



christ became
obedient
for us unto
death,
even to death
on a CROSS



March 1, 2023

ORDER OF SERVICE



Opening Hymn

400 | *Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessings*

The opening responses ask for the Lord's gracious presence as we gather for worship. Consider the third response to be a blessing — first spoken by the pastor to the congregation, and then by the congregation to the pastor.

PLEASE STAND

M: O Lord, open my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

M: Hasten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

Let My Prayer Rise Before You

Psalm 141



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.

Psalms play a key role in evening worship. Psalm 141 is traditionally used because the theme of the Psalm focuses on evening time. It is then followed by a Psalm that fits the season of the Church.

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

C: **Amen.**



Psalm 40

M: I waited patiently for the Lord;

C: **he turned to me and heard my cry.**

M: He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire;

C: **he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

M: He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

C: **Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.**

M: Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust,

C: **who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.**

M: I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and salvation.

C: **I do not conceal your love and your truth from the great assembly.**

M: Do not withhold your mercy from me, O Lord;

C: **may your love and your truth always protect me.**

M: For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.

C: **They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me.**

M: Be pleased, O Lord, to save me;

C: **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

M: May those who love your salvation always say,

C: **"The Lord be exalted!"**

M: Yet I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me.

C: **You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, do not delay.**

SILENCE FOR MEDITATION

M: Lord, do not remember the sins of our youth and our rebellious ways. Remember instead the great mercy and love that you have shown your people for hundreds of generations. Forgive our sins and teach us to live lives of integrity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Passion History Reading

Luke 22:1-38



Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus, for they were afraid of the people. Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. They were delighted and agreed to give him money. He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present.

The Last Supper

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there."

They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with

you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed, but woe to that man who betrays him." They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

Also a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."

Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

Then Jesus asked them, "When I sent you without purse, bag or sandals, did you lack anything?"

"Nothing," they answered.

He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one. It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you

that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment.”

The disciples said, “See, Lord, here are two swords.”

“That is enough,” he replied.

Hymn

407 | *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Sermon

Ezekiel 43:6-7

A Temple to Live with His People

While the man was standing beside me, I heard someone speaking to me from inside the temple. He said: “Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet. This is where I will live among the Israelites forever. The house of Israel will never again defile my holy name—neither they nor their kings—by their prostitution and the lifeless idols of their kings at their high places.



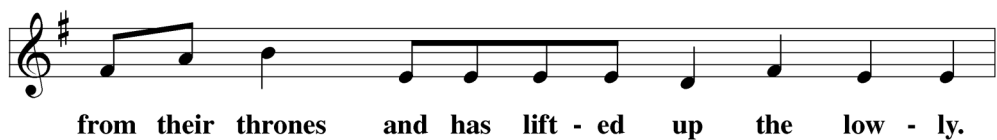


Martin Luther considered Mary's Song to be one of the greatest statements of faith in the Bible. It is the custom of the Church to use this song in evening worship as we join with Mary to await the fulfillment of all God's promises.

Song of Mary

Magnificat

C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-joice in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the



PLEASE STAND



Prayers

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

The basis of this prayer is that we seek God's mercy in all areas of our lives. As we close our day with worship, we ask for God's mercy for a wide variety of people.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



C: Thanks be to God.

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



C: A - men.

Special prayer may be spoken here.

Lord 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.



Prayer for Peace

This prayer comes to us from the early Christian Church.

M: 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 us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



This traditional song used in evening worship weaves together thoughts of preparation, forgiveness, and praise. Seeing Jesus in his Word gives us joy as we close our day.

Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis

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.

Blessing

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

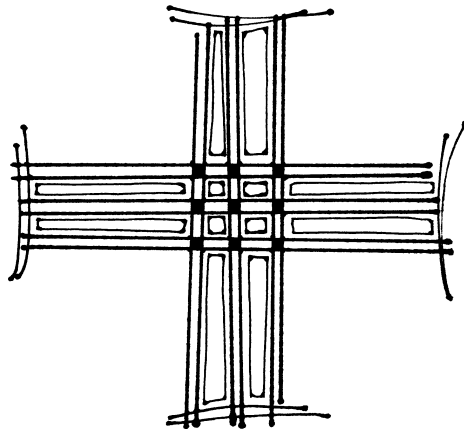
C: **Amen.**



PLEASE BE SEATED

Closing Hymn

789 | *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night*



Serving In Worship

Presiding Minister and Preacher - Pastor Thomas W. Kneser
Organist - Nancy Perez



Acknowledgements

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"I have done as you commanded."

Ezekiel 9:11

Pictures of Jesus in Ezekiel

March 8

Ezekiel 20:49

Take this Message Seriously

March 15

Ezekiel 9:4

Foreheads Marked

March 22

Ezekiel 16

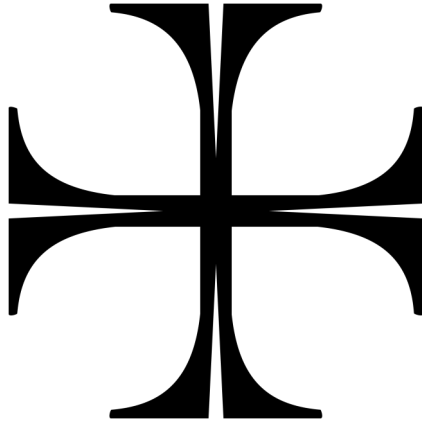
Salvation for the Utterly Helpless

March 29

Ezekiel 4

Defiled People





LIVING HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH