



A Lenten Mosaic - Living In Grace Lent 2020

**Devotion for
Wednesday of Holy Week,
April 8, 2020**

Whither Easter?

By The Honorable Robert H. Hodges

Submitted by Helen Laughery

Will Easter come in times like these:
We hear a cough or errant sneeze and
We cringe to pray, "Dear God, please
Save us, if you love us still."

We cannot pray in a corporate way:
Nor can we say what we usually say
To God in our Rites on Easter Day.
Yet we'll feel His presence still.

We'll pray to God both then and now,
Who ever knows our needs somehow.
We'll affirm our love and humbly bow;
"Thou art God, our Savior still."

Robert H. Hodges

John 13:21-32

After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, “Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.” The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?” Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, “Do quickly what you are going to do.” Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the festival;” or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.”

Prayer

Lord God,

We tremble to think

That it was one of Jesus' own friends who betrayed him.

One who sat by him, who broke bread with him.

Give us strength, we pray,

To walk faithfully with Jesus,

Even when the road we walk is rocky,

Even when the message of the cross seems like foolishness,

And even when we feel betrayed.

You, Lord, are always faithful.

We stumble, we become lost,

But you are steady and sure.

Give us the grace to endure our troubles,

And reveal to us the glory of your kingdom,

Through your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

–Rachel Marie Stone