

Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this evening for Service. Tonight, we continue to observe the penitential season of Lent. Lent is:

- a time in which God's baptized people cleanse their hearts through the disciplines of repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving;
- a time in which God's people prepare with joy for the paschal feast of Easter;
- a time in which God renews His people's zeal in faith and life;
- a time in which we pray that we may be given the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God.

If you are visiting with us this evening, we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by signing the guest book which is in the hallway on the left as you exit the nave. The Lord be with you this evening and throughout this Lententide, that you may be led to true repentance and faith in the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Amen!

An Introduction to Vespers

Vespers, meaning "evening" (from the Latin *vespera*), was originally known as *lucernarium*, as candles or lamps were lit in the course of its liturgy. Vespers was originally part of the night office, but by the time of St. Benedict (ca. AD 480-543), it was transferred to the early evening or late afternoon. Along with Matins (the corresponding morning Service), Luther retained Vespers as a daily office of preaching, praise, and prayer. In structure, Vespers is very similar to Matins, as both services provide for praise of God in psalmody, hymns, and canticles; the opportunity for the reading and proclamation of God's Word; and space for the prayers of the faithful.

—*Treasury of Daily Prayer*, p. 0-11

"The Wound of Mockery"

The old schoolyard chant says, "Sticks and stones can break my bones, but names will never hurt me." However, any student called a hurtful name would strongly disagree. Mocking words, as well as actions, greatly wound. Tonight, we see how Jesus endures the wound of mockery at the hands of the Roman soldiers. In their words and actions the soldiers make fun of the true King of the universe, and thus He bears the wounds of our mockery, both the wounds we endure and the wounds we inflict. We can thank our Lord for enduring the wound of mockery, because "with His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

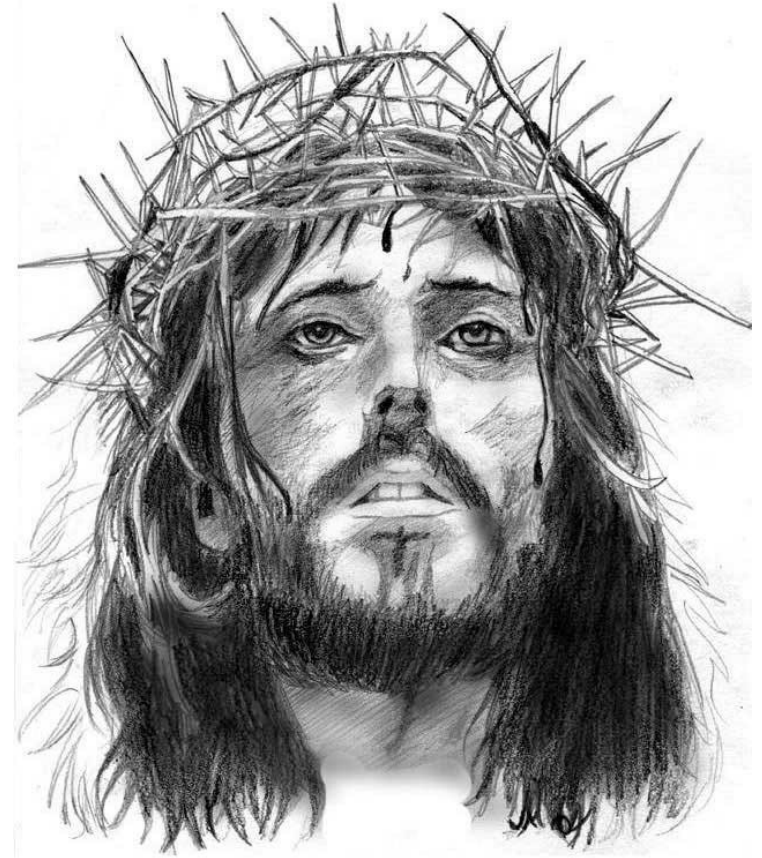
Our Mission Statement

The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.

Laetare Midweek Vespers

Fifth Wednesday in Lent

25 March Anno † Domini 2009



*"Sacred Head, Now Wounded" Lenten Series
Part 5: "The Wound of Mockery"*

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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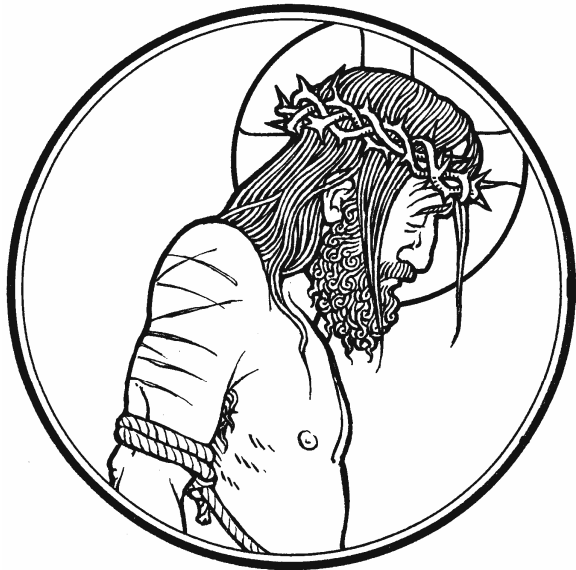
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The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering 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 Prayers

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.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

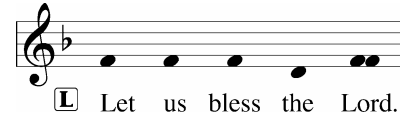
Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

(The congregation stands at the conclusion of the Ringing of the Bells for the Opening Versicles)

