



Second Wednesday in Lent
March 1, 2023

The Order of Worship

Welcome

Opening Praise

“O Gracious Light”

Christian Worship: Evening Prayer



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, In you the
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of

Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
God, life - giv - ing Lord; Where - fore you are through

blest is he, And blest are you, his on - ly Son.
Spir - it: God Who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
all the earth And in the high - est heav'n a - dored.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the Light of the world;

C: The Light no darkness can overcome.

P: Stay with us, for it is evening;

C: And the day is almost over.

P: Let your light scatter the darkness of sin and death;

C: Let it shine in our hearts and lives. Amen.

Opening Prayer

P: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and purify our hearts with your forgiving love in Jesus, our Savior. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may acknowledge your will and rejoice in doing it. Come and bless us as we worship you: God the Father, God the God the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Response

“Let My Prayer Rise Before You”
Christian Worship: Evening Prayer

C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

The musical score consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and ends with a quarter rest. The second staff ends with a quarter rest. The third staff ends with a quarter rest. The fourth staff ends with a quarter rest. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

P: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight, O Lord. Come and help us in our time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now, and forever through Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

Evening Litany

The Fifth Petition
*Excerpts from Luther's Large Catechism
Readers Edition, Concordia Publishing House*

P: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. This petition now applies to our poor miserable life. Although we have and believe God's Word, do and submit to His will, and are supported by His gifts and blessings, our life is still not sinless.

C: Indeed I know that good does not live in me, that is, in my sinful flesh. The desire to do good is present with me, but I am not able to carry it out. So I fail to do the good I want to do. Instead, the evil I do not want to do, that is what I keep doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me. *Romans 7:18-20*

P: We stumble daily and transgress because we live in the world among people. They do us much harm and give us reason for impatience, anger, revenge, and such. Besides we have the devil at our back. He attacks us from every side and fights—as we have heard—against all the previous petitions. So it is not possible to stand firm at all times in such a constant conflict.

C: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar, and his Word is not in us. *1 John 1:8-10*

P: The flesh in which we daily live is of such a nature that it neither trusts nor believes God. It is ever active in evil lusts and devices, so that we sin daily in word and deed, by what we do and fail to do. By this the conscience is thrown into unrest, so that it is afraid of God's wrath and displeasure, and loses the comfort and confidence derived from the Gospel.

C: There is no one who is righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands. There is no one who searches for God. They all turned away; together they became useless. There is no one who does what is good; there is not even one. The way of peace they did not know. There is no fear of God in front of their eyes—no one will be declared righteous in his sight by the works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin. *Romans 3, selected verses*

P: It is, therefore, the intent of this petition that God would not

regard our sins and hold up to us what we daily deserve. But we pray that He would deal graciously with us and forgive, as He has promised, and so grant us a joyful and confident conscience to stand before him in prayer. Such a confident and joyful heart can spring from nothing else than the certain knowledge of the forgiveness of sin.

C: I sought the LORD, and he answered me. From all my terrors he delivered me. His people look to him and are radiant, and their faces will never blush. This poor one called, and the LORD heard. From all my distress the LORD saved me. Taste and see that the LORD is good. Blessed is everyone who takes refuge in him. *Psalm 34:1-6, 8*

Sung Response

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”
Christian Worship 129 st.1-2, 5

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away —
'Tis all that I can do.

The Lessons from God's Word
“God's Faithful Promise of Rescue is Kept in Jesus”

The Prophecy of the Savior

Isaiah 55:1-13

¹Come all of you who are thirsty, come to the water, even if you have no money! Come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. ²Why do you spend money on something that is not bread? Why do you waste your labor on something that does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good. Satisfy your appetite with rich food. ³Turn your ear toward me, and come to me. Listen, so that you may continue to live.

Yes, I will make an everlasting covenant with you, the faithful mercies promised to David. ⁴Look, I appointed him as a witness for peoples, a leader and commander of peoples. ⁵Look, you will call out to a nation you do not know, and a nation that does not know you will run to you, on account of the LORD your God, because of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found! Call on him while he is near! ⁷Let the wicked man abandon his way. Let an evil man abandon his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will show him mercy. Let him turn to our God, because he will abundantly pardon.

⁸Certainly my plans are not your plans, and your ways are not my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my plans are higher than your plans.

¹⁰Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and do not return there unless they first water the earth, make it give birth, and cause it to sprout, so that it gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹in the same way my word that goes out from my mouth will not return to me empty. Rather, it will accomplish whatever I please, and it will succeed in the purpose for which I sent it.

¹²Yes, you will go out with joy, and in peace you will be carried along. The mountains and the hills will break out in shouts of joy before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. ¹³Instead of thorns, a fir tree will grow up. Instead of briars, a myrtle tree will grow up. This will make a name for the LORD. It will serve as an everlasting sign that will not be cut off.

Response by the congregation “If Your Beloved Son, O God”
Christian Worship 393 st. 1 & 3

If your beloved Son, O God,
Had not to earth descended
And in our mortal flesh and blood
Had not sin’s power ended,
Then this poor, wretched soul of mine
In hell eternally would pine
Because of my transgression.

I trust in him with all my heart;
Now all my sorrow ceases.
His words abiding peace impart;
His blood from guilt releases.
Free grace through him I now obtain;
He washes me from ev’ry stain,
And pure I stand before him.

