

Midweek Lenten Worship

March 30, 2022

Christ Lutheran, Cambridge, MN

christcambridge.com



Gathering Rite on the Word of God

*This liturgy, found on page 11 in the blue hymnal, is meant to remind
God's people of the blessings of his Word.*

PASTOR'S WELCOME

GATHERING

Minister: In the name of the Father, and of the Son \dagger and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

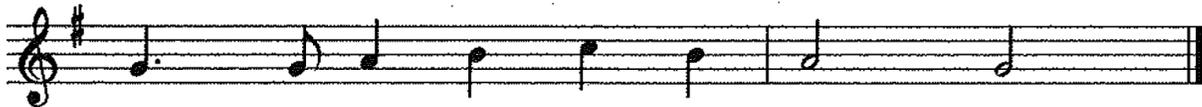
Introduction to the hymn.



Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered all to
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and



hear you.
fear you, By your teach - ings, sweet and ho - ly,



Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

C: For they are ever with me.

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: for I meditate on your statutes.

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: sweeter than honey to my mouth!

(Psalm 119:97-99, 103)

All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est dark-ness
 Till your Spir - it breaks our night With the beams of truth un-
 shroud - ed
 cloud - ed. You a - lone to God can win us;
 You must work all good with - in us.

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. Like the disciples, I have boldly declared loyalty to you only to fail to proclaim your name; I have foolishly listened to the devil's lies only to be crushed with guilt and shame.

Gra-cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from God pro-
 O - pen now our heart and mind; Help us by your Spir - it's
 ceed - ing,
 plead - ing. Hear the cry your peo - ple rais - es;
 Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

M: God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Praise to you and ad - o -
Grant that we your Word may trust, Con - fi - dent of our sal-
ra - tion!
va - tion, While we here be - low must wan - der,
Till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

Psalm Prayer:

C: Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Passion Reading

Luke 23:1-25

The whole group of them got up and brought him before Pilate. ² They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.” ³ Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” “It is as you say,” Jesus replied. ⁴ Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.” ⁵ But they kept insisting, “He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here.” ⁶ When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. ⁷ When he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days. ⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time, he had wanted to see him, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle performed by him. ⁹ He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ The chief priests and the

experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹ Herod, along with his soldiers, treated him with contempt and ridiculed him. Dressing him in bright clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹² Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other. ¹³ Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, ¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who is misleading the people. Look, I have examined him in your presence. I have found in this man no basis for the charges you are bringing against him. ¹⁵ Herod did not either, for he sent him back to us. See, he has done nothing worthy of death. ¹⁶ So I will have him flogged and release him." ¹⁷ Pilate needed to release one prisoner to them at the Festival. ¹⁸ But they all shouted together with one voice: "Take him away! Release Barabbas to us!" ¹⁹ Barabbas had been thrown in prison for a rebellion in the city and for murder. ²⁰ Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus. ²¹ But they kept shouting, "Crucify! Crucify him!" ²² He said to them the third time, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found no grounds for sentencing him to death. So I will whip him and release him." ²³ But they kept pressuring him with loud voices, demanding that he be crucified. And their voices were overwhelming. ²⁴ So Pilate decided that what they demanded would be done. ²⁵ He released the one they had asked for, who had been thrown in prison for rebellion and murder, but he handed Jesus over to their will.

Seasonal Response:

**C: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
By his wounds we are healed.**

HYMN: #114 "Christ, the Life of All the Living"

**"The Forsaken Christ---Forsaken by Us"
Romans 3:10-20, 23**

¹⁰ Just as it is written:

There is no one who is righteous, not even one.

¹¹ There is no one who understands. There is no one who searches for God.

¹² They all turned away; together they became useless.

There is no one who does what is good; there is not even one.

¹³ Their throat is an open grave.

They kept deceiving with their tongues.

The poison of asps is on their lips.

¹⁴ Their mouth is filled with cursing and bitterness.

¹⁵ Their feet are quick to shed blood.

¹⁶ They leave a trail of destruction and suffering wherever they go.

¹⁷ The way of peace they did not know.

¹⁸ There is no fear of God in front of their eyes.

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰ For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin. ²³ because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Dear God, heavenly Father, how great is your love for us! You willingly sent your beloved Son to world of sinful rebels. The innocent one came to serve the guilty, but his own people rejected him, and his enemies tortured him and put him to death. Because you did not withhold your one and only Son but let him take our guilt on himself to set us free, we praise your holy name.

C: Lord, accept our praise and may we always revere your name as holy.

M: Dear Son of God, our brother, how great is your love for us! You allowed yourself to be condemned so that we could be declared not guilty. Fill our hearts with the same self-sacrificing love that you showed us. You allowed no suffering, no fear, and no doubt to swerve you from your path to Calvary. Give us the same single-minded dedication and unshakable commitment as we daily take up our cross and follow you.

C: Lord, hear us for Jesus' sake.

M: Dear Holy Spirit, how great is your love for us! By Word and sacrament you have warmed and transformed our foolish and stubborn hearts, making us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus and receptive to his gospel of forgiveness. Hold his cross before our eyes that we may dedicate our lives to him who died for us. Make us strong in the hour of temptation. Lead us to love and serve our neighbor as unselfishly as Christ did. Finally, guide our thoughts as we give pause for silent meditation.

Time for silent meditation.

We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us according to your promise, for Jesus' sake in whose name we also join to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13

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.

BLESSING:

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #588 vs. 1-4 "Abide with Me"