



MIDWEEK DEVOTION – PSALM 35

February 3, 2021

† COMPLINE †

Kneel or Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

A musical staff in treble clef and G major (one sharp) begins with a single note followed by a short melodic line.

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

A musical staff in treble clef and G major continues with a melodic line consisting of two notes.

C A - men.

A musical staff in treble clef and G major begins with a single note followed by a short melodic line.

L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

A musical staff in treble clef and G major continues with a melodic line consisting of three notes.

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

A musical staff in treble clef and G major begins with a single note followed by a short melodic line.

L to herald Your love in the morning,

A musical staff in treble clef and G major continues with a melodic line consisting of four notes.

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 35; antiphon: vv. 24a, 28

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



(Antiphon) Vindicate me, O | LORD, my God,*
according to Your | righteousness.
Then my tongue shall tell of Your | righteousness*
and of Your praise all | the day long.

¹ Contend, O LORD, with those who con- | tend with me;*
fight against those who fight a- | gainst me!

² Take hold of shield and | buckler*
and rise | for my help!

³ **Draw the spear and javelin against my pur- | suers!***
Say to my soul, “I am your sal- | vation!”

⁴ **Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after | my life!***
Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil a- | gainst me!

⁵ Let them be like chaff be- | fore the wind,*
with the angel of the LORD driving | them away!

⁶ Let their way be dark and | slippery,*
with the angel of the LORD pur- | suing them!

⁷ **For without cause they hid their | net for me;***
without cause they dug a pit | for my life.

⁸ **Let destruction come upon him when he does not | know it!***
And let the net that he hid ensnare him; let him fall into it—to his de- | struction!

⁹ Then my soul will rejoice | in the LORD,*
exulting in His sal- | vation.

¹⁰ All my bones shall say, “O LORD, who is | like You,*
delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who | robs him?”

¹¹ **Malicious witnesses | rise up;***
they ask me of things that I | do not know.

¹² **They repay me e- | vil for good;***
my soul | is bereft.

¹³ But I, when they were sick—I wore sackcloth; I afflicted myself with | fasting;*
I prayed with head bowed | on my chest.

¹⁴ I went about as though I grieved for my friend or my | brother,*
as one who laments his mother, I bowed down in | mourning.

¹⁵ **But at my stumbling they rejoiced and | gathered;***
they gathered together against me; wretches whom I did not know tore at me without | ceasing;

¹⁶ **like profane mockers | at a feast,***
they gnash at me | with their teeth.

¹⁷ How long, O Lord, will You | look on?*
Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the | lions!

¹⁸ I will thank You in the great congre- | gation;*
in the mighty throng I will | praise You.

¹⁹ Let not those rejoice over me who are wrongfully | my foes,*
and let not those wink the eye who hate me with- | out cause.

²⁰ For they do | not speak peace,*
but against those who are quiet in the land they devise words | of deceit.

²¹ They open wide their mouths a- | gainst me;*
they say, “Aha, Aha! Our eyes have | seen it!”

²² You have seen, O LORD; be not | silent!*
O Lord, be not | far from me!

²³ Awake and rouse Yourself for my vindi- | cation,*
for my cause, my God | and my Lord!

²⁴ Vindicate me, O LORD, my God, according to Your | righteousness,*
and let them not rejoice | over me!

²⁵ Let them not say in their hearts, “Aha, our | heart’s desire!”*
Let them not say, “We have swal- | lowed him up.”

²⁶ Let them be put to shame and disappointed altogether who rejoice at my ca- | lamity!*
Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves a- | gainst me!

²⁷ Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad and say | evermore,*
“Great is the LORD, who delights in the welfare of His | servant!”

²⁸ Then my tongue shall tell of Your | righteousness*
and of Your praise all | the day long.

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: I Leave All Things to God's Direction

LSB 719

1 I leave all things to God's di - rec - tion; He loves me
2 God knows what must be done to save me; His love for
3 My God de - sires the soul's sal - va - tion; My soul He,
4 My God has all things in His keep-ing; He is the

both in joy and woe. His will is good, sure His af -
me will nev - er cease. Up - on His hands He did en -
too, de - sires to save. There-fore with Chris - tian res - ig -
ev - er faith - ful friend. He gives me laugh - ter af - ter

fec - tion; His ten - der love is true, I know. My for - tress
grave me With pur - est gold of lov - ing grace. His will su -
na - tion All earth - ly trou - bles I will brave. His will be
weep-ing, And all His ways in bless - ings end. His love en -

and my rock is He: What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
preme must ev - er be: What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
done e - ter - nal - ly: What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
dures e - ter - nal - ly: What pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.

Text and tune: Public Domain

† Readings †

OLD TESTAMENT

Job 5:8–18

⁸“As for me, I would seek God, and to God would I commit my cause, ⁹who does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things without number: ¹⁰He gives rain on the earth and sends waters on the fields; ¹¹He sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted to safety. ¹²He frustrates the devices of the crafty, so that their hands achieve no success. ¹³He catches the wise in their own craftiness, and the schemes of the wily are brought to a quick end. ¹⁴They meet with darkness in the daytime and grope at noonday as in the night. ¹⁵But He saves the needy from the sword of their mouth and from the hand of the mighty. ¹⁶So the poor have hope, and injustice shuts her mouth.

¹⁷“Behold, blessed is the one whom God reprobates; therefore despise not the discipline of the Almighty. ¹⁸For He wounds, but He binds up; He shatters, but His hands heal.”

Silence for reflection.

EPISTLE

Romans 12:9–21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Silence for reflection.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 14:53–65

⁵³And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴And Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire.

⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimony did not agree.

⁵⁷And some stood up and bore false witness against Him, saying, ⁵⁸“We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹Yet even about this their testimony did not agree.

⁶⁰And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have You no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against You?” ⁶¹But He remained silent and made no answer.

Again the high priest asked Him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”

⁶²And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.”

⁶³And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴You have heard His blasphemy. What is your decision?”

And they all condemned Him as deserving death.

⁶⁵And some began to spit on Him and to cover His face and to strike Him, saying to Him, “Prophesy!” And the guards received Him with blows.

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

† 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.

- ¶ 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.
- ¶ 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.
- ¶ 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.
- ¶ 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.
- ¶ 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.
- ¶ 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.



¶ A - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 957

- ¶ 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 -
ever. A - men. 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.

Antiphon

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)