

PALM SUNDAY
2 APRIL 2023



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 3

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

C: Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL (MATTHEW 21:1-11)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...now and forever.*)

C: Amen

PROCESSION

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: in the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN #344 “ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR”

LITURGY OF THE PASSION

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: As we now enter....(*concluding...now and forever.*)

C: Amen

READINGS

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

NARRATOR
: Hear the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. (*Matthew 26:14-27:66*)

NARRATOR
: One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

PEOPLE: What will you give me if I betray him to you?

NARRATOR
: They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

PEOPLE: Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?

NARRATOR
: Jesus said,

JESUS: Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'

NARRATOR
: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

JESUS: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

NARRATOR
: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

PEOPLE: Surely not I, Lord?

NARRATOR
: Jesus answered,

JESUS: The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

NARRATOR Judas, who betrayed him, said,

PEOPLE: **Surely not I, Rabbi?**

NARRATOR Jesus replied,

JESUS: You have said so.

NARRATOR:
R: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

JESUS: Take, eat; this is my body.

NARRATOR:
R: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

JESUS: Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

NARRATOR:
R: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

JESUS: You will all become deserters 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 am raised up, I will go ahead of you to

NARRATOR:
R: Peter said to him,

PEOPLE: Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

NARRATOR:
R: Jesus said to him,

JESUS: Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

NARRATOR:
R: Peter said to him,

PEOPLE: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny

NARRATOR:
R: And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

JESUS: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

NARRATOR: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.

JESUS: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

NARRATOR: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

JESUS: My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

NARRATOR: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

JESUS: So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the

NARRATOR: Again he went away for the second time and

JESUS: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

NARRATOR: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to

JESUS: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

NARRATOR: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given

PEOPLE: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

NARRATOR: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

PEOPLE: Greetings, Rabbi!

NARRATOR: and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

JESUS: Friend, do what you are here to do.

NARRATOR: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus

JESUS: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which

NARRATOR At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

JESUS: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

NARRATOR Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

PEOPLE: **This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’**

NARRATOR The high priest stood up and said,

PEOPLE: **Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?**

NARRATOR But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

PEOPLE: **I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.**

NARRATOR Jesus said to him,

JESUS: You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

NARRATOR Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

PEOPLE: **He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?**

NARRATOR They answered,

PEOPLE: **He deserves death.**

NARRATOR
: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

PEOPLE: **Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?**

NARRATOR
: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

PEOPLE: **You also were with Jesus the Galilean.**

NARRATOR
: But he denied it before all of them, saying,

PEOPLE: **I do not know what you are talking about.**

NARRATOR
: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

PEOPLE:: **This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.**

NARRATOR
: Again he denied it with an oath,

PEOPLE: **I do not know the man.**

NARRATOR
: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

PEOPLE: **Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.**

NARRATOR
: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

PEOPLE: **I do not know the man!**

NARRATOR
: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

PEOPLE: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

NARRATOR But they said,

PEOPLE: What is that to us? See to it yourself.

NARRATOR : Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

PEOPLE: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.

NARRATOR : After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

NARRATOR : Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

PEOPLE: Are you the King of the Jews?

NARRATOR : Jesus said,

JESUS: You say so.

NARRATOR : But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

PEOPLE: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

NARRATOR : But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas.

PEOPLE: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

NARRATOR: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

**PEOPLE: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today
I have suffered a great deal because of a dream**

NARRATOR
: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the
crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.
The governor again said to them,

PEOPLE: Which of the two do you want me to release for

NARRATOR
: And they said,

PEOPLE: Barabbas.

NARRATOR
: Pilate said to them,

**PEOPLE: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the
Messiah?**

NARRATOR
: All of them said,

PEOPLE: Let him be crucified!

NARRATOR
: Then he asked,

PEOPLE: Why, what evil has he done?

NARRATOR
: But they shouted all the more,

PEOPLE: Let him be crucified!

