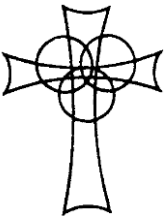


•
•
**Through him
God was pleased**



to reconcile to
himself all things ...
by making peace
through the blood
of his cross.

COLOSSIANS 1:20, NRSV



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

4000 – 30th Street

at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road

Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

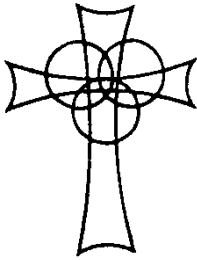
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340

Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org



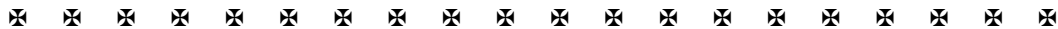
A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod





Lenten Midweek Vespers 2024
Guided to the Cross

The Fourth Wednesday of Lent
March 6, 2024



**The Office of Vespers
in the Season of Lent**

Lutheran Service Book Page 229ff

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

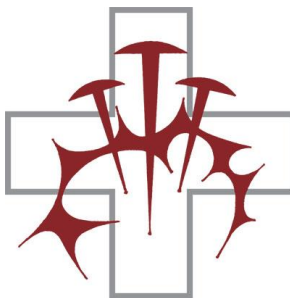


A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Your holy Name; cleanse my heart of any worthless, evil, or distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding; give me wisdom and love necessary to pray with attention, reverence, and devotion. Father, let my prayer be heard in Your presence, for it is offered through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Words of Welcome

The Congregation rises.



The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 425

“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”

1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,
 2 Here the King of all the a - ges,
 3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,

Where the blood of Christ was shed,
 Throned in light ere worlds could be,
 O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!
 Where the blood of Christ was shed,

Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,
 Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,
 Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing
 Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,

Per - fect God on thee has bled!
 Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
 All the suf - fer - ings of time!
 Per - fect God on thee has bled!

Text: William J. Sparrow Simpson, 1860–1952; Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901
 Text and tune: Public domain

The Opening Versicles and *Gloria Patri*:

P O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

The Congregation is seated.

✠ **The Psalmody** ✠

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 85; antiphon: verse 7

- P** *Ant.* Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
¹LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- C** ²**You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you covered all their sin.**
- P** ³You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.
- C** ⁴**Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us!**
- P** ⁵Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- C** ⁶**Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?**
- P** ⁷Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
- C** ⁸**Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**
- P** ⁹Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
- C** ¹⁰**Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.**
- P** ¹¹Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- C** ¹²**Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.**

P ¹³Righteousness will go before him
and make his footsteps a way.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P *Ant.* Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.

Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word

P Let us pray.

God of love and faithfulness, You so loved the world that You gave Your only Son to be our Savior. Help us to receive Him as both Lord and Brother and freely celebrate Him as our gracious Redeemer now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Office Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 440

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”
We Sing Stanzas 1-2 and 5-6



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
5 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science grieve me,
6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



Of Your suf-f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per-ish.
 How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
 If for me He slays His Son, God must have com-pas-sion!
 That I may in heav'n a-bove Sing Your praise for-ev-er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ **The Service of the Word** ✠

The First Reading

Isaiah 53:1-6

P A reading from Isaiah, chapter 53.

- ¹Who has believed what they heard from us?
 And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
- ²For he grew up before him like a young plant,
 and like a root out of dry ground;
 he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
 and no beauty that we should desire him.
- ³He was despised and rejected by men;
 a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;
 and as one from whom men hide their faces
 he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- ⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
 and carried our sorrows;
 yet we esteemed him stricken,
 smitten by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions;
 he was crushed for our iniquities;
 upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
 and with his stripes we are healed.
- ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
 we have turned every one to his own way;
 and the LORD has laid on him
 the iniquity of us all.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Colossians 1:13-20

P A reading from Colossians, chapter 1.

¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The Third Reading

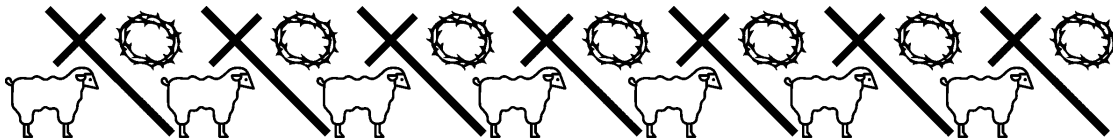
Luke 23:44-49

P A reading from Luke, chapter 23.

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.



The Responsory for Lent:

- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P** In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

The Sermon

Guided to the Cross

Guided to Peace

Text: Colossians 1:19-20

✠ **The Canticle** ✠

The Congregation rises.

The Canticle at Vespers: *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46b-55; antiphon: 2 Corinthians 6:2c

- P** Behold, now is the favorable time;
C **behold, now is the day of salvation.**
- P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;
C **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.**
- P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
C **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;**
- P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
C **He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**
- P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
C **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.**
- P** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- P** Behold, now is the favorable time;
C behold, now is the day of salvation.

✠ The Prayers ✠

The *Kyrie Eleison*:

P O Lord,
C have mercy.

P O Christ,
C have mercy.

P O Lord,
C have mercy.

The 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.

The Salutation and Collects:

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Let us pray.

The Collect for the Third Week in Lent:

P O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Collect for the Lenten Season:

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Other Prayers and Intercessions may be offered.

The Collect of Intercession:

P Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and be present with all, for Your love's sake.

C Amen.

The 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 Amen.

The *Benedicamus* and Blessing:

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**



The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 878

“Abide with Me”

We Sing Stanzas 1-2 and 4-6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still if Thou a - bide with me!
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

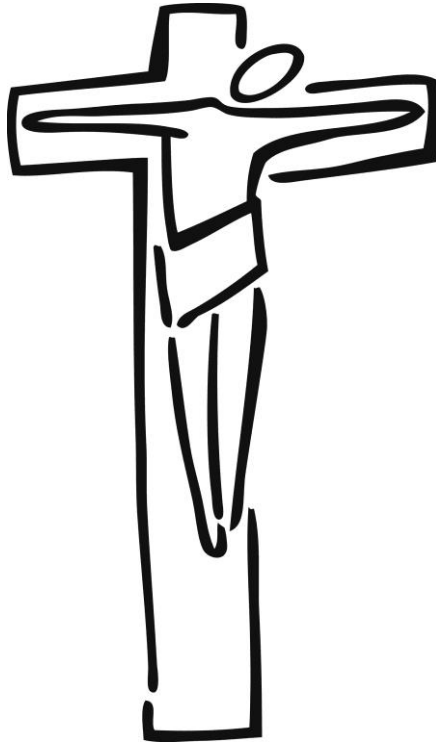
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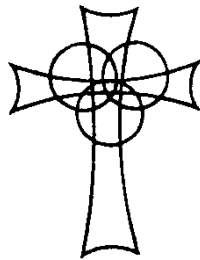
Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
4000 – 30th Street
at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

Sunday Mornings:
Adult Bible Study – 8:30 AM
Worship with Holy Communion – 9:30 AM

Midweeks in Lent:
Lenten Vespers
Wednesday Evenings – 7:00 PM

*Worship Services are livestreamed on Facebook Live
For more information, please visit the church website.*

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