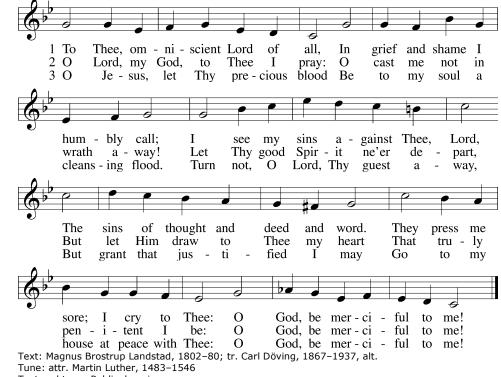
Redeemer Lutheran Church Highland, Indiana

Lenten Midweek Four (The Office of Compline) March 13, 2024

Prelude

Bells

613 To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All



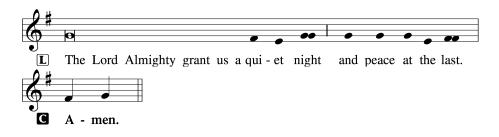
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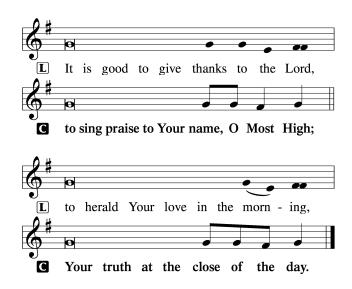
Sermon

Offering

The congregation assembles in silence.

Kneel/Stand





Confession

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

Silence for self-examination.

- **L** Holy and gracious God,
- **C** I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.
- L By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.
- **C** Amen.

Stand

Psalm

¹Remember, O LORD, in David's | favor,* all the hardships | he endured, ²how he swore | to the LORD* and vowed to the Mighty One of | Jacob, ³"I will not en- | ter my house* or get in- to my bed, ⁴I will not give sleep | to my eyes* or slumber to my | eyelids, ⁵until I find a place | for the LORD,* a dwelling place for the Mighty One of | Jacob." ⁶Behold, we heard of it in | Ephrathah;* we found it in the | fields of Jaar. ⁷"Let us go to his | dwelling place;* let us worship at his | footstool!" ⁸Arise, O LORD, and go to your | resting place,* you and the ark | of your might. ⁹Let your priests be clothed with | righteousness,*

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your saints shout for joy. Psalm 132

¹⁰For the sake of your servant | David,* do not turn away the face of your a- | nointed one. ¹¹The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back:* "One of the sons of your body I will set | on your throne. ¹²If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall | teach them.* their sons also forever shall sit on your throne." ¹³For the LORD has chosen | Zion;* he has desired it for his | dwelling place: ¹⁴"This is my resting place for- | ever;* here I will dwell, for I have de- | sired it. ¹⁵I will abundantly bless her pro- | visions;* I will satisfy her | poor with bread. ¹⁶Her priests I will clothe with sal- | vation,* and her saints will | shout for joy. ¹⁷There I will make a horn to sprout for | David;* I have prepared a lamp for my a- | nointed. ¹⁸His enemies I will | clothe with shame,* but on him his | crown will shine." Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

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.

Sit

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



Text and tune: Public domain

Readings from Holy Scripture

One or more of the following are read.

Silence for reflection.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

IV. The Praetorium

When they had bound Jesus, they led him from Caiaphas to the hall of judgment and gave him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor. It was early. They themselves did not go into the judgment hall, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.

Pilate then went out to them, and said, "What charge do you bring against this man?"

They answered and said to him, "If he were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Then Pilate said to them, "Take him, then, and judge him according to your law."

The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." So the word of Jesus was fulfilled, signifying by what death he should die.

The charges they brought against him were: "We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."

Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered him, "Do you say this for yourself, or did others say it to you about me?"

Pilate answered, "Do you take me for a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have given you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then my servants would have fought that I should not be given over to the Jews; but now my kingdom is not of this world."

Pilate therefore said to him, "Are you a king then?"

Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. I was born and I came into the world that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone that is of the truth hears my voice."

Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them, "I find no fault in this man."

The chief priests kept laying one charge after another against him, but he answered not a word. Pilate questioned him again, saying, "Do you answer nothing? See how many charges they lay against you." Jesus answered him not a word. Pilate was utterly amazed. He said to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no case against this man."

They pressed their charges more vehemently: "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judaea, beginning from Galilee to this place."

When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. When he learned that he belonged in Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him on to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem for those days.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was delighted, for he had long wished to see him because of what he had heard of him, and he hoped to see him do a miracle. He questioned Jesus repeatedly, but he gave him no answer. The chief priests and scribes stood there and vehemently accused him. Herod and his soldiers mocked him. They put a splendid robe on him and sent him back to Pilate.

Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that same day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You have brought this man before me as one subverting the people. See now, I have examined him before you and have found nothing in this man guilty of any of your charges against him, and neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Mark this, he has done nothing worthy of death. I will have him punished and release him."

Now at the feast it was the governor's custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner whom they asked for. They had then a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. He was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection in the city. Pilate knew that it was out of malice that the chief priests handed Jesus over. Therefore he said to them, "Do you want me to release for you Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?"

The chief priests and elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. Pilate asked them again, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they cried out all together, saying, "Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas."

While Pilate was sitting in the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message: "Do not have anything to do with that man; I have suffered much over him today in a dream."

Again Pilate addressed them, for he wished to release Jesus. He said to them, "What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ? What shall I do with him whom you call the King of the Jews?"

They all cried out, "Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found no guilt worthy of death in him; I will therefore punish him and let him go."

They cried out all the louder, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers of the governor led him away into the praetorium. They gathered the whole band of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a purple robe on him. When they had woven a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and a reed in his right hand, and they knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. They knelt down and did him homage.

Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I bring him out to you that you may know I find him not guilty." So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!"

When the chief priests and officers saw him, they cried, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I do not find him guilty."

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God."

When Pilate heard this, he was more afraid and went again into the judgment hall and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to crucify you, and I have power to release you?"

Jesus answered, "You would not have any power at all over me, unless it had been given to you from above. For that reason he who handed me over to you has the greater sin."

This prompted Pilate to go on trying to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar."

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement or, in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*. It was the Preparation of the Passover, about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your king!"

They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!"

Pilate said unto them, "Shall I crucify your king?"

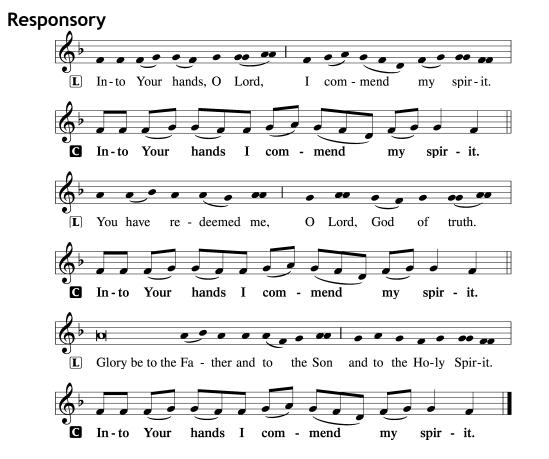
The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but rather a riot was under way, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this man; see to it yourselves."

Then all the people responded, "His blood be on us and on our children."

Then Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, gave sentence that it should be as they demanded. He released to them Barabbas for whom they asked, the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder. He had Jesus flogged and then gave him over to their will to be crucified. The soldiers mocked him, stripped him of the purple robe, put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him.

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Kneel/Stand

Prayer



One or more of the following are prayed.

- **L** 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; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- **L** Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- **L** Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

C Amen.

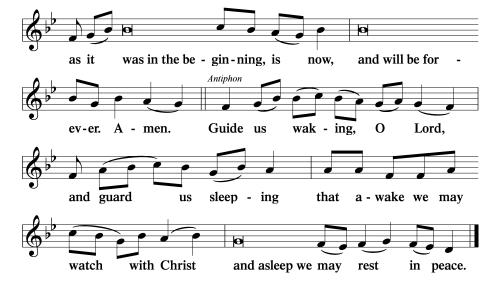
Lord's Prayer

- **L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C 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.

Stand

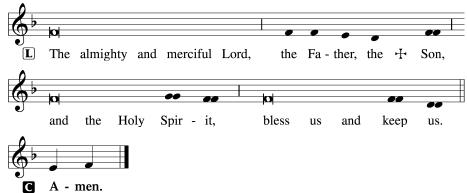


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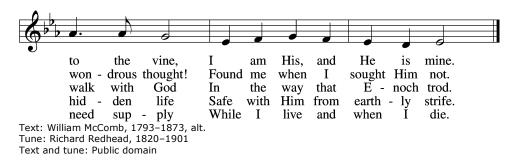
Benediction

LSB 259



611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

1 Chief of sin - ners thoug	th I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je	,
3 On - ly Je - sus can	
4 Chief of sin - ners thoug	F
5 O my Sav - ior, help	
	ar ford by four spin - it
blood for me, Died th	nat I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - e	6
	nat flows from sin for - giv'n,
/	ny wants to Him are known,
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ny way - ward heart would stray,
	ij waj wala noart would bliaj,
Lives that I might nev -	er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter -	ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul	to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are	His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar -	row way; Grace in time of
r	······································



Acknowledgments

Compline from Lutheran Service Book

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