NARRATOR
: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but
rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water
and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

**PEOPLE: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it
yourselves.**

NARRATOR
: Then the people as a whole answered,

PEOPLE: His blood be on us and on our children!

NARRATOR : So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

PEOPLE: **Hail, King of the Jews!**

NARRATOR : They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

NARRATOR: As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking

PEOPLE: **You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**

NARRATOR: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

PEOPLE: **He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for**

NARRATOR: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

(Please rise).

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock

JESUS: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

NARRATOR: that is,

JESUS: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

PEOPLE: This man is calling for Elijah.

NARRATOR: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

PEOPLE: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save

NARRATOR: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. (*Silence for reflection*) At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified

PEOPLE: Truly this man was God's Son!

NARRATOR: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

PEOPLE: Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead,’ and the last deception would be worse than the first.

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PEOPLE: You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.

NARRATOR: So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

YOUTH SERMON – Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

HYMN #349 “AH, HOLY JESUS”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES’ CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

(Each petition ends: P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.)

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. *(concluding...our Savior and Lord.)*

C: Amen.

♪ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right...and join their unending hymn:

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED TODAY.

*All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited to receive Holy Communion
Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

**✠ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

HYMN #337 “ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED”

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (HYMN #811)

**✠ On my heart imprint your image,
blessed Jesus, king of grace,
that life’s troubles nor its pleasures
ever may your work erase.**

Let the clear inscription be:

**Jesus, crucified for me,
is my life, my hope’s foundation,
all my glory and salvation!**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...Jesus Christ our Lord.*)

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN #338 “BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: Thanks be to God!

RINGING OF THE BELL

POSTLUDE

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In this version, a few pronouns have been changed to the corresponding proper nouns for clarity in a dramatic reading. No other changes have been made to the text of the NRSV.

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This Week At A Glance

Wednesday-5 th	6:00 pm	Confirmation at Our Savior's
	7:00 pm	Bible Jam at Our Savior's
	8:30 pm	High School Bible Study at Our Savior's
Thursday-6 th	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service at Our Savior's
Friday-7 th	2:00 pm	Stations of the Cross, Wheatland
	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service at Faith
Sunday-9 th	8:00 am	Easter Worship Service at Our
	9:00 am	Savior's
	10:30	Easter breakfast at Our Savior's

Those to keep in prayer: the homebound: Norman Bousset, Carol Christensen, Shirley Ferguson, Ron Gasper, Delores Lahann, Myrna Kay Petersen, Rusty Porth, Betty Schau, Bus Seastrand and Vera St. John; and those serving in the military, Nick Timmerman.

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center south of Wheatland is presenting **Stations of the Cross**. Local actors will portray the people surrounding Jesus during the week preceding his crucifixion. The performance is at 2:00 pm on Friday, the 7th. Please call 563.374.1092 to register. Admission is free.

Junior high and high school youth and their parents are invited to get together on Wednesday, April 5th, at 7:00 pm at Our Savior's. We will be setting the tables for the Easter breakfast and fill the eggs for the hunt.

The **God Squad** will be serving **breakfast** following Our Savior's Easter worship in the fellowship hall. An Easter egg hunt will be held approximately 9:45am.

The **Youth-led Worship Service** will be April 23rd at Faith.

The Triumph of the End

by William Barclay

Matthew 27:45–50 (NRSV): From twelve o'clock midday darkness came over the earth until three o'clock in the afternoon. About three o'clock in the afternoon Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" (that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?") Some of those who were standing there heard this, and said, "This man is calling for Elijah." And immediately one of them ran and took a sponge and filled it with vinegar and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. The rest said, "Let be! Let us see if Elias will come to save him." When Jesus had again shouted with a great voice, he gave up his spirit.

As we have been reading the story of the Crucifixion, everything seems to have been happening very quickly; but in reality the hours were slipping past. It is Mark who is most precise in his note of time. He tells us that Jesus was crucified at the third hour, that is at nine o'clock in the morning (Mark 15:25), and that he died at the ninth hour, that is at three o'clock in the afternoon (Mark 15:34). That is to say, Jesus hung on the Cross for six hours. For him the agony was mercifully brief, for it often happened that criminals hung upon their crosses for days before death came to them.

