

Trinity Lutheran Church

Spencer, Iowa



“Return to the Lord Your God”
Lenten Service of Compline
Week 4

March 25, 2020

6:45 P.M.

The Announcements and Offering

The Preces *(Stand)*

L. The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C. Amen.

L. It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C. to Sing praise to your name, O Most High;

L. To herald your love in the morning,

C. your truth at the close of the day.

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

C. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Hymn #278

“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

All praise to thee, my God, this night

For all the blessing of the light.

Keep me, oh, keep me King of kings,

Beneath thine own almighty winds.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Confession

L. Our help is in the name of the Lord;

C. The maker of heaven and earth.

L. Let us take some time now to examine our hearts and confess our sins to the Lord God who promises to hear us.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

L. Most merciful God,

C. We have trespassed against you, through our own fault and by our own will. We have sinned against you in thought,

word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

- L. May the Almighty Father grant you forgiveness of all your sins, through the mercy of Jesus Christ, and bestow upon you the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

The Psalmody - Psalm 130 (ESV) (Sit)

My Soul Waits for the Lord

130 A SONG OF ASCENTS.

- ¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!
- ² **O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**
- ³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
- ⁴ **But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.**
- ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
- ⁶ **my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**
- ⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.
- ⁸ **And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

(silent reflection)

The Reading - Romans 8:12-17

Heirs with Christ

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

(silent reflection)

The Responsory

L. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

C. *Into your hands I commend my spirit.*

L. You have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

C. *Into your hands, I commend my spirit.*

L. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

C. *Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.*

The Hymn WOV # 731

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

The Prayers

Be present with us, Lord, at the close of this day. Protect us from all harm and comfort us in our weariness. O Lord, we pray:

For your church, that it may continue to grow in the way, the truth and the life of Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For candidates for baptism and confirmation, that they may be anchored in your Word. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations, that you will guide them in the ways of truth and justice. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the needy, that they may not be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick in body, mind or spirit, that they may know your healing power. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor in spirit, that they may inherit the kingdom of heaven and see you face to face. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, we give you thanks for this day and for all that we were given opportunity to do in your name. Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints, let us commend ourselves, one another and our whole life to Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Special Prayer for our Nation in this time of a pandemic:

Lord, we lament the fallen nature of our world, which mars the beauty of your created order. COVID-19 comes to steal and destroy, to worm its way through human bodies and spread its vile sickness across communities and nations and the world. We, like your Son, weep and rage at sickness and death. And yet we know that it was Jesus whose death and resurrection defeated this final foe. We long for the day you resurrect our bodies and restore the world.

As we endure this new normal in our lives, we pray earnestly for the heroic medical doctors, nurses, and health care professionals who are putting their lives on the line for their neighbors. May you give them strength and physical immunity during this time, so they can help push back against this ravaging virus.

We pray for the scientists, disease experts, and epidemiologists who are working feverishly on vaccines and testing mechanisms. Lord, we thank you for gifting them with knowledge and wisdom we don't have. We pray for their endurance, for breakthroughs, and for resources.

Lord, you are the Great Physician, so we pray for healing for the victims of COVID-19. Lord, you are the Creator, with power over the creation, so we pray for COVID-19 to be destroyed. Spirit of God, you are the Comforter, so please comfort our troubled souls.

Dear God, move in the hearts of our public officials. As you have instructed us in your Word, we earnestly beseech you on behalf of our president, Congress, governors, mayors, and local officials. We pray you guide them with wisdom and strength and discernment.

We also pray for the people in our nation and the nations of the

world to be humbled and turn to you in repentance and faith. We know you are the Prince of peace, Lord of lords, the King of kings. We praise you for your goodness and your mercy. And we ask this all in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Gospel Canticle

L. Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping. That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

C. ***Lord, now let your servant go in peace;
your word has been fulfilled.***

***My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.***

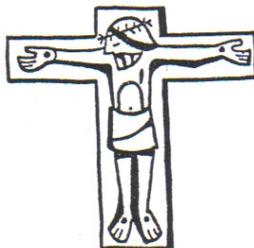
***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

***Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping.
That awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep we may rest in peace.***

The Blessing

L. The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit, bless us, defend us from evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C. ***Amen.***



Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers and Compline

Because of the Covid-19 virus, we will not be having any more mid-week Lenten services. Thank you to those who had signed up to provide soup. The two services we did have were well attended.

Lenten Offering Envelopes

One way to observe the Lenten season is to give an additional offering during the weeks of Lent. Please use your Lenten offering envelopes to give sacrificially during this holy season. Offerings can be dropped off at the church each day from 10:00-1:00 or mailed to PO Box 396, Spencer, IA 51301.

Daily Devotions for Lent

This year for our daily Lenten devotions we are offering the resource "Let Us Pray. Lent Readings and Prayers" by Sola Publishing. Extra copies of this resource are available in the parish office by request or can be viewed online and downloaded from our website www.trinitylutheranchurchspencer.com under Resources and Links/Tidings resources.

Holy Week Services

At this point in time, we do not know if we will be able to have Holy Week Services including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Stay tuned. We are looking at some alternatives. In the meantime, for March 22 and 29, Pastor John has recorded a Sunday worship service you can view at any time. Go to YouTube.com and do a search on "Spencer Trinity Lutheran".