
The Worship of God

Good Friday, March 29, 2024

Prayer

Call to Worship: Psalm 6:1-4 (LSB)

O Yahweh, do not reprove me in Your anger, Nor discipline me in Your wrath.
Be gracious to me, O Yahweh, for I am pining away;

Heal me, O Yahweh, for my bones are dismayed. And my soul is greatly dismayed;

But You, O Yahweh—how long?

Return, O Yahweh, rescue my soul; Save me because of Your lovingkindness.

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” #247

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 37 – 41

What do you confess when you say that He suffered?

During all the time He lived on earth, but especially at the end, Christ bore in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race.[1] Thus, by His suffering, as the only atoning sacrifice,[2] He has redeemed our body and soul from everlasting damnation,[3] and obtained for us the grace of God, righteousness, and eternal life.[4]

[1] Is. 53; I Tim. 2:6; I Pet. 2:24; 3:18. [2] Rom. 3:25; I Cor. 5:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 10:14; I John 2:2; 4:10. [3] Rom. 8:1-4; Gal. 3:13; Col. 1:13; Heb. 9:12; I Pet 1:18, 19. [4] John 3:16; Rom. 3:24-26; II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 9:15.

Why did He suffer under Pontius Pilate as judge?

Though innocent, Christ was condemned by an earthly judge,[1] and so He freed us from the severe judgment of God that was to fall on us.[2]

[1] Luke 23:13-24; John 19:4, 12-16. [2] Is. 53:4, 5; II Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13.

Does it have a special meaning that Christ was crucified and did not die in a different way?

Yes. Thereby I am assured that He took upon Himself the curse which lay on me, for a crucified one was cursed by God.[1]

[1] Deut. 21:23; Gal. 3:13.

Why was it necessary for Christ to humble Himself even unto death?

Because of the justice and truth of God[1] satisfaction for our sins could be made in no other way than by the death of the Son of God.[2]

[1] Gen. 2:17. [2] Rom. 8:3; Phil. 2:8; Heb. 2:9, 14, 15.

Why was he buried?

His burial testified that He had really died.[1]

[1] Is. 53:9; John 19:38-42; Acts 13:29; I Cor. 15:3,4.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Psalter – Psalm 35:7, 11-12, 14-15 *(to the tune of “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”)*

Without a cause their net they hid
To take me in the pit prepared.
Without a cause they dug a pit
In which my soul might be ensnared.

False witnesses against me stood,
Of things I knew not charges made.
They gave me evil for my good;
To rob my soul they ill repaid.

As though for friend or brother near,
In their distress I grieved aloud;
As one who mourns a mother dear
With deepest sorrow I was bowed.

But when I stumbled they rejoiced,
And secretly they met to plot;
And injured ones their malice voiced,
With slander tore me, ceasing not.

Scripture Reading and Message: John 19:28-30 “It Is Finished”

The Lord’s Supper

“What Wondrous Love Is This” #261

Benediction

Doxology