

PRAYERS

Hear my prayer, O Lord;
listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;
when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in you.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous.

We give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest securely, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep.

God, you are good and your mercy endures forever. Hold our prayer this day and always in your tender care. We pray for ourselves, for others, for enough, for mercy, for direction, for ever. Through the Spirit we find the words to pray. Through Jesus we find the courage to pray. Let it be so. **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.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

Please depart in silence following the Acolyte

Lent Wednesday Service

Let it be so...for ever.

March 1, 2023

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

OPENING PRAYER *(congregation please read the words in bold)*

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. **My Lord, fill it.**

I am weak in the faith; **strengthen me,**

I am cold in love; **warm me and make me fervent,**

that my love may go out to my neighbor.

I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.

O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you.

In you I have sealed the treasure of all that I have.

I am poor; **you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor.**

I am a sinner; **you are upright.**

With me, there is an abundance of sin; **in you is the fullness of righteousness.**

Therefore I will remain with you, **of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give.**

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory

ELW 651

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.

I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.

**C: Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon,
and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.**

**C: I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.**

P: Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon, and
forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

READINGS

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (*Congregation please read the verses in bold*)

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances,
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything;
hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely,
**and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Luke 11: 1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the first chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.
May your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

PASTOR ALAN KETHAN

HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW 632