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Lent Week 3 But we Proclaim Christ Crucified

Some things just don't make much sense. Water doesn't become wine, bread and fish do not suddenly multiply, the lame do not jump up and walk. And most certainly, dead people stay dead, especially those who experience the horrific death of crucifixion!

And yet, where Jesus is involved, all kinds of things that don't make much sense...happen.

In those earliest years of the Jesus Movement, his followers didn't wear crosses around their necks or hang them in the homes in which they worshipped. They had other symbols, certainly, but not crosses. Crucifixion was not a historical curiosity, but a still-present reality, and an agonizing and shameful one at that. To be crucified was to be executed as a common criminal. Worse, according to the Hebrew

Our Journey Together will
replace *Chapter and Verse* for
the next 5 weeks

**Please join us tonight
for:
Lenten Wednesdays**

Our Lenten Pilgrimage
(Spanish Language)
6:30 pm

Holden Evening Prayer
8:00 pm

**Streamed to Trinity's
Facebook page**

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page:**

Scriptures, cursed was one who hung on a tree, on the wood of a cross.

So, to speak of “Christ crucified” didn’t make sense to many. It was a stumbling block, something foolish or offensive. But Paul said otherwise. Yes, Jesus could have avoided the cross, found some other way around it. But instead, he faced the worst the world could throw at him, and then broke through death itself, and leave an empty cross behind as witness to his astonishing victory.

Some things don’t make much sense. The cross is one of them. But it stands now and forever as our rallying cry that God—*not* injustice, *not* suffering, *not* even death—has the final, victorious word.

Pray with me, “Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace. Help me to take your message of love to the world through my words, my life, and the love I extend to those in need.”

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These Lenten thoughts are
drawn from ELCA Lenten
meditations printed several
years ago.)



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