who dwelt in Damascus, saying, ³ "Let there be a treaty between you and me, as there was between my father and your father. See, I have sent you silver and gold; come, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, so that he will withdraw from me." ⁴ So Ben-Hadad heeded King Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel. They attacked Ijon, Dan, Abel Maim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali. ⁵ Now it happened, when Baasha heard it, that he stopped building Ramah and ceased his work. ⁶ Then King Asa took

all Judah, and they carried away the stones and timber of Ramah, which Baasha had used for building; and with them he built Geba and Mizpah. ⁷ And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him: “Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on the LORD your God, therefore the army of the king of Syria has escaped from your hand. ⁸ Were the Ethiopians and the Lubim not a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because you relied on the LORD, He delivered them into your hand. ⁹ For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.” ¹⁰ Then Asa was angry with the seer, and put him in prison, for he was enraged at him because of this. And Asa oppressed some of the people at that time. ¹¹ Note that the acts of Asa, first and last, are indeed written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. ¹² And in the thirty-ninth year of his reign, Asa became diseased in his feet, and his malady was severe; yet in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but the physicians. ¹³ So Asa rested with his fathers; he died in the forty-first year of his reign.



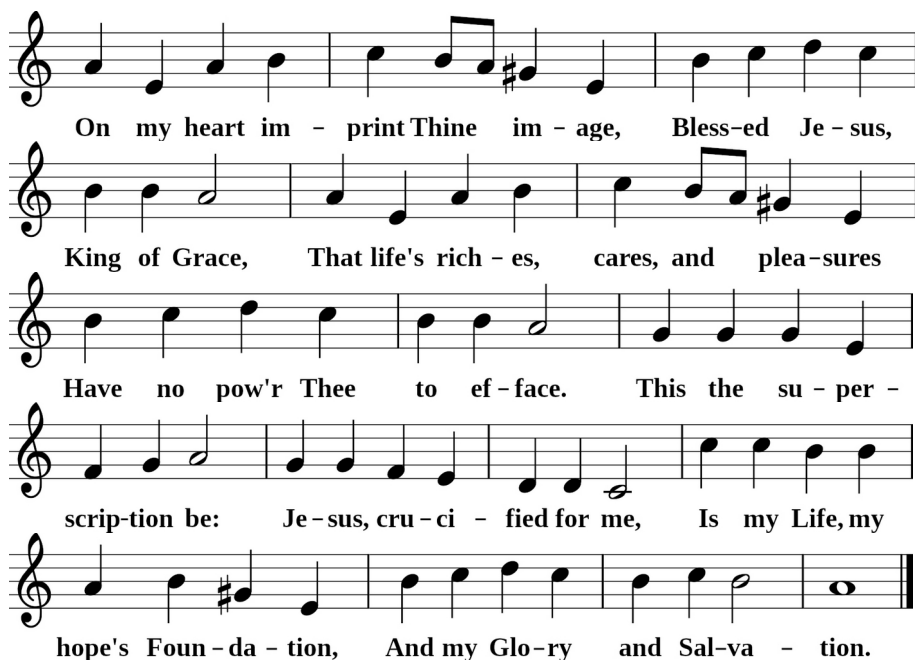
Sermon

Blood Money: Asa



Offertory

TLH 179 – On My Heart Imprint Thine Image



On my heart im - print Thine im - age, Bless-ed Je - sus,
King of Grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea-sures
Have no pow'r Thee to ef - face. This the su - per -
scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my Life, my
hope's Foun - da - tion, And my Glo-ry and Sal-va - tion.

General Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn

TLH 558 – All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

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