In Matthew 27:46 we have what must be the most staggering sentence in the gospel record, the cry of Jesus: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" That is a saying before which we must bow in reverence, and yet at the same time we must try to understand. There have been many attempts to penetrate behind its mystery; we can look only at three.

(i) It is strange how Psalms 22:1-31 runs through the whole Crucifixion narrative; and this saying is actually the first verse of that Psalm. Later on it says, "All who seek me mock at me, they make mouths at me, they wag their heads; He committed his cause to the Lord; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" (Psalms 22:7-8). Still further on we read: "They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots" (Psalms 22:18). Psalms 22:1-31 is interwoven with the whole Crucifixion story.

It has been suggested that Jesus was, in fact, repeating that Psalm to himself; and, though it begins in complete dejection, it ends in soaring triumph--"From thee comes my praise in the great congregation.... For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations" (Psalms 22:25-31). So it is suggested that Jesus was repeating Psalms 22:1-31 on the Cross, as a picture of his own situation, and as a song of his trust and confidence, well knowing that it began in the depths, but that it finished on the heights.

It is an attractive suggestion; but on a cross a man does not repeat poetry to himself, even the poetry of a psalm; and besides that, the whole atmosphere is one of unrelieved tragedy.

(ii) It is suggested that in that moment the weight of the world's sin fell upon the heart and the being of Jesus; that that was the moment when he who knew no sin was made sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21); and that the penalty which he bore for us was the inevitable separation from God which sin brings. No man may say that that is not true; but, if it is, it is a mystery which we can only state and at which we can only wonder.

(iii) It may be that there is something--if we may put it so--more human here. It seems to me that Jesus would not be Jesus unless he had plumbed the uttermost depths of human experience. In human experience, as life goes on and as bitter tragedy enters into it, there come times when we feel that God has forgotten us; when we are immersed in a situation beyond our understanding and feel bereft even of God. It seems to me that that is what happened to Jesus here. We have seen in the garden that Jesus knew only that he had to go on, because to go on was God's will, and he must accept what even he could not fully understand. Here we see Jesus plumbing the uttermost depths of the human situation, so that there might be no place that we might go where he has not been before.

Those who listened did not understand. Some thought he was calling on Elijah; they must have been Jews. One of the great gods of the pagans was the sun--Helios. A cry to the sun god would have begun "Helie!" and it has been suggested that the soldiers may have thought that Jesus was crying to the greatest of the pagan gods. In any event, his cry was to the watchers a mystery.

But here is the point. It would have been a terrible thing if Jesus had died with a cry like that upon his lips--but he did not. The narrative goes on to tell us that, when he shouted with a great shout, he gave up his spirit. That great shout left its mark upon men's minds. It is in every one of the gospels (Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37; Luke 23:46). But there is one gospel which goes further. John tells us that Jesus died with a shout: "It is finished" (John 19:30). It is finished is in English three words; but in Greek it is one--Tetelestai--as it would also be in Aramaic. And tetelestai is the victor's shout; it is the cry of the man who has completed his task; it is the cry of the man who has won through the struggle; it is the cry of the man who has come out of the dark into the glory of the light, and who has grasped the crown. So, then, Jesus died a victor with a shout of triumph on his lips.

Here is the precious thing. Jesus passed through the uttermost abyss, and then the light broke. If we too cling to God, even when there seems to be no God, desperately and invincibly clutching the remnants of our faith, quite certainly the dawn will break and we will win through. The victor is the man who refuses to believe that God has forgotten him, even when every fibre of his being feels that he is forsaken. The victor is the man who will never let go his faith, even when he feels that its last grounds are gone. The victor is the man who has been beaten to the depths and still holds on to God, for that is what Jesus did.

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