

✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Pastor Mark Huston

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First Midweek of Lent

March 9, 2022

Vespers

As We Gather

It is difficult to stay silent when injustice is taking place around us. It is even more difficult to stay silent when injustice is being done to us. As we continue in our "Lenten Journey with Joseph," we witness injustice done to Joseph himself. Sold into slavery, sent away, staged death—there is little he could have said to change the will of his brothers. What does the Lord have to say, though? Would He remain silent while injustice took place? We learn more through this week's account, and through it all, we continue to learn of the One who, even in perceived silence, continues His resounding response of redemption.

424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.
3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.
4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



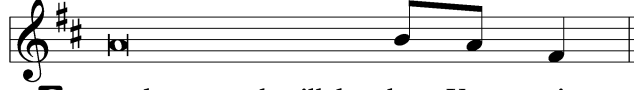
You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swer-ving love.
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591
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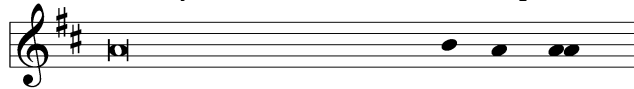
Stand



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

Psalmody

Psalm

Psalm 91:1–13

- P** ¹He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
- C** ²I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my | fortress,*
my God, in | whom I trust.”
- P** ³For he will deliver you from the snare of the | fowler*
and from the deadly | pestilence.
- C** ⁴He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find | refuge,*
his faithfulness is a shield and | buckler.
- P** ⁵You will not fear the terror | of the night,*
nor the arrow that | flies by day,
- C** ⁶nor the pestilence that stalks in | darkness,*
nor the destruction that wastes at | noonday.
- P** ⁷A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your | right hand,*
but it will not come | near you.
- C** ⁸You will only look | with your eyes*
and see the recompense of the | wicked.
- P** ⁹Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—
- C** ¹⁰no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.
- P** ¹¹For he will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.
- C** ¹²On their hands they will | bear you up,*
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.
- P** ¹³You will tread on the lion and the | adder;*
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

2

Sit

769 Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ



1 E - ter - nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ,
2 Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;
3 Come with the strength I lack, bring vi - sion clear



I know not how to ask or what to say;
Help me to see Your pur - pose and Your will—
Of hu - man need; O give me eyes to see



I on - ly know my need, as deep as life,
Where I have failed, what I have done a - miss;
Ful - fill - ment of my life in love out-poured,



And on - ly You can teach me how to pray.
Held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
My life in You, O Christ; Your love in me.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–96, alt.
Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662
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Readings

P A reading from Genesis, chapter 37.

¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him, "Here I am." ¹⁴So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring me word." So he sent him from the Valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. ¹⁵And a man found him wandering in the fields. And the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶"I am seeking my brothers," he said. "Tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." ¹⁷And the man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

¹⁸They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams." ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." ²²And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; cast him into this pit here in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand to restore him to his father. ²³So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. ²⁴And they took him and cast him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers listened to him. ²⁸Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.

²⁹When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes ³⁰and returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is gone, and I, where shall I go?" ³¹Then they took Joseph's robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. ³²And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said, "This we have found; please identify whether it is your son's robe or not." ³³And he identified it and said, "It is my son's robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces." ³⁴Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. ³⁵All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, "No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." Thus his father wept for him. ³⁶Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

P A reading from Luke, chapter 22.

¹⁴And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. ²²For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" ²³And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

²⁴A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

²⁸"You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, ²⁹and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, ³⁰that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory (Lent)

LSB 231



- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.



- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me
from those who rise a - gainst me.

Sermon

A Wondrous Silence

Canticle

Stand



- L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,

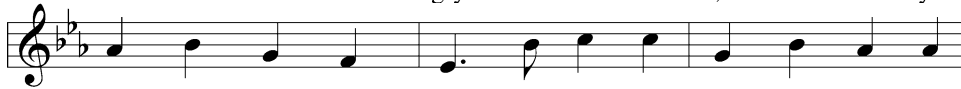


- C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord



- 1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



- leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



- gard, And I am blest for time to come.
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

Text: Luke 1:46-55; adapt. Stephanie K. Frey, 1952
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110017219
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Sit

Offering

Prayer

Stand
Kyrie



- C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

LSB 233

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

C Amen.

Collect for Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - - men.

Benedicamus



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.

C A - men.

878 Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;

Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, alt.
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89
Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Daylight Saving Time begins **Sunday March 13.**

Church Council next meeting is **March 20** at 8am.

Lent Services will be **March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6.** A light meal will be served at **6:30pm** with **Lenten Vespers** at **7pm.** Dinner sign-up sheets are in the library.

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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