

# THE STORY: THE TRIALS OF A KING

12-27-2015

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING BLESSING

#### CONFESSION

P: Before we join in our Christmas celebration, we clear the way by confessing our sins and hearing once again God's gracious words of forgiveness.....

**C: We admit that we are sinners, Lord.....we sin in our thoughts, words and actions, by things we have done and let undone. We especially recognize our fear of the future.....wanting to know and control our future.....rather than trusting you for what is to come. Forgive us when we forget your promises for our future.....and make clear to the eyes of our hearts that our future is in your loving hands.**

### SONG OF CONFESSION (twice through)

### "White As Snow"

White as snow, white as snow,  
Though my sins were as scarlet  
Lord, I know, Lord I know  
That I'm clean and forgiven,  
Through the power of your blood,  
Through the wonder of your love,  
Through faith in you, I know that I can be  
White as snow.

### FORGIVENESS

P: God knows our fears, our failures to trust him for the future, and in Christ assures us of his forgiveness. I therefore in Christ's stead announce the free and full forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen!**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### OPENING SONG OF PRAISE

### "Joy To The World"

Joy to the world! The Lord is come, Let earth receive her king.  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing.....

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy.....

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove,  
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.....

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, when we are tempted, make us aware of all the hurt our sin might cause. Please place in our lives people who will speak the truth in love. Give us the humility and wisdom to hear such truth. Help us to know this day that Your forgiveness is total and complete. Create in us clean hearts! We pray this through Your Son, Jesus.

C: Amen!

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament Lesson: **Psalm 32**

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up<sup>[b]</sup> as by the heat of summer. *Selah*

I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

Therefore let everyone who is godly  
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;  
surely in the rush of great waters,  
they shall not reach him.

You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance. *Selah*

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
or it will not stay near you.

Many are the sorrows of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Holy Gospel: **Matthew 23:8-12**

But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

**SERMON HYMN (twice through)**

**"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"**

Lord, I lift your name on high,  
Lord, I love to sing your praises,  
I'm so glad you're in my life,  
I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky,  
Lord, I lift your name on high.

**SERMON**

**"People are Watching"**

**CONFESSING OUR FAITH**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
And born of the virgin Mary.  
He 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,  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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.**

**OFFERINGS GATHERED**

(We give our offerings as a sign of our lives given to the Lord in humble service)

**PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

(after each petition the response is:

**P: Lord in your mercy**

**C: Hear our prayer.)**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

## CLOSING SONG

## "This Little Gospel Light of Mine"

1. This little gospel light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.....  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.
2. Don't you dare to blow it out.....  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.
3. Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine.....  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.
4. All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine.....  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.
5. It will point the way to heav'n, I'm gonna let it shine.....  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## **POST-SERVICE MUSIC**