

# Chronicles of the King

## Blood Money: Asa



### ✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Midweek of Lent 1

March 1, 2023

Vespers

### As We Gather

Though we call Jesus King of kings, we often do not focus much on the nature of His kingdom. Today we continue our Lenten midweek series exploring how the kings of Judah are a shadow of Christ, the King of kings, who sits upon the throne of David, His father, forever. Each of the kings in Chronicles points us to Christ, who fulfills all the kingly promises which the kings of Judah were unable to realize in themselves. Today we consider Asa, the great-great-grandson of David, of whom Scripture says “[he] did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord his God” (2 Chronicles 14:2). He purchased peace for Israel and so prefigured Christ, who purchased peace with His own blood.

### Hymn

1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,  
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -  
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent

whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior  
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your  
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -

from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,  
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us  
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er

Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the  
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your  
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our

cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.  
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452-98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826-96, alt.  
Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel  
Text and tune: Public domain



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.  
**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.  
**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.  
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

## Psalmsody

### Psalms

*Psalms 33:10–22; antiphon: v. 22*

- P** <sup>22</sup>Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.
- C** <sup>10</sup>**The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.**
- P** <sup>11</sup>The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
the plans of his heart to all generations.
- C** <sup>12</sup>**Blessèd is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!**
- P** <sup>13</sup>The LORD looks down from heaven;  
he sees all the children of man;
- C** <sup>14</sup>**from where he sits enthroned he looks out  
on all the inhabitants of the earth,**
- P** <sup>15</sup>he who fashions the hearts of them all  
and observes all their deeds.
- C** <sup>16</sup>**The king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.**
- P** <sup>17</sup>The war horse is a false hope for salvation,  
and by its great might it cannot rescue.
- C** <sup>18</sup>**Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,**
- P** <sup>19</sup>that he may deliver their soul from death  
and keep them alive in famine.
- C** <sup>20</sup>**Our soul waits for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.**

**P** <sup>21</sup>For our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.

**C** **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.**

**P** <sup>22</sup>Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.

*Sit*

### 575 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me  
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I  
blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly  
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -  
own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

*Refrain*  
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.  
Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Reading

*2 Chronicles 14:1–7; 16:1–13*

**L** A reading from 2 Chronicles, chapters 14 and 16.

<sup>1</sup> Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land had rest for ten years. <sup>2</sup> And Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God. <sup>3</sup> He took away the foreign altars and the high places and broke down the pillars and cut down the Asherim <sup>4</sup> and commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to keep the law and the commandment. <sup>5</sup> He also took out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the incense altars. And the kingdom had rest under him. <sup>6</sup> He built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest. He had no war in those years, for the LORD gave him peace. <sup>7</sup> And he said to Judah, “Let us build these cities and surround them with walls and towers, gates and bars. The land is still ours, because we have sought the LORD our God. We have sought him, and he has given us peace on every side.” So they built and prospered.

<sup>1</sup> In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. <sup>2</sup> Then Asa took silver and gold from the treasures of the house of the LORD and the king’s house and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying, <sup>3</sup> “There is a covenant between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending to you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me.” <sup>4</sup> And Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and they conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store cities of Naphtali. <sup>5</sup> And

when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease. <sup>6</sup>Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Baasha had been building, and with them he built Geba and Mizpah.

<sup>7</sup>At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, “Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you. <sup>8</sup>Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the LORD, he gave them into your hand. <sup>9</sup>For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars.” <sup>10</sup>Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in the stocks in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this. And Asa inflicted cruelties upon some of the people at the same time.

<sup>11</sup>The acts of Asa, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. <sup>12</sup>In the thirtieth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet, and his disease became severe. Yet even in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but sought help from physicians. <sup>13</sup>And Asa slept with his fathers, dying in the forty-first year of his reign.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Reading

*Colossians 1:15–20*

**L** A reading from Colossians, chapter 1.

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Reading

*Matthew 26:14–16; 27:3–6*

**L** A reading from Matthew, chapters 26 and 27.

<sup>14</sup>Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup>and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

<sup>3</sup>Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, <sup>4</sup>saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” <sup>5</sup>And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. <sup>6</sup>But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Responsory (Lent)

*LSB 231*



**L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.  
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.  
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.



**C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me  
from those who rise a - gainst me.

Canticle

Stand

**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,  
**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

933 My Soul Rejoices

1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the  
 2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the  
 great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me  
 great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He  
 fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and  
 shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion  
 bless - ing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and  
 halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the  
 ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy  
 wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the  
 sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,  
 to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring  
 Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!  
 God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955  
 Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622  
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 Tune: Public domain

Sit

Offering

884 Lord, Support Us All Day Long st. 1

Prayer

Stand



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

### Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

### Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

### Collect of the Day

**P** O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Collect

**P** Gracious Lord, for the sake of Your holy name, You have forgiven all the sins of the penitent and rescued from the captivity of death all whom You have redeemed through the precious blood of Your dear Son. Grant that we may live not in weakness before temptation or in the pain of guilt but according to Your steadfast love and goodness may know Your comfort, consolation, and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Collect for Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



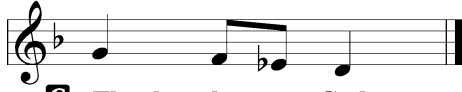
**C** A - men.

## Benedicamus

LSB 234



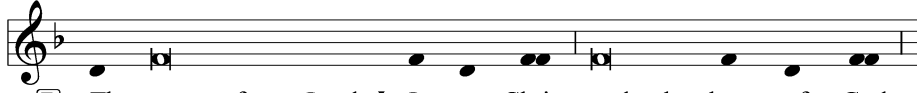
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 234



**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**G** A - - men.

## 432 In Silent Pain the Eternal Son



1 In si - lent pain the e - ter - nal Son Hangs der - e - lict and still;  
2 He died that we might die to sin And live for righ - teous - ness;  
3 For strife He came to bring a sword, The truth to end all lies;



In dark - ened day His work is done, Ful - filled, His Fa - ther's will.  
The earth is stained to make us clean And bring us in - to peace.  
To rule in us, our pa - tient Lord, Un - til all e - vil dies:



Up - lift - ed for the world to see He hangs in strang - est vic - to - ry,  
For peace He came and met its cost; He gave Him - self to save the lost;  
For in His hand He holds the stars, His voice shall speak to end our wars,



For in His bod - y on the tree He car - ries all our ill.  
He loved us to the ut - ter - most And paid for our re - lease.  
And those who love Him see His scars And look in - to His eyes.

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938

Tune: John L. Bell, 1949

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## Announcements

**Adult Sunday School** is studying Exodus at **9am** on Sunday mornings.

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets Wednesdays at **10am**. They are studying the book of Joshua.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Mar 19** at **8am**.

**Lenten Vespers** services are **Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29**. A light meal will be at **6:30pm** with service at **7pm**.

## **Acknowledgments**

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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