Passion History Reading
according to the Gospel of Matthew 26:1-35

¹When 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.”

³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas. ⁴They plotted together how to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵But they said, “Not during the Festival, or else there might be a riot among the people.”

⁶When Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman approached him holding an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume. She poured it on his head as he was reclining at the table. ⁸But when his disciples saw this, they were upset and said, “Why this waste? ⁹This perfume could have been

sold for a lot of money and given to the poor.”

¹⁰Jesus was aware of this and said to them, “Why are you causing trouble for this woman? She has done a beautiful thing for me. ¹¹You are always going to have the poor with you, but you are not always going to have me. ¹²When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³Amen 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.”

¹⁴Then one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶From that time on Judas was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

¹⁷On 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?”

¹⁸He 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.’”

¹⁹The disciples did as Jesus commanded them and prepared the Passover. ²⁰When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. ²¹As they were eating, he said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me.” ²²They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?”

²³He replied, “The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The 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.”

²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, replied, “Surely, not I, Rabbi?”

He said to him, “Yes, you are the one.”

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, “Take, eat, this is my body.” ²⁷Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood

of the new testament which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I 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." ³⁰After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³¹Then 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.' ³²But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

³³Peter answered him, "Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."

³⁴Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Tonight before the rooster crows you will deny me three times."

³⁵Peter said to him, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you." And all the disciples said the same.

Prayer for the Blessing of the Word

P: Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here, and forever in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen!

Hymn of the Day

"A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

Christian Worship 100 st. 1-3

A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth
Our guilt and evil bearing
And, laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing.
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer,
Bears shame and stripes and wounds and death,
Anguish and mockery and says,
"Willing all this I suffer."

This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great Friend,
The Lamb of God, our Savior;
Him God the Father chose to send
To gain for us his favor.
"Go forth, my Son," the Father said,
"And free my children from their dread
Of guilt and condemnation.
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by your passion they will share
The fruit of your salvation.

"Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
I'll bear what your command me.
My will conforms to your decree;
I'll do what you have asked me."
O wondrous Love, what have you done!
The Father offers up his Son,
Desiring our salvation.
O Love, how strong you are to save!
You make his bed within the grave
Who built the earth's foundation.

Sermon

Mark 14:32-42

³² They went to a place named Gethsemane. Jesus told his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ Then he took Peter, James, and John along with him and began to be troubled and distressed. ³⁴ He said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow, even to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch."

³⁵ Going forward a little, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ He also said, "Abba, Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup away from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

³⁷ When he returned to the disciples, he found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Were you not strong

enough to keep watch for one hour? ³⁸ Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

³⁹ Again he went away and prayed, saying the same thing. ⁴⁰ When he returned, he found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. They did not know what they should answer him. ⁴¹ He returned the third time and said to them, “Are you going to continue sleeping and resting? It is enough. The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴² Rise, let us go. Look, my betrayer is near.”

The Impassioned Prayers of the Passion _____

“Your Will Be Done!”

A Prayer in Weakness

A Prayer for Faithfulness

The Confession of our Christian Faith:

*(We unite in the words of Luther’s Explanation
to the Second Article of the Apostles Creed)*

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Prayer and Praise

Evening Litany *(we read responsively)*

P: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God.

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Remember not, O Lord, our offenses, nor hold them against us. Spare us, good Lord; spare your people whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.

C: Spare us, good Lord.

P: From all spiritual blindness; from pride, self glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and from a lack of love;

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: From all deadly sin and from the deceits of the world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh;

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism, from hardness of heart and contempt for your Word and will;

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your baptism, fasting, and temptation; and by your proclamation of the kingdom:

C: Good Lord, deliver us

P: By your bloody sweat and bitter agony, by your cross and suffering, and by your precious death and burial:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: By your triumphant resurrection, by your glorious ascension, and by the promised coming of the Holy Spirit:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: In our times of trouble, in our times of prosperity, in the hour of death, and on the day of judgment:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

C: Have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

C: Grant us your peace.

P: Son of God, at your invitation we come with your prayers and supplications.

C: Son of God, we ask you to hear us.

P: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend also from the fear of our enemies and the deceptions of the devil, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus our Savior, who lives and rules with you and the Holy Spirit—as the true God and gracious God—throughout all eternity.



The Lord's Prayer:

(the congregation will join with the pastor)

C: Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen!

Closing Praise

Song of Simeon

C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part
ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen
your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry
peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The Benediction

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God the Father,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit -

be with you always.



Closing Hymn

“All Praise to Thee, My God”

Christian Worship 592

All praise to thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
Beneath thine own almighty wings.
Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and thee
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die so that I may
Rise glorious at the awe-full day.
Oh, may my soul on thee repose
And may sweet sleep my eyelids close,
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
To serve my God when I awake.

When in the night I sleepless lie,
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No pow'rs of darkness me distress.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Tonight—In our faithful Savior’s name *WELCOME* to our mid-week Lenten worship! May the blessing which comes from our Savior’s passion, lead you to pray boldly and confidently, rejoicing in the gift of prayer together with God’s gracious, good answer.

Friday—Office hours from 10:30—2:30 pm

Sunday, March 5th—In-person Worship and Live-Streaming at 9:30 am. We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper in this service. If you have not already done so, please register to receive it today.

Thank You

To Al Todd for serving as our Hymnsoft operator; to Josh Schueler and Jim Everson for monitoring the audio and video for the live-stream.

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