

What does Jesus ask of His Father on the cross? (verse 34)

CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the Second Article of the Creed with Explanation to Gospel accounts you've read over the last three days?

REFLECTION

Over the last three days, you've read three of the four Gospel accounts of Jesus Christ's Passion. What are some of the common elements that stand out to you?

There, hanging on the Cross, is the culmination of all of our foolish, ruthless, adulterous, disobedient sins, and indeed, all of our sins. There, hanging on the Cross, is the work of our hands. There, hanging on the Cross, is the result of our failed attempts to be good enough, holy enough, righteous enough. There, hanging on the Cross, the Father's only-begotten Son is *stricken, smitten, and afflicted* (LSB. #451) – for us. Despite the horror and the agony of this crucifixion, despite the humiliation of the Cross, this is the will of God. The Father willingly and mercifully gives His Son into death for us. Ours is the sin, yet Christ pays the penalty; ours the guilt, yet His the shame. Jesus, **the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world** (John 1:29d), **our Passover, [has been] sacrificed for us** (1 Corinthians 5:7e-f); behold, **it is finished**. The penalty has been paid, forgiveness has been earned; by Him and in Him we have life.



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Lambs at Pasture™



Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday of Holy Week

GRADUAL

MONDAY: *Psalm 35:23, 3*
Awake and rouse yourself for my vindication, for my cause, my God and my Lord! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!"

TUESDAY: *Psalm 35:13a, 1a, 2b*
But I wore sackcloth; I afflicted myself with fasting. Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; and rise for my help!

WEDNESDAY: *Psalm 69:17, 1-2a*
Hide not your face from your servant; for I am in distress; make hast to answer me. Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold.

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Passion account according to St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. Luke

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB #453 — Upon the Cross Extended

CATECHISM CONNECTION: The Second Article of the Creed with Explanation

COLLECT OF THE DAY

MONDAY:
Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

TUESDAY:
Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by Your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's passion that we may obtain the forgiveness of our sins; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WEDNESDAY:
Merciful and everlasting God, You Did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

MONDAY — THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW Read Matt. 26:1–27:66

What is the emphasis St. Matthew gives in his account of Christ's Passion?
(verse 56)

What is the importance of Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane? (verse 36)

What is the connection between Judas and the Field of Blood?
(verses 3–10)

WEDNESDAY — THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE Read Luke 22:1–23:56

What is the emphasis St. Luke gives in his account of Christ's Passion?

TUESDAY — THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. MARK Read Mark 14:1–15:47

What is the emphasis St. Mark gives in his account of Christ's Passion?

What is the connection of the Passover to the Passion? (verses 1–20)