

- 1 Jesus, I will ponder now  
on your holy passion;  
with your Spirit me endow  
for such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith  
may the image cherish  
of your suffering, pain, and death  
that I may not perish.
- 2 Make me see your great distress,  
anguish, and affliction,  
bonds and stripes and wretchedness  
and your crucifixion;  
make me see how scourge and rod,  
spear and nails did wound you,  
how for them you died, O God,  
who with thorns had crowned you.
- 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus alone  
make me see your passion,  
but its cause to me make known

and its termination.

Ah! I also and my sin

wrought your deep affliction;  
this indeed the cause has been  
of your crucifixion.

4 Grant that I your passion view  
with repentant grieving;  
let me not bring shame to you  
by unholy living.

How could I refuse to shun  
ev'ry sinful pleasure  
since for me God's only Son  
suffered without measure?

5 If my sins give me alarm  
and my conscience grieve me,  
let your cross my fear disarm,  
peace of conscience give me.

Help me see forgiveness won  
by your holy passion.

If for me he slays his Son,

God must have compassion!

*Please stand for the final stanza*

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
help me bear my crosses,  
learning humbleness from you,  
peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give you love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,  
that I may in heav'n above  
sing your praise forever.

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

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## Opening Sentences

CW 215

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
**the light no darkness can overcome.**

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
**and the day is almost over.**

Be our light and scatter the darkness,  
**and hear our evening prayer and praise.**

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- 1 Gladd'ning light of purest glory,  
shining down from heav'n on high,  
from the everliving Father—  
hail, most blessed Jesus Christ!
- 2 In the fading light of evening,  
as the setting sun departs,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—  
we adore you, Lord our God.
- 3 For your gift of life unending,  
joyful voices ever sing  
hymns of praise that rightly honor,  
Son of God, your saving name.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

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Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with 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. We, your creatures, glorify you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*(Be seated)*

**Psalm 141**

CW 217

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;  
hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord,  
and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing  
your praises with the Church on earth and forever in  
heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**51 God, Be Merciful to Me**

*Psalm 51*

1 God, be merciful to me,  
on your grace I rest my plea;  
your compassions overflow,

blot out my transgressions now;  
wash me, make me pure within,  
cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

2 My transgressions I confess,  
grief and guilt my soul oppress;  
I have sinned against your grace  
and provoked you to your face;  
I confess your judgment just,  
speechless, in your mercy trust.

3 I am evil, born in sin;  
you desire all truth within.  
You alone my Savior are,  
teach your wisdom to my heart;  
make me pure, your grace bestow,  
wash me whiter than the snow.

4 Broken, humbled to the dust  
by your wrath and judgment just,  
let my contrite heart rejoice  
and in gladness hear your voice;  
from my sins, O hide your face,  
blot them out in boundless grace.

Text: Psalter, 1912, alt.

Text: Public domain

*(The following prayer is said:)*

## Psalm Prayer

Lord, we confess our sins to you and plead for your mercy. We acknowledge that sin runs too deep in our nature for us ever to rid ourselves of it, but we thank you that Jesus has done what we could not do, washing us clean of every stain. We plead that your Spirit would give us the strength to live a new life; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## The First Part of the Passion History

Our LES children will sing hymn 710, *Beneath the Cross*

### 418 The Blood of the Lamb

CW 418

- 1 The Father sees his children's chains.  
From Pharaoh's land they cry in pain.  
To rescue them, he makes a way:  
the blood of the lamb.
- 2 The lamb is slain as sun is set—  
a perfect lamb, without defect.  
They stain their doors with innocence:  
the blood of the lamb.

3 As midnight looms, the hour of death,  
God seeks the firstborn, steals their breath,  
but passes o'er doors drenched in red:  
the blood of the lamb.

4 Children of God, we too were slaves:  
our master—sin! Our end—the grave!  
But freedom came in crimson shades:  
the blood of the Lamb.

5 This perfect Lamb is Jesus Christ.  
He gave himself as sacrifice.  
His life poured out, the final price:  
the blood of the Lamb.

6 The blood he spilled, the life he spent,  
he gives us now in sacrament.  
Eternal life on Christ depends:  
the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Laurie F. Gauger, b. 1965

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## Sermon

Exodus 12 (v5-11) 5Your lamb must be unblemished, a year-old male. You may take it from the sheep or the goats. 6You are to keep it until the fourteenth day of this month. Then the whole assembly of the Israelite community is to slaughter the lambs at sunset. 7They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses where they eat the lamb. 8That night they shall eat the meat that has been roasted over a fire, along with unleavened bread. They shall eat it with bitter herbs. 9Do not eat it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over a fire—with its head, its legs, and its internal organs. 10You shall not leave any of it until the morning. Whatever remains until the morning, you shall burn in the fire. 11This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt ready for travel, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste. It is the LORD'S Passover.

*(Stand)*

## Song of Mary

CW 220

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations  
will call me blesse

The Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him  
in ev'ry generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise made to our fathers, to Abraham,  
and to his children forever. Amen.

*(Be seated)*

**Offering**

*(Stand)*

**Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

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:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] .

. . . let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our Lord:

**to you, O Lord.**

*(Prayers of intercession, seasonal prayers, and the Prayer of the Day may follow.)*

**Prayer**

**Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Benedicamus**

Let us praise the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Blessing**

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of  
God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you  
all.

**Amen.**

*(Be seated)*

## **789 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night**

CW 789

1 All praise to thee, my God, this night  
for all the blessings of the light.

Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
beneath thine own almighty wings.  
Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,

the ill that I this day have done,  
that with the world, myself, and thee  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

2 Teach me to live that I may dread  
the grave as little as my bed.

Teach me to die that so I may  
rise glorious at the awe-full day.

Oh, may my soul on thee repose  
and may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,  
sleep that shall me more vig'rous make  
to serve my God when I awake.

3 When in the night I sleepless lie,  
my soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;  
let no ill dreams disturb my rest,  
no pow'rs of darkness me distress.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

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Evening Prayer from Christian Worship

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