

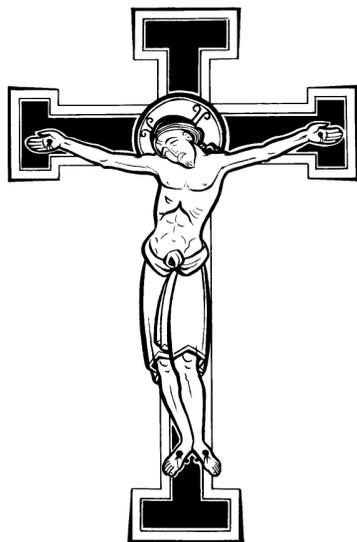
Benedicamus

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

Benediction

- P** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria!



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

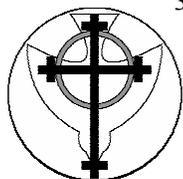
463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org

Email: contact@peacealma.org

Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor

Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037

Email: pastor@peacealma.org



Good Friday

22 April Anno † Domini 2011

The Order of Matins

(As you enter the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Service Note

During Holy Week, the order of Matins will be spoken responsively, rather than sung. For your convenience, everything is printed in the bulletin.

(There are no bells this morning; all stand when the pastor stands to begin Service)

Opening Versicles

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- 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.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Psalmody

Antiphon for Holy Week

- P** Christ became obedient to death, even death on a cross.
C O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

- C** O come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. The deep places of the earth are in His hand; the strength of the hills is His also.

C The sea is His, for He made it, and His hand formed the dry land.
O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

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.

Antiphon for Holy Week

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

C O come, let us worship Him.

Psalm 31 (antiphon: v. 1)

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me!

Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily!

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!

For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;
**you take me out of the net they have hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.**

Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

**I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols,
but I trust in the LORD.**

I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen
my affliction;

you have known the distress of my soul,
**and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;
you have set my feet in a broad place.**

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste
away.**

Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my
neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.

**I have been forgotten like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.**

For I hear the whispering of many—terror on every side! —
as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

**But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God."**

We therefore pray You to help Your servants, whom You have
redeemed with Your precious blood. Make them to be numbered
with Your saints in glory everlasting.

Prayer

Kyrie Eleison ~ *Lord, have mercy*

P Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

C Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

They 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.**

Salutation and Collects

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray:

Collect of the Day

P 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, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You
have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the
same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no
sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being
ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Writing (instruction)

Athanasius of Alexandria

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

But if any honest Christian wants to know why the Lord suffered death on the cross and not in some other way, we answer thus: in no other way was it expedient for us, indeed the Lord offered for our sakes the one death that was supremely good. He had come to bear the curse that lay on us; and how could He “become a curse” otherwise than by accepting the accursed death? And that death is the cross, for it is written, “Cursed is every one that hangs on a tree.” Again, the death of the Lord is the ransom of all, and by it “the middle wall of partition” is broken down and the call of the Gentiles comes about. How could He have called us if He had not been crucified, for it is only on the cross that a man dies with arms outstretched? Here, again, we see the fitness of His death and of those outstretched arms: it was that He might draw His ancient people with the one and the Gentiles with the other, and join both together in Himself. Even so, He foretold the manner of His redeeming death, “I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Myself.”

P Now the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, unto life everlasting.

C Amen.

Stand

Canticle

Te Deum Laudamus ~ We Praise You, O God

C We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord. All the earth now worships You, the Father everlasting. To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow’rs therein. To You cherubim and seraphim continually do cry:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Your glory. The glorious company of the apostles praise You. The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise You.

The noble army of martyrs praise You. The holy Church throughout all the world does acknowledge You: The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and only Son; also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

You are the king of glory, O Christ; You are the everlasting Son of the Father.

When You took upon Yourself to deliver man, You humbled Yourself to be born of a virgin. When You had overcome the sharpness of death, You opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that You will come to be our judge.

My times are in your hand;

rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!**Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!**

O LORD, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon you;

let the wicked be put to shame; let them go silently to Sheol.

