



Mid-Week Lent

Grace Lutheran Church

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Church Office Hours
Pete Heyrman, President
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Wednesday, March 18, 2026
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Serving Today

WORSHIP LEADER	Pastor Peter Gueldner	CANTORS	Ruth Poole & Matthew Wingren		
ORGAN/PIANO	Jody Weckwerth	Right Thief:	Tyler Pardeik	Soldier:	Isaac Nelson
DRAMATISTS	Left Thief: Corey Nelson	ELDERS/USHERS	Pete Heyrman		
LIVESTREAM	Curtis Meier				

Acknowledgments

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Holden Evening Prayer – Text & Tune: Marty Haugen. Tune: © 1990, 2016 GIA Publications, Inc. Text: © 1990, 2016 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-744024. All rights reserved.



Silent Prayer Before Worship

Lord Jesus Christ, hanging between criminals yet reigning from the Cross, I come before You in humility. Like the repentant thief, I acknowledge my mistakes and my need for Your grace, knowing I cannot save myself.

When I am broken, scared, or facing my own "cross," strengthen my faith to trust in Your kingdom of mercy, not the power of this world. Amen.

Congregational Prayers

✠ John & Bea Beilke	✠ Diane Grieve	✠ Don & Kathy Jungwirth
✠ Sam Konakowitz	✠ Allen Kvittum	✠ Dorothy Kueker
✠ Patricia Meyer	✠ Pat Swanson	✠ Jon Swanson

Thoughts on this Evening's Drama

Three men died that day. Our focus, of course, is on the cross in the center, on the Savior who gave his life for the life of the world, for every one of us. But the two thieves were close to Jesus, not only in location, but also in situation. They were dying too. If we could have overheard their dying words, what do you suppose they might have said? This evening we shall overhear some possible answers to that question.

Order of Service

Special with Elements of the Holden Evening Prayer

Hymn of Invocation

421 Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. composite, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758. Text and tune: Public domain



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In Your ho - ly
2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the broad and
4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord,
5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, Grant that in Your



wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing Pains of
sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new
eas - y road, With se - duc - tive, sin - ful vi - ces, Let me
is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross re - vives me, Grant - ing
death I trust, Know - ing death has lost its pow - er Since You



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
weigh the aw - ful load You were will - ing to en - dure.
new life to my soul. Yes, Your com - fort ren - ders sweet
crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let Your ag - o - ny



Tempt my treach-'rous heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from
Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was
Help me flee all thoughts im - pure And to mas - ter each temp -
Ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; For Your all - a - ton - ing
Ev - er help and com - fort me; When I die be my pro -



sin - ning Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.
wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
ta - tion, Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
pas - sion Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
tec - tion, Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Opening Responsory

Jesus Christ, You Are the Light of the World

Sung by Cantors

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Cantor: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.
Stay with us now, for it is evening, and the day is almost over.
Let your light scatter the darkness, and shine within your people.

Evening Hymn

Joyous Light

All Sing

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1.) Joy-ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov - ing
2.) In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3.) You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - ry
4 glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
7 danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle
10 sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y
13 eve - ing falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ wholights our
16 you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us
light our hearts a - new.
free and make us whole.
on to end - less day.

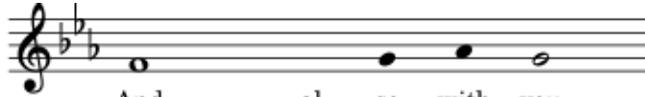
Evening Thanksgiving

Sung Responsively

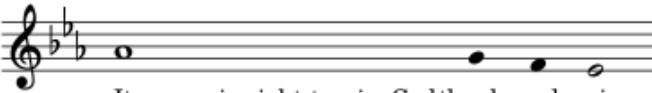
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Cantor: May God be with you all.

All Sing: 
And also with you.

Cantor: Let us sing our thanks to God.

All Sing: 
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Cantor: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe,
From old you have led your people by night and day.
May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright,
For your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways,
And you are the light and life of all creation. Amen.

Psalmody

Psalm 20

P: The LORD answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you! May he send you help from the sanctuary, and give you support from Zion. May he remember all your offerings, and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices. May he grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans.

C: **May we shout for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God set up our banners.**

P: May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.

C: **Now I know that the LORD will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand.**

P: Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,

C: **but our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.**

P: They will collapse and fall,

C: **but we shall rise and stand upright.**

P: Give victory to the king, O LORD;

C: **answer us when we call.**



Gloria Patri

sung to LSB 436 'Go to Dark Gethsemane'

**C: Glory to the Father be,
And to Christ, eternally.
Glory to the Spirit raise.
Join all nature in her praise:
From creation's ancient shore
Unto life forevermore.**

Stand

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:32-43

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”** And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³And he said to him, **“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

Sit

Theme Hymn

(sung to the tune of LSB 450 'O Sacred Head Now Wounded')

**The voices of the Passion,
Those words from ancient days—
What message do they fashion
As on your cross I gaze?
In words that once were spoken,
In speech now overheard,
Grant me, O Lord, this token:
To hear your living Word!**

Sermonic Introduction

Sermonic Conclusion

Theme Hymn

(sung to the tune of LSB 450 'O Sacred Head Now Wounded')
**When my last night is falling
And darkness 'round me lies,
Lord, let me hear you calling
To blessed Paradise.
There may I stand before you,
Your majesty to see.
My King, I now implore you:
O Lord, remember me!**

Offering

Stand

Prayers

- P: O almighty and eternal God, we are frail and time-bound children of the dust, destined to return to the earth from which, by your creative power, we sprang.
- C: We are alone, and fearful in our loneliness--afraid to die, and yet not able, in our sinfulness, to live alone without your sin-forgiving love to cleanse our souls and make us right with you, despite the well-meant, misdirected error of our ways.**
- P: Be with us in our loneliness, O God, as Christ your Son was with us in his life and death.
- C: Forgive our sins, and redirect our zeal, that day by day we pray, "Thy kingdom come," and show that kingdom in our lives of service and obedient love**
- P: until our final day on earth, when we shall see your kingdom come indeed and know that we are not alone,
- C: but then--as always--in the company of him who left his throne on high that we might share in Paradise,**
- P: in whose redeeming name we join to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Final Blessing

Sung Responsively

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Cantor: Let us bless our God:
Praise and thanks to you.
May God, Creator, bless us and keep us,
May Christ be ever light for our lives,
May the Spirit of Love be our guide and path for all of our days.

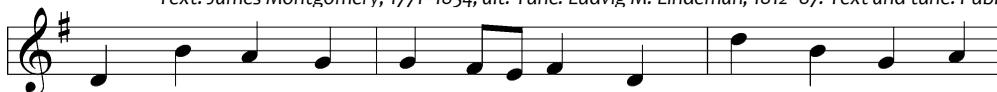
All Sing:



Closing Hymn

LSB 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87. Text and tune: Public domain



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.



Thank you for joining us this evening!
God's Blessings on the rest of your Week!