



MIDWEEK DEVOTION

August 26, 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 18; antiphon: vv. 46, 49

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



(Antiphon) The LORD lives, and blessed | be my rock,*
and exalted be the God of my sal- | vation—
For this I will praise You, O LORD, among the | nations,*
and sing | to Your name.

- ¹ I | love You,*
O | LORD, my strength.
- ² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my de- | liverer,*
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my | stronghold.
- ³ **I call upon the LORD, who is worthy | to be praised,***
and I am saved from my | enemies.
- ⁴ **The cords of death en- | compassed me;***
the torrents of destruction as- | sailed me;
- ⁵ the cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;*
the snares of death con- | fronted me.
- ⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I | cried for help.*
From His temple He heard my voice,
and my cry to Him | reached His ears.
- ⁷ **Then the earth | reeled and rocked;***
the foundations also of the mountains trembled
and quaked, because He was | angry.
- ⁸ **Smoke went up from His nostrils,**
and devouring fire | from His mouth;*
glowing coals flamed | forth from Him.
- ⁹ He bowed the heavens and | came down;*
thick darkness was un- | der His feet.
- ¹⁰ He rode on a cher- | ub and flew;*
He came swiftly on the wings | of the wind.
- ¹¹ **He made darkness His covering, His canopy a- | round Him,***
thick clouds dark with | water.
- ¹² **Out of the brightness be- | fore Him***
hailstones and coals of fire broke | through His clouds.
- ¹³ The LORD also thundered in the | heavens,*
and the Most High uttered His voice,
hailstones and | coals of fire.
- ¹⁴ And He sent out His arrows and | scattered them;*
He flashed forth lightnings and | routed them.
- ¹⁵ **Then the channels of the sea were seen,**
and the foundations of the world were | laid bare*
at Your rebuke, O LORD,
at the blast of the breath of Your | nostrils.
- ¹⁶ **He sent from on high, he | took me;***
He drew me out of many | waters.

¹⁷ He rescued me from my strong | enemy*
and from those who hated me,
for they were too might- | y for me.

¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my ca- | lamity,*
but the LORD was | my support.

¹⁹ **He brought me out into a | broad place,***
He rescued me, because He delight- | ed in me.

²⁰ **The LORD dealt with me according to my | righteousness,***
according to the cleanness of my hands He re- | warded me.

²¹ For I have kept the ways | of the LORD,*
and have not wickedly departed | from my God.

²² For all His just decrees were be- | fore me,*
and His statutes I did not put a- | way from me.

²³ **I was blameless be- | fore Him,***
and I kept myself | from my guilt.

²⁴ **So the LORD has rewarded me according to my | righteousness,***
according to the cleanness of my hands | in His sight.

²⁵ With the merciful You show Yourself | merciful,*
with the blameless man You show Yourself | blameless;

²⁶ with the purified You show Your- | self pure,*
and with the crooked You make Yourself seem | tortuous.

²⁷ **For You save a humble | people,***
but the haughty eyes | You bring down.

²⁸ **For it is You who | light my lamp,***
the LORD my God lightens my | darkness.

²⁹ For by You I can run a- | gainst a troop,*
and by my God I can leap o- | ver a wall.

³⁰ This God—His way is | perfect,*
the word of the LORD proves true;
He is a shield for all those who take ref- | uge in Him.

³¹ **For who is God, | but the LORD?***
And who is a rock, ex- | cept our God?—

³² **the God who equipped | me with strength***
and made my way | blameless.

³³ He made my feet like the feet | of a deer*
and set me secure | on the heights.

³⁴ He trains my | hands for war,*
so that my arms can bend a | bow of bronze.

³⁵ **You have given me the shield of Your sal- | vation,***
and Your right hand supported me,
and Your gentleness | made me great.

³⁶ **You gave a wide place for my steps | under me,***
and my feet | did not slip.

³⁷ I pursued my enemies and over- | took them,*
and did not turn back till they | were consumed.

³⁸ I thrust them through, so that they were not a- | ble to rise,*
they fell un- | der my feet.

³⁹ **For You equipped me with strength for the | battle,***
You made those who rise against me sink | under me.

⁴⁰ **You made my enemies turn their | backs to me,***
and those who hated me | I destroyed.

⁴¹ They cried for help, but there was | none to save,*
they cried to the LORD, but He did not | answer them.

⁴² I beat them fine as dust be- | fore the wind,*
I cast them out like the mire | of the streets.

⁴³ You delivered me from strife with the | people;*
 You made me the head of the nations;
 people whom I had not known | served me.
⁴⁴ As soon as they heard of me they o- | beyed me;*
 foreigners came cring- | ing to me.
⁴⁵ Foreigners | lost heart*
 and came trembling out of their | fortresses.
⁴⁶ The LORD lives, and blessèd | be my rock,*
 and exalted be the God of my sal- | vation—
⁴⁷ the God who gave me | vengeance*
 and subdued peoples | under me,
⁴⁸ who delivered me from my enemies;
 yes, You exalted me above those who rose a- | gainst me;*
 You rescued me from the man of | violence.
⁴⁹ For this I will praise You, O LORD, among the | nations,*
 and sing | to Your name.
⁵⁰ Great salvation He brings | to His king,*
 and shows steadfast love to His anointed,
 to David and his offspring 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: Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

LSB 918



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re-deem-er, Pil-grim through this
 2 O-pen now the crys-tal foun-tain Whence the heal-ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, Bid my anx-ious
 bar-ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might-y;
 stream doth flow; Let the fi-ery, cloud-y pil-lar
 fears sub-side; Death of death and hell's de-struc-tion,
 Hold me with Thy pow'r-ful hand. Bread of heav-en,
 Lead me all my jour-ney through. Strong de-liv-'rer,
 Land me safe on Ca-naan's side. Songs of prais-es,
 bread of heav-en, Feed me till I want no
 strong de-liv-'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
 songs of prais-es I will ev-er give to
 more; Feed me till I want no more.
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 Thee; I will ev-er give to Thee.

✠ Readings ✠

First Reading

Exodus 19:16–20

¹⁶On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. ¹⁷Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. ¹⁹And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder. ²⁰The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

Silence for reflection.

Second Reading

Revelation 1:5b–8

^{5b}To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Silence for reflection.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 27:50–54

⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit. ⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

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



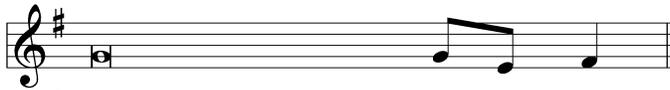
L Hear my prayer, O Lord;



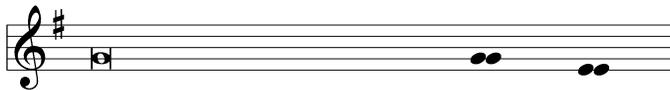
C listen to my cry.



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.

- 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)