Let the lying lips be mute,

which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt.

Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of mankind!

In the cover of your presence you hide them from the plots of men; you store them in your shelter from the strife of tongues.

Blessed be the LORD,

for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was in a besieged city.

I had said in my alarm, "I am cut off from your sight."

But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy when I cried to you for help.

Love the LORD, all you his saints!

The LORD preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.

Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!

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.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!

Sit

Office Hymn: 798 “The God of Abraham Praise” (stanza 4)

He by Himself has sworn;

I on His oath depend.

I shall, on eagle wings upborne,

To heav’n ascend.

I shall behold His face;

I shall His pow’r adore

And sing the wonders of His grace

Forevermore.

Readings

The Old Testament Reading

Lamentations 4:1-22

¹How the gold has grown dim, how the pure gold is changed! The holy stones lie scattered at the head of every street. ²The precious sons of Zion, worth their weight in fine gold, how they are regarded as earthen pots, the work of a potter's hands! ³Even jackals offer the breast; they nurse their young, but the daughter of my people has become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness. ⁴The tongue of the nursing infant sticks to the roof of its mouth for thirst; the children beg for food, but no one gives to them. ⁵Those who once feasted on delicacies perish in the streets; those who were brought up in purple embrace ash heaps.

⁶For the chastisement of the daughter of my people has been greater than the punishment of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment, and no hands were wrung for her. ⁷Her princes were purer than snow, whiter than milk; their bodies were more ruddy than coral, the beauty of their form was like sapphire. ⁸Now their face is blacker than soot; they are not recognized in the streets; their skin has shriveled on their bones; it has become as dry as wood.

⁹Happier were the victims of the sword than the victims of hunger, who wasted away, pierced by lack of the fruits of the field. ¹⁰The hands of compassionate women have boiled their own children; they became their food during the destruction of the daughter of my people.

¹¹The LORD gave full vent to his wrath; he poured out his hot anger, and he kindled a fire in Zion that consumed its foundations. ¹²The kings of the earth did not believe, nor any of the inhabitants of the world, that foe or enemy could enter the gates of Jerusalem.

¹³This was for the sins of her prophets and the iniquities of her priests, who shed in the midst of her the blood of the righteous. ¹⁴They wandered, blind, through the streets; they were so defiled with blood that no one was able to touch their garments.

¹⁵"Away! Unclean!" people cried at them. "Away! Away! Do not touch!" So they became fugitives and wanderers; people said among the nations, "They shall stay with us no longer." ¹⁶The LORD himself has scattered them; he will regard them no more; no honor was shown to the priests, no favor to the elders.

¹⁷Our eyes failed, ever watching vainly for help; in our watching we watched for a nation which could not save. ¹⁸They dogged our steps so that we could not walk in our streets; our end drew near; our days were numbered, for our end had come. ¹⁹Our pursuers were swifter than the eagles in the heavens; they chased us on the mountains; they lay in wait for us in the wilderness. ²⁰The breath of our nostrils, the LORD's anointed, was captured in their pits, of whom we said, "Under his shadow we shall live among the nations."

²¹Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, you who dwell in the land of Uz; but to you also the cup shall pass; you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare. ²²The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter of Zion, is accomplished; he will keep you in exile no longer; but your iniquity, O daughter of Edom, he will punish; he will uncover your sins.

Silence for meditation upon God's Word

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The New Testament Reading

Hebrews 6:1-20

¹Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,² and of

instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. ³And this we will do if God permits. ⁴For it is impossible to restore again to repentance those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶if they then fall away, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt. ⁷For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. ⁸But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

⁹Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things—things that belong to salvation. ¹⁰For God is not so unjust as to overlook your work and the love that you showed for his sake in serving the saints, as you still do. ¹¹And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹²so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

¹³For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." ¹⁵And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. ¹⁶For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. ¹⁷So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. ¹⁹We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Silence for meditation upon God's Word

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Responsory

P He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

C He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

P He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth.

C He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

P He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors.

C He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.