

THE DAILY OFFICE *for* HOLY WEEK

HOLY MONDAY	p. 2
HOLY TUESDAY.....	p. 6
HOLY WEDNESDAY.....	p. 10
MAUNDY THURSDAY.....	p. 14
GOOD FRIDAY	p. 18

HOLY MONDAY

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

READING

John 12:1-11

¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. ³ Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" ⁶ He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it.

ⁱ *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.'"*

⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

⁹ When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 35:1-4a, 6, 9-10

[M] Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;

[C] **fight against those who fight against me!**

[M] Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers!

[C] **Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!" Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life!**

[M] Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them!

[C] **Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation.**

[M] All my bones shall say, "O LORD, who is like you,

[C] **delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?"**

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

CONFESSIONAL READING

Large Catechism, V:8-11, 13-14, 17-19

^{8]} Now, what is the Sacrament of the Altar?

Answer: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in and under the bread and wine which we Christians are commanded by the Word of Christ to eat and to drink. ^{9]} And as we have said of Baptism that it is not simple water, so here also we say the Sacrament is bread and wine, but not mere bread and wine, such as

are ordinarily served at the table, but bread and wine comprehended in, and connected with, the Word of God.

^{10]} It is the Word (I say) which makes and distinguishes this Sacrament, so that it is not mere bread and wine, but is, and is called, the body and blood of Christ. For it is said: "If the Word be joined to the element, it becomes a Sacrament." This saying of St. Augustine is so properly and so well put that he has scarcely said anything better. The Word must make a Sacrament of the element, else it remains a mere element.

^{11]} Now, it is not the word or ordinance of a prince or emperor, but of the sublime Majesty, at whose feet all creatures should fall, and affirm it is as He says, and accept it with all reverence, fear, and humility.

^{13]} Now here stands the Word of Christ: Take, eat; this is My body; All of you, drink of it; this is the new testament in My blood, etc. Here we abide, and would like to see those who will constitute themselves His masters, and make it different from what He has spoken. It is true, indeed, that if you take away the Word or regard it without the words, you have nothing but mere bread and wine. ^{14]} But if the words remain with them, as they shall and must, then, in virtue of the same, it is truly the body and blood of Christ. For as the lips of Christ say and speak, so it is, as He can never lie or deceive.

^{17]} For the Word by which it became a Sacrament and was instituted does not become false because of the person or his unbelief. For He does not say: If you believe or are worthy, you receive My body and blood, but: Take, eat and drink; this is My body and blood. Likewise: Do this (namely, what I now do, institute, give, and bid you take). ^{18]} That is as much as to say, No matter whether you are worthy or unworthy, you have here His body and blood by virtue of these words which are added to the bread and wine. ^{19]} Only note and remember this well; for upon these words rest all our foundation, protection, and defense against all errors and deception that have ever come or may yet come.

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] Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C] Amen.

Brief silence.

MORNING PRAYER

[M] Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore you to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[C] Amen.

Brief silence.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

[C] In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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

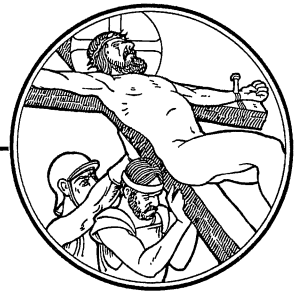
[M] Let us bless the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work of the day.

HOLY TUESDAY

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.

[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.

Psalms 5:3

[M] We do not make requests of you because we are righteous,

[C] but because of your great mercy.

Daniel 9:18

[M] May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us;

[C] establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Psalms 90:17

[M] Let me live that I may praise you,

[C] and may your laws sustain me.

Psalms 119:175

READING

John 12:20-36

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone

serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷ “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰ Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴ So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵ So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 88:3-5, 9b

[M] For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.

[C] I am counted among those who go down to the pit;

[M] I am a man who has no strength,

[C] like one set loose among the dead,

[M] like the slain that lie in the grave,

[C] like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand.

[M] Every day I call upon you, O LORD;

[C] I spread out my hands to you.

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

^{20]} Thus we have briefly the first point which relates to the essence of this Sacrament. Now examine further the efficacy and benefits on account of which really the Sacrament was instituted; which is also its most necessary part, that we may know what we should seek and obtain there. ^{21]} Now this is plain and clear from the words just mentioned: *This is My body and blood, given and shed **for you**, for the remission of sins.* ^{22]} Briefly that is as much as to say: For this reason we go to the Sacrament because there we receive such a treasure by and in which we obtain forgiveness of sins. Why so? Because the words stand here and give us this; for on this account He bids me eat and drink, that it may be my own and may benefit me, as a sure pledge and token, yea, the very same treasure that is appointed for me against my sins, death, and every calamity.

