

L E N T E N
M I D W E E K S E R V I C E
W E D N E S D A Y , M A R C H 1 0 , 2 0 2 1



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2001 Old Frederick Road
Catonsville, Maryland

Service of C o m p l i n e

For Lent

March 10, 2021

Lent is a time to reflect upon one's sinful life and to repent. But Lent is not only a time to see our sin; it is also a season for beholding our Savior. It is a time to hear His word. We listen to the words spoken by Jesus from the cross. These are his "crosswords." They are lifegiving words from the One who is Life Himself.

Tonight, Jesus experiences total abandonment by His Father. That comes as consequence of our sin. Jesus goes to the furthest length for our sakes.

+ + +

Stand

L The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C **Amen.**

L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C **to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**

L to herald Your love in the morning,

C **Your truth at the close of the day.**

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel. Silence for self-examination.

L I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**

- C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- L The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.
- C Amen.

Hymn: Alas and Did My Savior Bleed, #437



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
 2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And
 4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While
 5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that
 groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
 shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y
 His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in
 debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?
 grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
 mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.
 thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.
 self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

Reading: Isaiah 59: 1-2, 12-17

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
 or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;
² but your iniquities have made a separation
 between you and your God,
 and your sins have hidden his face from you
 so that he does not hear.
¹² For our transgressions are multiplied before you,

and our sins testify against us;
 for our transgressions are with us,
 and we know our iniquities:
¹³ transgressing, and denying the Lord,
 and turning back from following our God,
 speaking oppression and revolt,
 conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.
¹⁴ Justice is turned back,
 and righteousness stands far away;
 for truth has stumbled in the public squares,
 and uprightness cannot enter.
¹⁵ Truth is lacking,
 and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.
 The Lord saw it, and it displeased him
 that there was no justice.
¹⁶ He saw that there was no man,
 and wondered that there was no one to intercede;
 then his own arm brought him salvation,
 and his righteousness upheld him.
¹⁷ He put on righteousness as a breastplate,
 and a helmet of salvation on his head;
 he put on garments of vengeance for clothing,
 and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 22:1, 6-7, 14-20, 22-23 (spoken responsively as below)

L My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

C **But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.**

L All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

C **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;**

L my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

C **For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—**

- L I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me;
C they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.
- L But you, O Lord, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
C Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!
- L I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
C You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
- 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.**

Reading: Matthew 27:45-49

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ⁴⁷ And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.” ⁴⁸ And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Responsory

- L Into Your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.
- L You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.
C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.
- L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

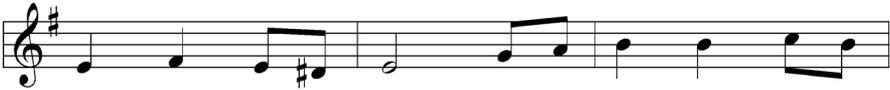
Hymn: Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted, #451



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

Catechism: The Lord's Prayer

The Introduction

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

The First Petition

Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean? God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy? God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

The Second Petition

Thy kingdom come.

What does this mean? The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

How does God's kingdom come? God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

The Third Petition

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done? God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature,

which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

The Fourth Petition

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

The Fifth Petition

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

The Sixth Petition

And lead us not into temptation.

What does this mean? God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

The Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

The Conclusion

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

Stand

Hymn: Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed, 560



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Tune and text: Public domain

Responsive Prayer

L Holy God, Holy and most Gracious Father,
C have mercy and hear us.

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.**

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life (+) everlasting. Amen.**

L I cry to You, O Lord;
C **in the morning my prayer comes before You.**

L Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
C **and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

L My mouth is filled with Your praise,
C **and with Your glory all the day.**

L Every day I will bless You
C **and praise Your name forever and ever.**

L By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness,
C **O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.**

L Bless the Lord, O my soul;
C **and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name!**

L He redeems your life from the pit
C **and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C **let my cry come to You.**

L 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.**

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. Amen.**

L Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

L The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and (+) bring you to everlasting life.
C **Amen.**

Hymn: The Day Thou Gavest, #886



1 The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
 2 We thank Thee that Thy Church, un-sleeping
 3 As o'er each con-ti-nent and is-land
 4 The sun, that bids us rest, is wak-ing
 5 So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall nev-er,



The dark-ness falls at Thy be-hest;
 While earth rolls on-ward in-to light,
 The dawn leads on-an-oth-er day,
 Thy saints be-neath the west-ern skies,
 Like earth's proud em-pires, pass a-way;



To Thee our morn-ing hymns as-cend-ed,
 Through all the world her watch is keep-ing,
 The voice of prayer is nev-er si-lent,
 And hour by hour, as day is break-ing,
 Thy king-dom stands and grows for-ev-er,



Thy praise shall sanc-ti-fy our rest.
 And nev-er rests by day or night.
 Nor dies the strain of praise a-way.
 Fresh hymns of thank-ful praise a-rise.
 Till all Thy crea-tures own Thy sway.

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST. PAUL

PALM SUNDAY, *March 28th, 10:00 a.m.*
 MAUNDY THURSDAY, *April 1st, 7:00 p.m.*
 GOOD FRIDAY, *April 2nd, 7:00 p.m.*
 EASTER VIGIL, *Saturday, April 3rd, 7 p.m.*
 EASTER SUNRISE, *April 4th, 7 a.m.*
 THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD,
April 4th, Festival Service, 10:00 a.m.