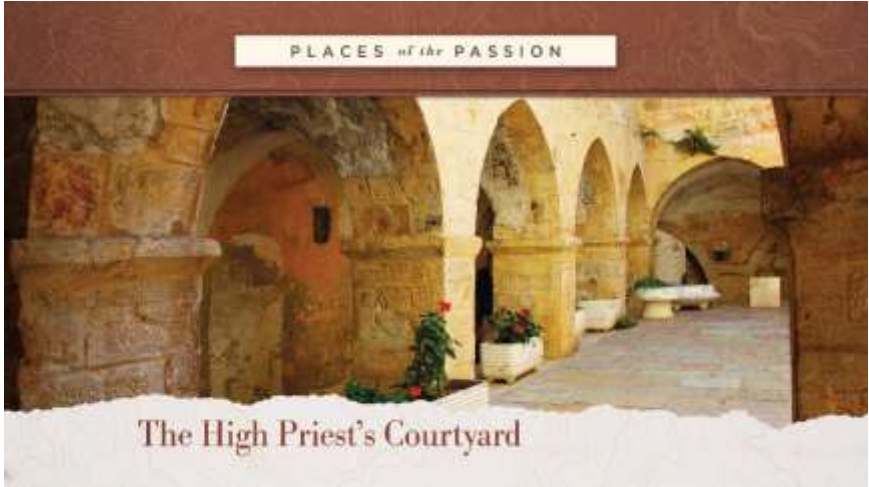


# Places of the Passion

## Lenten Service 2023



*Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it. Matthew 26:69-70*

*Wednesday, March 22, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church*

*Big Bend Lutheran Church*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church*

*Milan, Minnesota*

*Tonight, the place of the Passion is the Courtyard, outside of where Jesus is put on trial before the high priest and where Peter denies Jesus. We are called to confess that we often tend to distance ourselves from Christ, when we should be drawing closer to him.*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

**Hymn:** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

ELW #338

## **Invocation and Call to Worship**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C Amen.**

P Let us ever walk with Jesus.

**C To see the depths of his love.**

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness.

**C To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

**C We follow Christ to the courtyard.**

P It belongs to the High Priest Caiaphas—but Peter is there and so are others.

C Peter denies Jesus three times.

P But all is not lost. After his collapse, God’s grace is amazing.

**C Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where you guide!**

**Hymn** “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

vs 1 and 3 ELW #802

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

P Gracious and most merciful Father—

**C In the light of your holiness I see myself as I really am.**

P And I am guilty.

**C I confess that I have impure thoughts and unclean lips.**

P I think too highly of myself and too little of others.

**C I cling too tightly to the treasures of this world.**

P That I cannot open my hands to receive blessings from you.

**C My feet walk in the path of sin.**

P I wander astray and become a stranger to righteousness.

**C Forgive me, and set me again on the path that leads to life.**

P Deal with me not as I deserve, but according to your mercy.

**C Not because I am worthy but because you are gracious.**

**Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

*(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great,  
Christ's love is greater.)*

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane and Golgotha—for you. That's why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide.

**C I shall follow where you guide.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 53:8-12

**Second Reading:** James 2:8-13

**Gospel:** Matthew 26:57-68

**Hymn:** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

ELW #759

**Gospel:** Matthew 26:69-75

### **Message**

**Hymn:** "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

ELW #597

**Prayers of Intercession**

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

P Where sin abounds,

**C Grace abounds all the more.**

*The prayers are concluded with:*

P Indeed, gracious Father, this Gospel shows us how fervently  
“for us” you really are. You didn’t spare your own Son, but gave  
him up for us all—how will you not also, along with Jesus,  
graciously give us all things?

**C Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.**

**Offering**

**Offertory Response** “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

ELW #686

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,  
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.

**Offering Prayer**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Benediction**

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to the high priest’s courtyard,  
a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk  
with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection  
victory.

**C Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

**Hymn:** “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

ELW #543