^{23]} On this account it is indeed called a food of souls, which nourishes and strengthens the new man. For by Baptism we are first born anew; but (as we said before) there still remains, besides, the old vicious nature of flesh and blood in man, and there are so many hindrances and temptations of the devil and of the world that we often become weary and faint, and sometimes also stumble.

^{24]} Therefore it is given for a daily pasture and sustenance, that faith may refresh and strengthen itself so as not to fall back in such a battle, but become ever stronger and stronger. ^{25]} For the new life must be so regulated that it continually increase and progress; ^{26]} but it must suffer much opposition. For the devil is such a furious enemy that when he sees that we oppose him and attack the old man, and that he cannot topple us over by force, he prowls and moves about on all sides, tries all devices, and does not desist, until he finally wearies us, so that we either renounce our faith or yield hands and feet and become listless or impatient. ^{27]} Now to this end the consolation is here given when the heart feels that the burden is becoming too heavy, that it may here obtain new power and refreshment.

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] Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's passion that we may obtain the forgiveness of our sins; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C] Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

[M] Almighty God, you divide the day from the night. Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet in the way of peace. And having done your will with cheerfulness while it is day, grant that when evening comes, we may rejoice in giving you thanks.

[C] Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

[C] In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

HOLY WEDNESDAY

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.

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

READING

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.

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.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 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.

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

CONFESSIONAL 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.

Brief silence.

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.

Brief silence.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

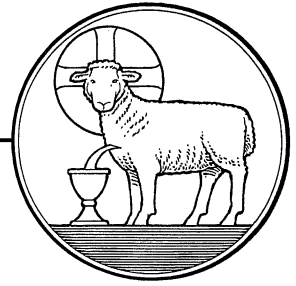
M Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work of the day.

HOLY THURSDAY

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.

[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

READING

John 13:1-15

¹ Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴ rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said

to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 37:2-7

[M] Trust in the LORD, and do good;

[C] dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

[M] Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

[C] Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

[M] He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,

[C] and your justice as the noonday.

[M] Be still before the LORD

[C] and wait patiently for him;

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

CONFESSONAL READING

Large Catechism, V:39-44

^{39]} In conclusion, since we have now the true understanding and doctrine of the Sacrament, there is indeed need of some admonition and exhortation, that men may not let so great a treasure which is daily administered and distributed among Christians pass by unheeded, that is, that those who would be Christians make ready to receive this venerable Sacrament often. ^{40]} For we see that men seem weary and lazy with respect to it; and there is a great multitude of such as hear the Gospel, and, because the nonsense of the Pope has been abolished, and we are freed from his laws

and coercion, go one, two, three years, or even longer without the Sacrament, as though they were such strong Christians that they have no need of it; ^{41]} and some allow themselves to be prevented and deterred by the pretense that we have taught that no one should approach it except those who feel hunger and thirst, which urge them to it. Some pretend that it is a matter of liberty and not necessary, and that it is sufficient to believe without it; and thus for the most part they go so far that they become quite brutish, and finally despise both the Sacrament and the Word of God.

^{42]} Now, it is true, as we have said, that no one should by any means be coerced or compelled, lest we institute a new murdering of souls. Nevertheless, it must be known that such people as deprive themselves of, and withdraw from, the Sacrament so long a time are not to be considered Christians. For Christ has not instituted it to be treated as a show, but has commanded His Christians to eat and drink it, and thereby remember Him.

^{43]} And, indeed, those who are true Christians and esteem the Sacrament precious and holy will urge and impel themselves unto it. Yet that the simple-minded and the weak who also would like to be Christians be the more incited to consider the cause and need which ought to impel them, we will treat somewhat of this point. ^{44]} For as in other matters pertaining to faith, love, and patience, it is not enough to teach and instruct only, but there is need also of daily exhortation, so here also there is need of continuing to preach that men may not become weary and disgusted, since we know and feel how the devil always opposes this and every Christian exercise, and drives and deters therefrom as much as he can.

LORD'S PRAYER

■ 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

☞ O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father

and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Brief silence.

MORNING PRAYER

M O God, you taught us by your holy apostle that we are buried with Christ by Baptism into death, that just as he was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also should walk in newness of life. Grant that we may walk in the grace of our baptisms, so that the old Adam in us may be drowned and destroyed by daily sorrow and repentance, together with all sins and evil lusts, and that again a new person may daily come forth and rise, who shall live in the presence of God in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, your well-beloved Son, our Savior.

C Amen.

