



**MIDWEEK DEVOTION**

September 30, 2020

✠ COMPLINE ✠

*Kneel or Stand*

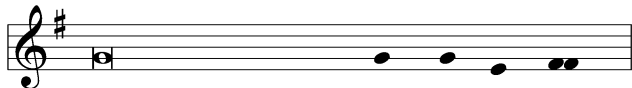
**Opening Versicles**



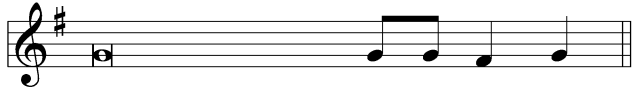
**L** The Lord Almighty grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



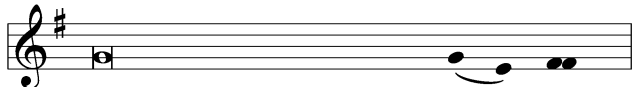
**C** A - men.



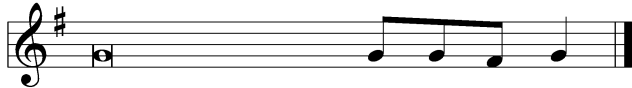
**L** It is good to give thanks to the Lord,



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



**L** to herald Your love in the morn - ing,



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

**Exhortation**

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

*Silence for self-examination.*

**L** Holy and gracious God,

**C** **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

**L** By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

# ✠ Psalmody ✠

**Psalm**

*Psalm 23; antiphon: v. 6*

*The pastor and congregation chant responsively. The antiphon is chanted by the pastor before and after the psalm.*



*(Antiphon)* Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life:\*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.

- 1 The LORD is my | shepherd;\*  
I | shall not want.
- 2 **He maketh me to lie down in green | pastures:\***  
**He leadeth me beside the still | waters.**
- 3 He restoreth | my soul:.\*  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His | name's sake.
- 4 **Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art | with me;\***  
**Thy rod and Thy staff, they | comfort me.**
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine | enemies:.\*  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth | over.
- 6 **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life:\***  
**and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*The antiphon is repeated.*

*Sit*

## Office Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

Text and tune: Public Domain

# ✠ Readings ✠

## First Reading

*Ezekiel 34:11–16*

<sup>11</sup>“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I Myself will search for My sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out My sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I Myself will be the shepherd of My sheep, and I Myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

*Silence for reflection.*

## Second Reading

*1 Peter 2:18–25*

<sup>18</sup>Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. <sup>19</sup>For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

*Silence for reflection.*

## Holy Gospel

*John 10:14–18*

<sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from My Father.”

*Silence for reflection.*

**Responsory**

*Psalm 31:5*



**L** In-to Your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spir - it.



**C** In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



**L** You have re - deemed me, O Lord, God of truth.



**C** In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



**L** Glory be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.



**C** In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

**Meditation on the Psalm**

**Responsory Hymn: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

*LSB 740*



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text and tune: Public Domain

## ✠ Prayer ✠

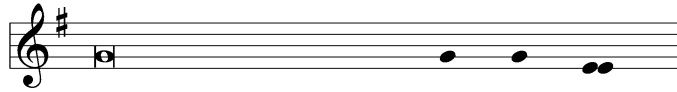
*Kneel or Stand*



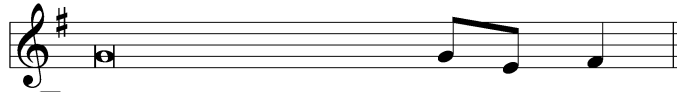
**L** Hear my prayer, O Lord;



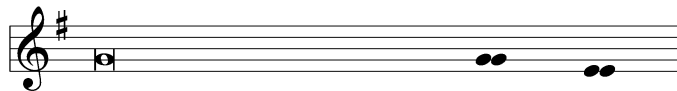
**C** listen to my cry.



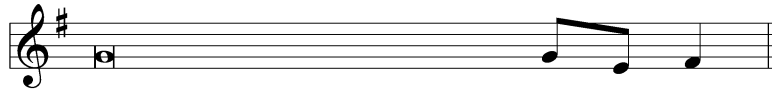
**L** Keep me as the apple of Your eye;



**C** hide me in the shadow of Your wings.



**L** In righteousness I shall see You;



**C** when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

*One or more of the following are prayed.*

- L** Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L** O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L** Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L** Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L** Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L** Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 957

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

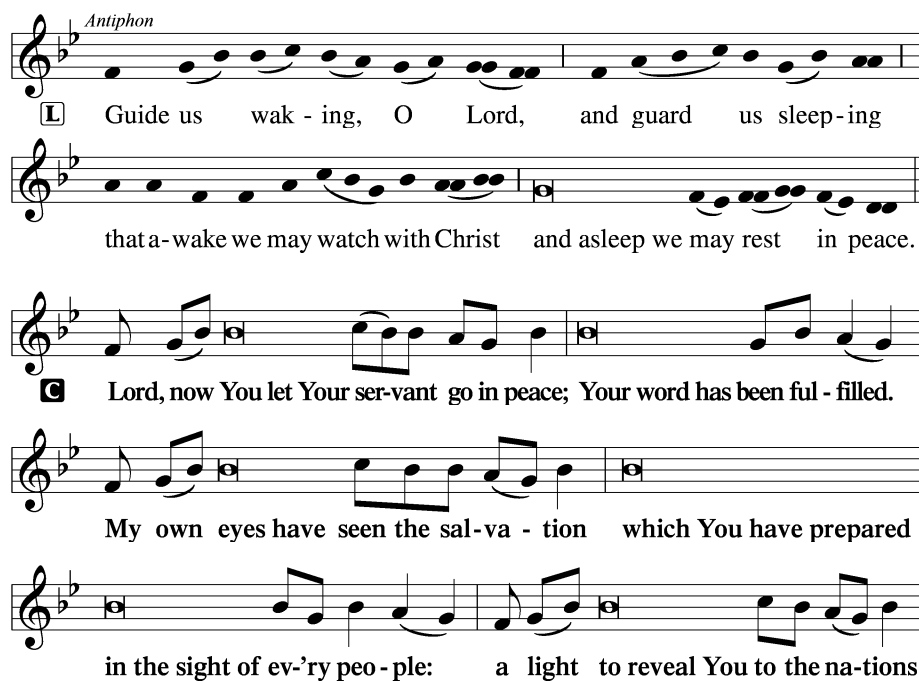


Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,  
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as  
it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly  
bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give  
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -  
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.  
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -  
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2: 29-32



*Antiphon*  
**L** Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing  
that a - wake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.  
**C** Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful - filled.  
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have prepared  
in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to reveal You to the na - tions

and the glory of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.      Glo-ry be to the

Fa-ther and to the Son      and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for -

ev - er. A - men.      *Antiphon* Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,

and guard us sleep - ing      that a - wake we may

watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

**Benediction**

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord,      the Fa - ther, the † Son,

and the Holy Spir - it,      bless you and keep you.

**C** A - men.

**† SOLI DEO GLORIA †**  
 (TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)