

- **Welcome!** We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service. Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers.
- Large Print Hymnal Binders are available on the tract desk for those with vision difficulties.
- Personal prayers for use before church or during the week are printed on p. 255-258 in the hymnal.

**Please note: tonight's service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube.**

**[www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar](http://www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar)**

**Mid-Week Lent 6: April 9, 2025**

## Setting Evening Prayer, pg. 215

### 430 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

CW 430

- 1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
 see him dying on the tree!  
 'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;  
 yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he.  
 'Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
 David's son, yet David's Lord;  
 proofs I see sufficient of it:  
 'tis the true and faithful Word.
- 2 Tell me, as you hear him groaning,  
 was there ever grief like his,  
 friends through fear his cause disowning,  
 foes insulting his distress?  
 Many hands were raised to wound him,  
 none would intervene to save;  
 but the deepest stroke that pierced him  
 was the stroke that justice gave.
- 3 If you think of sin but lightly  
 nor suppose the evil great,  
 here you see its nature rightly,  
 here its guilt may estimate.

Mark the sacrifice appointed,  
 see who bears the awful load;  
 'tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,  
 Son of Man and Son of God.

*Please stand for the final stanza*

4 Here we have a firm foundation,  
 here the refuge of the lost:  
 Christ, the rock of our salvation,  
 is the name of which we boast;  
 Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,  
 sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
 None shall ever be confounded  
 who on him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855, alt.

Text: Public domain

## 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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## Hymn of Light

CW 216

- 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.

**85 LORD, in Your Mercy, Hear My Prayer***Psalm 85****Refrain***

**LORD, in your mercy hear my prayer; your goodness  
never fails.**

You, LORD, forgave the iniquity of your / people  
and covered / all their sins.

You set aside / all your wrath  
and turned from your fierce / anger.

Show us your unfailing / love, LORD,  
and grant us your sal- / vation. *Refrain*

I will listen to what God the / LORD says;  
he promises peace to his / people.

Surely his salvation is near those who / fear him,  
that his glory may dwell / in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet to- / gether;  
 righteousness and peace kiss each / other.  
**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. Refrain**

Text: Hal H. Hopson

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*(The following prayer is said:)*

God of love and faithfulness, you showed favor to your people by sending your one and only Son to be our Savior. Help us to trust in him as our gracious Redeemer and so enjoy the peace he came to bring, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **The Sixth Part of the Passion History**

### **421 Son of God, by God Forsaken**

CW 421

1 Son of God, by God forsaken,  
 hear your people's humble plea:  
 Source of life, by death o'ertaken,  
 feed us from the barren tree.

- 2 Friend of sinners, none befriends you,  
left to die while all deride;  
sinless, yet not one defends you  
when condemned and crucified.
- 3 Son of Man, your foes assail you,  
crown with cruel thorns your brow.  
King of kings, no sword avails you  
in your hour of deepest woe.
- 4 Healer of the broken, anguished,  
nails your hands and feet impale.  
Lord of all, you hang there vanquished  
by the death your friends bewail.
- 5 Light of Light, no brightness cheering  
rends the gloom of that dread day  
till your mercy's beams, appearing,  
drive the clouds of sin away.
- 6 Come, O Christ, and grant us freedom  
by your bondage on the tree.  
Lead our steps to that fair kingdom  
where you reign eternally.

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

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## Sermon

### Daniel 6:16-23.

Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you." A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the pit. The king sealed it with his signet ring and the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing could be changed with regard to Daniel's situation. Then the king went to his palace. He spent the night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him. But he could not sleep.

At dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions' den. As he came near the pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, was your God, whom you serve continually, able to rescue you from the lions?"

Then Daniel spoke with the king. "Your Majesty, may you live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. They have not hurt me because he found me innocent in his presence. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed no crime."

Then the king was very glad and said that Daniel should



be brought up from the pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted in his God.

*(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 blessed

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.

## **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.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just  
works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that  
peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may

be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **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)*

### 794 Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

CW 794

1 Now rest beneath night's shadow  
the woodland, field, and meadow;  
the world in slumber lies.

But you, my heart, awaken,  
with prayer and song be taken;  
let praise to your Creator rise.

2 The rule of day is over  
and shining jewels cover  
the heaven's boundless blue.  
Thus I shall shine in heaven,  
where crowns of gold are given  
to all who faithful prove and true.

3 Lord Jesus, since you love me,  
O spread your wings above me  
and shield me from alarm.

Though Satan would assail me,  
 your mercy will not fail me;  
 I rest in your protecting arm.

4 My loved ones, rest securely,  
 for God this night will surely  
 from peril guard your heads.  
 Sweet slumbers may he send you  
 and bid his hosts attend you  
 and through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Text: Public domain

#### Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Christian Worship

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**Ladies!!!**

**Don't forget to return your mite boxes to the church  
 by Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> so they can be taken to the rally  
 the next day on the 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Thank You!!!**

**Our thanks go out to Pastor Steven Neuman from St.  
 John's Pigeon for leading our worship this  
 evening and for his message from God's Word.**