



MIDWEEK DEVOTION

April 29, 2020

✠ COMPLINE ✠

Kneel or Stand

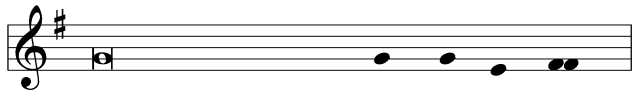
Opening Versicles



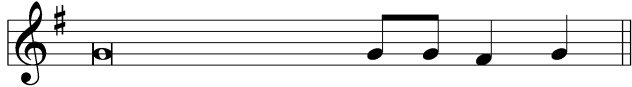
L The Lord Almighty grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



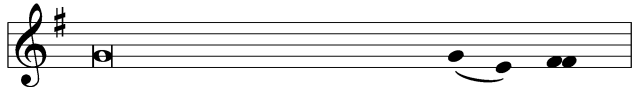
C A - men.



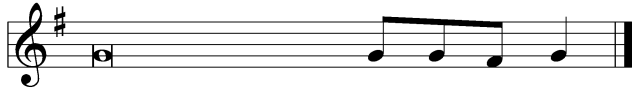
L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,



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 1; antiphon: v. 6

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



(Antiphon) ⁶for the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

- ¹ Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,*
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;
- ² but his delight is in the law | of the LORD,*
and on His law he meditates | day and night.
- ³ **He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not | wither.***
In all that he does, he | prospers.
- ⁴ **The wicked | are not so,***
but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment.*
nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous;
- ⁶ for the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.
- 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 Man Is Ever Blessed

LSB 705



- 1 The man is ev - er blessed Who shuns the sin - ners' ways, A -
2 But makes the Law of God His stud - y and de - light A -
3 He like a tree shall thrive, With wa - ters near the root; Fresh
4 Not so the wick - ed race, They no such bless - ings find; Their



mong their coun - sels nev - er stands, Nor takes the scorn - ers' place,
mid the la - bors of the day And watch - es of the night.
as the leaf his name shall live, His works are heav'n - ly fruit.
hopes shall flee like emp - ty chaff Be - fore the driv - ing wind.

- 5 How will they bear to stand
Your head with thorns surrounded,
Where all the saints at Christ's right hand
In full assembly meet?
- 6 He knows and He approves
The way the righteous go;
But sinners and their works shall meet
A dreadful overthrow.

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ Readings ✠

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 6:4–9

⁴“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Silence for reflection.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Silence for reflection.

Holy Gospel

Mark 25:31–46

[Jesus said:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. ³²Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And He will place the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸And when did we see You a stranger and welcome You, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹And when did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me.’

⁴¹“Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ ⁴⁵Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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 Psalm 1

✠ Prayer ✠

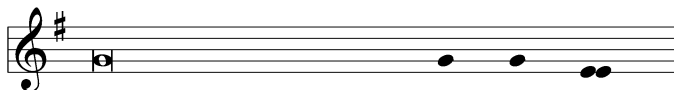
Kneel or Stand



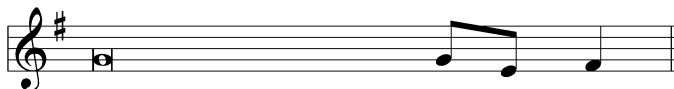
L Hear my prayer, O Lord;



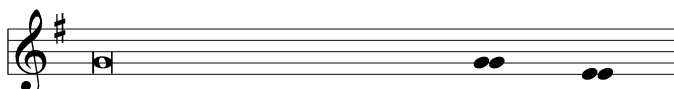
C listen to my cry.



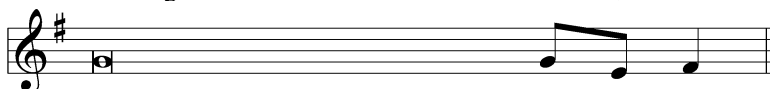
L Keep me as the apple of Your eye;



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.

Nunc Dimittis

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 -
Antiphon
 ev - er. 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.

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)

Acknowledgments

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