



# Midweek Lent Service

## March 12, 2025

### Evening Prayer

- L** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
- C** **the light no darkness can overcome.**
- L** Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
- C** **and the day is almost over.**
- L** Let Your light scatter the darkness
- C** **and illumine Your Church.**

### Phos Hilaron (O Joyful Light)

- L** Joyous light of glory:
- C** **of the immortal Father;**  
**heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.**  
**We have come to the setting of the sun,**  
**and we look to the evening light.**  
**We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:**  
**You are worthy of being praised**  
**with pure voices forever.**  
**O Son of God, O Giver of life:**  
**the universe proclaims Your glory.**

## Thanksgiving for Light

**L** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Psalm

*Psalm 32*

**L** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**C** Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**L** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**C** For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**L** I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**C** Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

**L** You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**C** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**L** Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

**C** Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**L** Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

## Hymn: 614 "As Surely as I Live," God Said



1 "As sure - ly as I live," God said, "I would not  
2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: "Go forth and  
3 "All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly  
4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will  
see the sin - ner dead. I want him turned from  
preach in ev - 'ry land; Be - stow on all My  
par - don and ac - quit, And those whose sins you  
loose, that shall be free; To My dear Church the  
er - ror's ways, Re - pen - tant, liv - ing end - less days."  
par - d'ning grace Who will re - pent and mend their ways.  
will re - tain Con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.  
keys are giv'n To o - pen, close the gates of heav'n."

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707

Text and tune: Public domain

## Reading

*Luke 22:1–38*

<sup>1</sup>Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. <sup>2</sup>And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put him to death, for they feared the people.

<sup>3</sup>Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. <sup>4</sup>He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. <sup>5</sup>And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup>So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd.

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" <sup>10</sup>He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters <sup>11</sup>and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>12</sup>And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." <sup>13</sup>And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>14</sup>And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup>For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup>For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." <sup>19</sup>And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup>And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. <sup>21</sup>But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. <sup>22</sup>For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" <sup>23</sup>And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

<sup>24</sup>A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. <sup>25</sup>And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. <sup>26</sup>But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. <sup>27</sup>For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

<sup>28</sup>"You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, <sup>29</sup>and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, <sup>30</sup>that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

<sup>31</sup>"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, <sup>32</sup>but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup>Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

<sup>35</sup>And he said to them, "When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "Nothing." <sup>36</sup>He said to them, "But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. <sup>37</sup>For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about me has its fulfillment." <sup>38</sup>And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough."

**L** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

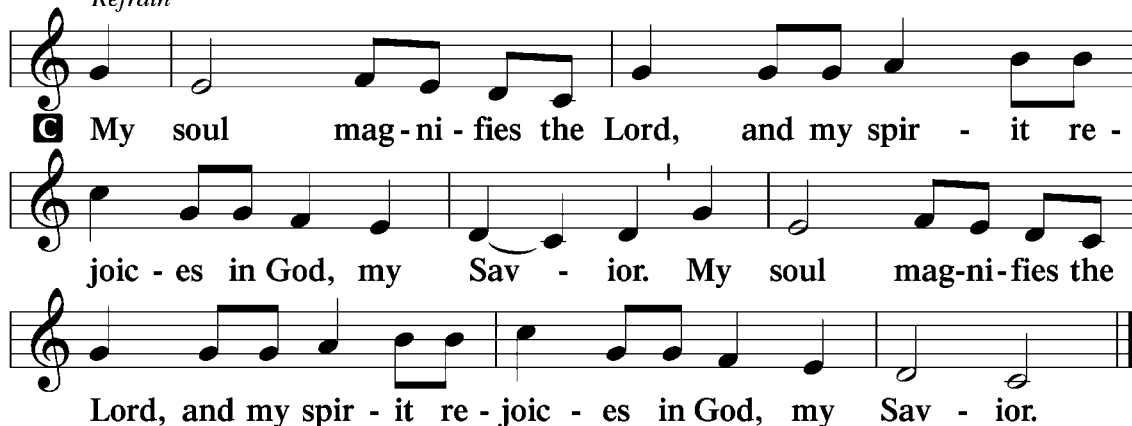
**C** But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.



# Sermon

## Magnificat

### *Refrain*



My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -  
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the  
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

- L** For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.  
For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.  
For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;  
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

### **C** Refrain

- L** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.  
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to  
Abraham and to his seed forever.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### **C** Refrain

## Litany

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For *Rev. Matt Harrison and Rev. Heath Curtis*, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For *President Trump, Governor Pritzker, Mayor Short*, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers then continue:*

- L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:  
**C** **Alleluia.**
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

- L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:  
**C** **To You, O Lord.**

## Collect for Peace

- L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** Amen.

## Hymn to Depart: 424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



- 1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.  
2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.  
3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.  
4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,  
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.  
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.  
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swerv-ing love.  
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.  
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

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## St. James Guiding Statement

*Together we have found healing and hope in Jesus Christ and welcome others to experience these same Gospel promises.*

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