

THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

LESSON ONE – MATTHEW 26:1-35

Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A
Evangelical Heritage Version TM

1 When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, **2** “You know that after two days it will be the Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.” **3** Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas. **4** They plotted together how to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. **5** But they said, “Not during the Festival, or else there might be a riot among the people.” **6** When Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, **7** a woman approached him holding an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume. She poured it on his head as he was reclining at the table. **8** But when his disciples saw this, they were upset and said, “Why this waste? **9** This perfume could have been sold for a lot of money and given to the poor.” **10** Jesus was aware of this and said to them, “Why are you causing trouble for this woman? She has done a beautiful thing for me. **11** You are always going to have the poor with you, but you are not always going to have me. **12** When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. **13** Amen I tell you: Wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told in memory of her.” **14** Then one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests **15** and said, “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. **16** From that time on Judas was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus. **17** On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” **18** He

said, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him the Teacher says, ‘My time is near. I will observe the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” **19** The disciples did as Jesus commanded them and prepared the Passover. **20** When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. **21** As they were eating, he said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me.” **22** They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?” **23** He replied, “The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. **24** The Son of Man is going just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.” **25** Judas, who betrayed him, replied, “Surely, not I, Rabbi?” **26** While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, “Take, eat, this is my body.” **27** Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it all of you, **28** for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29** I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” **30** After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. **31** Then Jesus said to them, “This night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered. **32** But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.” **33** Peter answered him, “Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” **34** Jesus said to him, “Amen I tell you: Tonight before the rooster crows you will deny me three times.” **35** Peter said to him, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you.” And all the disciples said the same.