

The Service of Matins

Service of Daily Prayer — Treasury of Daily Prayer, pg. O-43



INVOCATION

[M] In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.¹

[C] Amen.

MORNING SENTENCES

[M] In the morning, O LORD, You hear my voice;

[C] In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

Psalm 5:3

[M] My mouth is filled with your praise,

[C] and with your glory all the day.

Psalm 71:8

[M] O LORD, open my lips,

[C] and my mouth will declare your praise.

Psalm 51:15

[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

Christ, the Life of All the Living | **CW 114 (1,3,5)**

READING — Holy Wednesday

Matthew 26:14-25

¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests
¹⁵ and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him
thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray
him.

¹ The Sign of the Cross (☩) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Martin Luther wrote in his Small Catechism, “In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say, ‘In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.’”



¹⁷ Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸ He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹ And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

²⁰ When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. ²¹ And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²² And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" ²³ He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." ²⁵ Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] Praise be to you, O Christ!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 89:20-27

[M] I have found David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him,

[C] so that my hand shall be established with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.

[M] The enemy shall not outwit him;

[C] the wicked shall not humble him.

[M] I will crush his foes before him

[C] and strike down those who hate him.

[M] My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him,

[C] and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

[M] I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers.

[C] He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'

- M** And I will make him the firstborn,
C the highest of the kings of the earth.

CONFESSIOAL READING

Large Catechism, V:28-32

^{28]} But here our wise spirits contort themselves with their great art and wisdom, crying out and bawling: How can bread and wine forgive sins or strengthen faith? Although they hear and know that we do not say this of bread and wine, because in itself bread is bread, but of such bread and wine as is the body and blood of Christ, and has the words attached to it. That, we say, is verily the treasure, and nothing else, through which such forgiveness is obtained. ^{29]} Now the only way in which it is conveyed and appropriated to us is in the words (Given and shed for you). For herein you have both truths, that it is the body and blood of Christ, and that it is yours as a treasure and gift. ^{30]} Now the body of Christ can never be an unfruitful, vain thing, that effects or profits nothing. Yet, however great is the treasure in itself, it must be comprehended in the Word and administered to us, else we should never be able to know or seek it.

^{31]} Therefore also it is vain talk when they say that the body and blood of Christ are not given and shed for us in the Lord's Supper, hence we could not have forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament. For although the work is accomplished and the forgiveness of sins acquired on the cross, yet it cannot come to us in any other way than through the Word. For what would we otherwise know about it, that such a thing was accomplished or was to be given us if it were not presented by preaching or the oral Word? Whence do they know of it, or how can they apprehend and appropriate to themselves the forgiveness, except they lay hold of and believe the Scriptures and the Gospel? ^{32]} But now the entire Gospel and the article of the Creed: I believe a holy Christian Church, the forgiveness of sin, etc., are by the Word embodied in this Sacrament and presented to us. Why, then, should we allow this treasure to be torn from the Sacrament when they must confess that these are the very words which we hear every where in the Gospel, and they cannot say that these words in the Sacrament are of no use, as little as they dare say that the entire Gospel or Word of God, apart from the Sacrament, is of no use?

LORD'S PRAYER

- C** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M** Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

- M** Grant us, O Lord, to live this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain, that reaching the evening victorious over all temptation, we may praise you, the eternal God, for you govern all things and are praised now and forever.
- C** Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

- C** I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

- M** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work of the day.