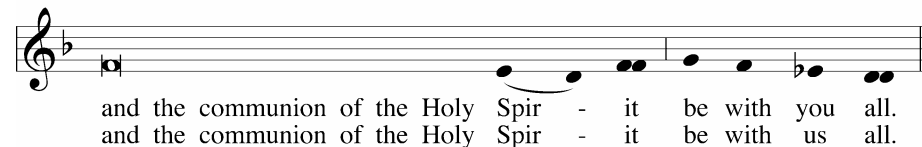
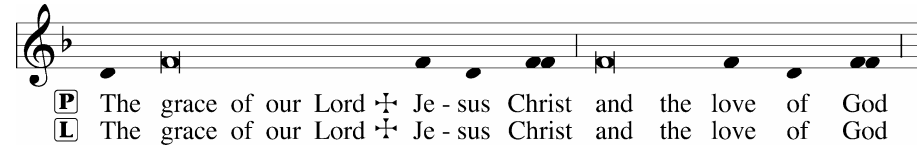
defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benedicamus



Benediction



Sit

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ Drawn from the Four Gospels Part IV: The Praetorium

*(At the conclusion of the reading, the acolytes and pastor depart the nave.
After they have departed, the congregation departs in silence.)*

Soli Deo Gloria!

Salutation and Collects



Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Additional Collect

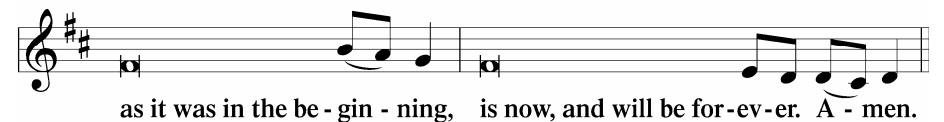
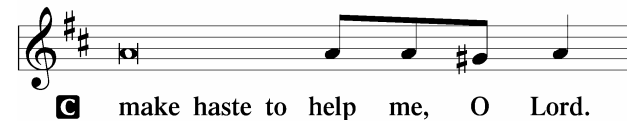
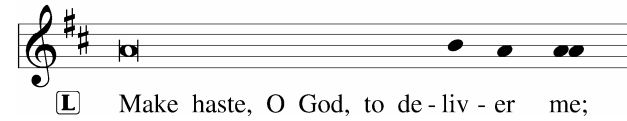
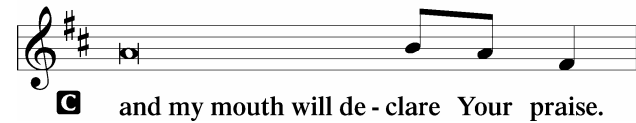
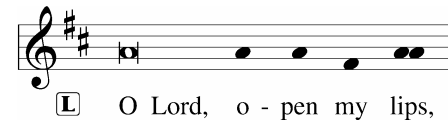
O Lord God, in Your steadfast love for all mankind, we most earnestly beseech You to bless Your people, the flocks of your fold. Shed abroad the peace of heaven in our hearts, and grant us also the peace of this life. Enliven us with Your loving-kindness, so that we may keep and hold fast the testimony of Your mouth and not continue in sin. Deliver all who are in trouble, for You alone are God. In Your mercy, pardon those who have erred, and bring them back from their wanderings. Impart the consolations of Your heavenly grace to all the sons and daughters of affliction and sorrow. Enable us to finish course in faith, and so make us worthy partakers of the inheritance of all Your saints in light; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



Collect for Peace

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being

Opening Versicles



Advent: Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.
Lent: Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.



Psalmody

Psalm 31:9-20 (antiphon: Ps. 31:1-2)



In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me!

Incline your ear to me; rescue me | speedily!*

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

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 ac- | quaintances;*
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.”

My times are | in your hand;*
rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my perse- | cutors!

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 up- | on 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.

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.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me!

Incline your ear to me; rescue me | speedily!*

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

Sit

I He has filled the hun - gry with good things,
and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.

II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy
as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ev - er.

III Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Prayer

Kyrie Eleison ~ Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

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;

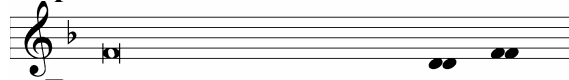
and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Canticle

Antiphon—Common



L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Magnificat ~ Song of Mary



C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



I for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



II For be - hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



I For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



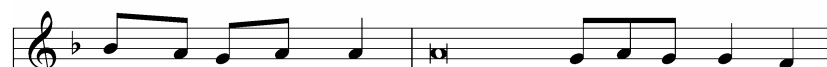
II and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



imagination of their hearts. **II** He has cast down the



might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.

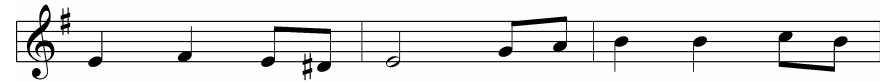
Office Hymn: 451 “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Text (sts. 1-4) and Tune: Public domain.

Readings

The First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. ⁸For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, “Violence and destruction!” For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹If I say, “I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,” there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering, “Terror on every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!” say all my close friends, watching for my fall. “Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him.” ¹¹But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹²O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

Silence for meditation upon God's Word

- P** O Lord, have mercy on us.
C Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 2:18-25

¹⁸Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. ¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Silence for meditation upon God's Word

- P** O Lord, have mercy on us.
C Thanks be to God.

The Third Reading

Matthew 27:24-31

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

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—Lent

Psalm 51:14; 59:1; 141:8



- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.



- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me
from those who rise a - gainst me.

Hymn: 450 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stzs. 1-5)



- 1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard - ian, own me Thine.
5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,



- Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
How doth Thy face now lan - guish That once was bright as morn!
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?



- O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,



- Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.
Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.

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Sermon: "The Wound of Mockery" (Matt. 27:24-31)

The Offering is gathered for the Lord's work

(Please don't forget to sign Fellowship folder in your pew. Thank you.)