

## **The Son of God Goes Forth to War** *The Warrior Rejected by Many*

### OPENING HYMN

**"Before the Ending of the Day" #595**

1. Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the world, we pray.  
Your grace and peace to us allow  
And guard and keep your people now.
2. From evil dreams defend our sight,  
From all the terrors of the night,  
From all deluding thoughts that creep  
On heedless minds disarmed by sleep.
3. O Father, this we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,  
Whom with the Spirit we adore  
Forever and forever more. Amen.

M: In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden. Amen.

**All: O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy, and in your faithfulness, come to my relief. Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you. Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.**

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.**

*Silence for private confession.*

M: Jesus says to his people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: **Yes, I believe.**

M: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

### **PRAYER**

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world.

Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**PSALM 19** *(also found on page 70 in the front of the hymnal)*

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The heavens declare the glory of God;\*  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Their voice goes out into all the earth,\*  
their words to the ends of the world.

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,\*  
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant,\*  
giving light to the eyes.

They are more precious than gold;\*  
they are sweeter than honey.

By them is your servant taught;\*  
in keeping them there is great reward.

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart\*  
be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Redeemer.

**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.**

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

#### **PSALM PRAYER**

**M:** O Lord, you speak to us in the wonders of your creation and in the words of your precious book. Give us ears to hear your voice and eyes to see your goodness that we may joyfully serve you all our days; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

#### **PASSION READING**

#### **SEASONAL RESPONSE**

***All:* All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.**

#### **HYMN**

**“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” #127**

1. Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he.  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;  
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.

2. Tell me, as you hear him groaning, Was there ever grief like his?  
Friends through fear his cause disowning, Foes insulting his distress,  
Many hands were raised to wound him, None would intervene to save,  
But the deepest stroke that pierced him Was the stroke that Justice gave.
  
3. If you think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great,  
Here you see its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed; See who bears the awful load-  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.
  
4. Here we have a firm foundation, Here the refuge of the lost;  
Christ's the rock of our salvation, His the name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt-  
None shall ever be confounded Who on him their hope have built.

## SERMON

**Theme: The Warrior Rejected by Many**

**Text: John 6:66-68 (NIV)**

<sup>66</sup>From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

<sup>67</sup>"You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

<sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

## OFFERING

*The members of St. Mark's have joined together to spread God's message both in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. You are our guests, and we thank you for giving us the opportunity to share God's Word with you! Those who wish to give an offering may give electronically through our website or mail a check to church. Website and mailing addresses are listed at the top of page 1.*

## PRAYER

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## EVENING PRAYER

**C: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## BLESSING

**M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ †, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

**"Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep" #436**

1. Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep,  
Who your Father's flock does keep,  
Safe we wake and safe we sleep,  
Guarded still by you.
2. In your promise firm we stand;  
None can take us from your hand.  
Speak-we hear-at your command,  
We will follow you.
3. By your blood our souls were bought;  
By your life salvation wrought;  
By your light our feet are taught,  
Lord, to follow you.

4. Father, draw us to your Son;  
We with joy will follow on  
Till the work of grace is done,  
There to live with you.
  
5. We, in robes of glory dressed,  
Join th' assembly of the blest,  
Gathered to eternal rest  
In the fold with you. Amen.

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**595 Before the Ending of the Day**

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