Brief silence.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

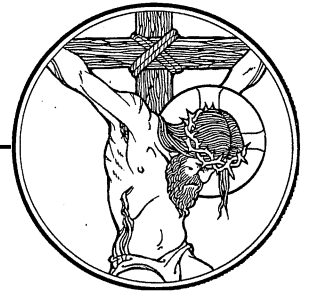
M Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work of the day.

GOOD FRIDAY

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.

C Amen.

M Christ became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

C O come, let us worship him.

RESPONSORY

M (*antiphon*) He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth

C and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:7,6

M He was despised and rejected by men;

C a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

Isaiah 53:3

M He was oppressed, and He was afflicted,

C yet He opened not His mouth

Isaiah 53:7

M He poured out His soul to death

C and was numbered with the transgressors.

Isaiah 53:12

M He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,

C even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:8

M (*antiphon*) He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth

C and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

¹³ Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. ¹⁴ As many were astonished at you—his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—¹⁵ so shall he sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand. ^{53:1} Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. ³ He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? ⁹ And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

[M] The Word of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 22:1-11, 14-21

- M** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- C** Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
- M** O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
- C** and by night, but I find no rest.
- M** Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- C** In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- M** To you they cried and were rescued;
- C** in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- M** But I am a worm and not a man,
- C** scorned by mankind and despised by the people.
- M** All who see me mock me;
- C** they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;
- M** "He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him;
- C** let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"
- M** Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
- C** you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.
- M** On you was I cast from my birth,
- C** and from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- M** Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
- C** and there is none to help.

M I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
C my heart is like wax; it is melted within my chest;
M my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
C you lay me in the dust of death.
M For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me;
C they have pierced my hands and feet—
M I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me;
C they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.
M But you, O Lord, do not be far off!
C O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
M Deliver my soul from the sword,
C my precious life from the power of the dog!
M Save me from the mouth of the lion!
C You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

CONFESSIONAL READING

Large Catechism, II:26–31, 33

^{26]} Here we learn to know the Second Person of the Godhead. We see what we have from God over and above the temporal goods mentioned [in the First Article]. We see how He has completely poured forth Himself and withheld nothing from us. Now, this article is very rich and broad. But in order to explain it briefly also and in a childlike way, we shall take up one phrase and sum up the entire article. As we have said, we may learn from this article how we have been redeemed. We shall base this on these words, “In Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

^{27]} Now, if you are asked, “What do you believe in the Second Article about Jesus Christ?” answer briefly,

“I believe that Jesus Christ, God’s true Son, has become my Lord.”

“But what does it mean to become Lord?”

“It is this. He has redeemed from from sin, from the devil, from deaths and from all evil. For before I did not have a Lord or King, but was captive under the devil’s power, condemned to death, stuck in sin and blindness.”

^{28]} For when we had been created by God the Father and had received from Him all kinds of good, the devil came and led us into disobedience, sin, death, and all evil. So we fell under God’s wrath and displeasure and were doomed to eternal damnation, just as we had merited and deserved. ^{29]} There was no counsel, help, or comfort until this only and eternal Son of God—in His immeasurable goodness—had compassion upon our misery and wretchedness. He came from heaven to help us. ^{30]} So those tyrants and jailers are all expelled now. In their place has come Jesus Christ, Lord of life, righteousness, every blessing, and salvation. He has delivered us poor, lost people from hell’s jaws, has won us, has made us free, and has brought us again into the Father’s favor and grace. He has taken us as His own property under His shelter and protection so that He may govern us by His righteousness, wisdom, power, life, and blessedness.

^{31]} Let this, then, be the sum of this article: the little word *Lord* means simply the same as *redeemer*. It means the One who has brought us from Satan to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and who preserves us in the same. But all the points that follow in this article serve no other purpose than to explain and express this redemption. They explain how and by whom it was accomplished. They explain how much it cost Him and what He spent and risked so that He might win and bring us under His dominion. It explains that He became man, was conceived and born without sin, from the Holy Spirit and from the virgin Mary, so that He might overcome sin. Further, it explains that He suffered, died, and was buried so that He might make satisfaction for me and pay what I owe, not with silver or gold, but with His own precious blood. And he did all this in order to become my Lord. He did none of these things for Himself, nor did He have any need for redemption. After that He rose again from the dead, swallowed up and devoured death, and finally ascended into heaven and assumed the government at the Father’s right hand. He did these things so that the devil and all powers must be subject to Him and lie at His feet until finally, at the Last Day, He will completely drive and separate us from the wicked world, the devil, death, sin, and such.

^{33]} Yes, the entire Gospel that we preach is based on this point, that we properly understand this article as that upon which our salvation and all our happiness rests. It is so rich and complete that we can never learn it fully.

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** Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Brief silence.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

- C** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.



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