First Sunday in Lent March 9, 2025

SERMON SERIES The Cross that Spoke Understanding the Dying Words of Jesus

TODAY'S MESSAGE: "Today You Will Be with Me in Paradise"

Scripture: St. Luke 23:32-33, 39-43 (Common English Bible)

32 They also led two other criminals to be executed with Jesus. 33 When they arrived at the place called The Skull, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left...

39 One of the criminals hanging next to Jesus insulted him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

40 Responding, the other criminal spoke harshly to him, "Don't you fear God, seeing that you've also been sentenced to die? 41 We are rightly condemned, for we are receiving the appropriate sentence for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

43 Jesus replied, "I assure you that today you will be with me in paradise."

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Sermon Notes

Two crosses flanked the Cross of Christ with two criminals. One criticized Jesus, while the other cried out to him. From his conversation with Jesus, we can discover a number of insights about life and our relationship to a Holy God that the other criminal had not yet grasped:

1) He realized
2) He admitted
3) He called
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