

Compline Night Prayer
Monday April 14, 2025 – 7:00pm
Monday in Holy Week

INTRODUCTION

During Holy Week some communities gather each day to meditate on Jesus' final days before his death on the cross. Today's gospel commemorates the anointing of Jesus by Mary, a foreshadowing of his death and burial. Isaiah speaks of the suffering servant who is a light for the nations and who faithfully brings forth justice. For Christians, Jesus' suffering is the path to resurrection and new life. We eagerly await the celebration of the great Three Days later this week.

GATHERING HYMN

“Jesus the Very Thought of You”

Vss. 1 – 3



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!



DIALOGUE

P Almighty God grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C **Amen.**

P It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

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

P to herald your love in the morning,

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate One,

C **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

C **O God, your Son chose the path that led to pain before joy and to the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 42:1-9

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's past promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth;

and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,

I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,

to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the
dungeon,

from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 36:5-11

A Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.

C **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O Lord.**

A How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

C **They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

A For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.

C **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you, and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

A Let not the foot of the proud come near me, nor the hand of the wicked push me aside.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 9:11-15

Prior to Christ, forgiveness was mediated through animal sacrifice. Christ came as the great high priest to establish a new covenant. Through his blood we are liberated from our sins and promised eternal life.

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ,

who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: JOHN 12:1-11

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN

CLOSING SCRIPTURE

P I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*Romans 8:38-39*)

P Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

C Into your hands I commend my spirit.

P You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

C Into your hands I commend my spirit.

P Glory to the Father † Son † Holy Spirit.

C Into your hands, I commend my spirit.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

P Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.

C Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

PRAYERS

P Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C listen to my cry.

P Keep me as the apple of your eye;

C hide me in the shadow of your wings.

P In righteousness I shall see you;

C when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

A 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.

C **Amen.**

A Be our light in the darkness, O God, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

A Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

C **Amen.**

A Gracious God, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest securely, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A We pray for the church, called to follow Jesus in the way of the cross. Make us unflinching servants of the gospel. Deliver us from hardship as we confront the forces of injustice and practice radical compassion. Empower and sustain our bishops. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

A For the earth and all its inhabitants, created in love: Train us to recognize your divine goodness in the world around us. Rouse in us a reverence for creation, that we take greater care of its resources. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

A For those in positions of authority called to lead with integrity and compassion: Supply them with courage and vulnerability when challenged with new ideas. Deliver them from fear that limits imagination and impedes justice. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war. We pray for the peoples of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza as well as people in so many countries whose lives are considered of no value by leaders. Welcome into your kingdom those who have been killed and protect those who are living in the valley of death, because of unconscionable wars. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A For those who suffer, waiting expectantly for mercy and consolation: Accompany those who feel abandoned or betrayed, defend those who are wrongly accused, and embrace those who are incarcerated or detained. Heal those who are ill. We pray aloud and silently for those in need of healing; family members, friends, co-workers, casual acquaintances and those we know by name only. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A For Christians around the world, preparing this week to journey with Jesus to the cross: Reveal to us once again the earthshaking power of humble service, unmerited forgiveness, and sacrificial love. Lead us all from death to life. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A We remember those who have died, especial all the school children and adults in our country who have been killed in senseless acts of gun violence. We sadly commended them into your hands. Remember us when you come into your kingdom, and prepare a place for each of us with you in paradise. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“O God Our Help”

Vss. 1, 2 & 4



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

