



*making
change*

Week of Lent 5: Change of Plans

God's ways are not our own. We expect a conquering king and hero, but Jesus instead leads us down the road to Jerusalem and humbles himself on the cross. God changes our plans and replaces them with a love broader and deeper than anything we could imagine.

Opening Dialogue *(Mark 10:32-34, Luke 18:31-34, Matthew 16:22)*

We see Jesus walking ahead on the road.

He leads us toward Jerusalem.

We follow but are very afraid.

He says the Son of Man will be handed over.

We understand nothing about all these things.

He says the prophets' words will be fulfilled.

We hear him talk of suffering and death.

Forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you!

Prayer of the Day *(Ephesians 3:14-4:1)*

O God our surprise, you offer so much more than our own limited plans envision. You take our place, becoming our salvation through the cross. As we prepare for Holy Week, strengthen our hearts and minds to follow Jesus on the road to Jerusalem. When we betray like Judas, deny like Peter, and scatter like the disciples, forgive our frailties. Bring us the promise of resurrection and new life in you. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Psalm 2

¹ Why do the nations
conspire and the peoples
plot in vain?

² **The kings of the earth
set themselves, and the
rulers take counsel
together, against
the Lord and his
anointed, saying,**

³ “Let us burst their bonds
apart and cast their cords
from us.”

⁴ **He who sits in the
heavens laughs;
the Lord has them in
derision.**

⁵ Then he will speak to
them in his wrath and
terrify them in his fury,
saying,

⁶ **“I have set my king on
Zion, my holy hill.”**

⁷ I will tell of the decree of
the Lord: He said to me,
“You are my son; today I
have begotten you.

⁸ **Ask of me, and I will
make the nations your
heritage and the ends of
the earth your possession.**

⁹ You shall break them with
a rod of iron and dash them
in pieces like a potter’s
vessel.”

¹⁰ **Now therefore, O kings,
be wise; be warned, O
rulers of the earth.**

¹¹ Serve the Lord with fear;
with trembling

¹² **kiss his feet, or he will
be angry, and you will
perish in the way, for his
wrath is quickly kindled.**

**Happy are all who take
refuge in him.**

Psalm Prayer

Lord God, you anointed your only-begotten Son to rule this world in love. Quiet the uproar of the nations, and give us hearts ready to serve the one in whom we take refuge forever, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

“Lamb of God” ELW 336

Reading

Isaiah 52:13-15

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up
and shall be very high.

¹⁴ Just as there were many who were astonished at him^[a]
—so marred was his appearance, beyond human
semblance,

and his form beyond that of mortals—
¹⁵ so he shall startle^[b] many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall
contemplate.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Mark 10:32-34

They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, “Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the gentiles; ³⁴ they will mock him and spit upon him and flog him and kill him, and after three days he will rise again.”

Hymn

“That Priceless Grace” ELW 591

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