



IN THE MEANS OF GRACE

Compline – Midweek Advent

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | Seward, Nebraska

December 1, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and personal assisted listening devices are available on request. The service can be heard throughout the building so that you can participate even if you have to take your child out for a while. Restrooms are in the hall between the chapel and fellowship area. If you have any questions please feel free to ask an usher.

CONNECTION CARDS: Visitors or members with changes in contact information, please fill out a connection card online at www.gracesewar.org the member connect tab, or scan this code.



SERVICE NOTES FOR TONIGHT

Worship Materials

The order of service and the hymns for today are printed for you in this folder. They are also in "Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal" which is in the hymnal rack on the back of each pew. Watching the theme and passage on the screen may help you prepare for worship.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Organist

Pastor Mark A. Haefner
Mrs. Karma Ridpath

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COMPLINE

"Prayer at the Close of Day" is a version of the historic rite called Compline. It is the final service of the day before one retires for the night. The believer finds peace in God's forgiveness and security under the shadow of his wings.

OPENING DIALOG

kneel or remain seated

G Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in -
to your king - dom.
- - men. **L** It is good to give thanks to the
Lord, **G** to sing praise to your name, O Most High,
L to her - ald your love in the morn - ing, **G** your
truth at the close of day. **L** Je - sus, re - mem - ber
me when you come in - to your king - dom.

1 God's own Son most holy
Came a servant lowly,
Came to live among us,
Came to suffer for us,
Bore the cross to save us,
Hope and freedom gave us.

2 Still he comes in preaching,
Truth eternal teaching:
"Turn away from evil;
Turn to me, my people.
I pronounce you sinless;
Trust in my forgiveness."

3 Still he comes proiding
Proof of love abiding:
He whose death has freed us
Gives himself to feed us,
Thus to us extending
Peace and joy unending.

4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus
From our sins release us
Keep our hearts believing
That your grace receiving
We may here confess you
Till in heav'n we bless you.

CONFESSION

We prepare to meet our Lord by confessing our need for his mercy.

M Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

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

Silence for self-examination

M Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

C we have sinned against you

in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds,
and in all that we have not done.

Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deliver and restore us,

that we may rest in peace.

M By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ,
and in him we are forgiven.

Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun
when we shall serve him in newness of life.

C Amen.

PSALM

119G

Refrain

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Psalm tone *

Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.
Your commands are always with me
And make me wiser than my enemies.
I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

Refrain

I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your Word.
How sweet are your words to my taste,

sweeter than honey to my mouth!
I gain understanding from your precepts
Therefore I hate every wrong path.

**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.**

Refrain

PRAYER

Lord, your Word is my delight. When I was lost in the darkness of sin, you penetrated my heart with the light of your Word. Let it enlighten my path each day that I may serve you in holiness. Let your Word shine through all I say and do that others may see you and praise your saving name. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

LESSONS

Isaiah 55:6-13

⁶Seek the Lord while he may be found!
Call on him while he is near!

⁷Let the wicked man abandon his way.
Let an evil man abandon his thoughts.
Let him turn to the Lord,
and he will show him mercy.

Let him turn to our God,
because he will abundantly pardon.

⁸Certainly my plans are not your plans,
and your ways are not my ways, declares the Lord.

⁹Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so my ways are higher than your ways,
and my plans are higher than your plans.

¹⁰Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky
and do not return there

unless they first water the earth, make it give birth, and cause it to sprout,
so that it gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹in the same way my word that goes out from my mouth
will not return to me empty.

Rather, it will accomplish whatever I please,
and it will succeed in the purpose for which I sent it.

¹²Yes, you will go out with joy,
and in peace you will be carried along.

The mountains and the hills will break out in shouts of joy before you,
and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

¹³Instead of thorns, a fir tree will grow up.
Instead of briars, a myrtle tree will grow up.

This will make a name for the Lord.

It will serve as an everlasting sign that will not be cut off.

Romans 6:1-5

What shall we say then? Shall we keep on sinning so that grace may increase?

²Absolutely not! We died to sin. How can we go on living in it any longer? ³Or do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him by this baptism into his death, so that just as he was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too would also walk in a new life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be united with him in the likeness of his resurrection.

The musical score is written on three staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: [L] In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it. [G] In - to your. The second staff contains: hands I com-mend my spir - it. [L] You have re-deemed me, O. The third staff contains: Lord, God of truth. [G] In - to your hands I com-mend my. There are some musical notations such as rests, beams, and a triplet of eighth notes in the second staff.

spir - it. [L] Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son (✱)
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it. [G] In - to your
 hands I com - mend my spir - it.

HYMN

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring | 319

1 Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring, Came with peace from realms on high;
 Jesus came to win redemption, Lowly came on earth to die;
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility.

2 Jesus comes again in mercy When our hearts are worn with care;
 Jesus comes again in answer To an earnest, heartfelt prayer,
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.

3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Bringing news of sins forgiv'n;
 Jesus comes with words of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heav'n.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.

4 Jesus comes on clouds triumphant When the heav'ns shall pass away.
 Jesus comes again in glory; Let us, then, our homage pay,
 Alleluia! ever singing Till the dawn of endless day.

MEDITATION: Matthew 18:18-20

¹⁸Amen I tell you: Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Amen I tell you again: If two of you on earth agree to ask for anything, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. ²⁰In fact where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them."

OFFERING

PRAYER

spoken

L Hear my prayer, O Lord. **G** Lis-ten to my cry.

L Keep me as the ap - ple of your eye. **G** Hide me

in the shad-ow of your wings. **L** In right-eous -

ness I shall see you. **G** When I a - wake, your

pres - ence will give me joy.

G Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal-owed be your

name, your king - dom come, your will be done on

earth as in heav - en. Give us to-day our

dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins, as

we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Lead us
 not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from
 e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are
 yours now and for - ev - er. A - men.

HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence | 672

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
 And with fear and trembling stand;
 Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
 For with blessing in his hand
 Christ, our God, to earth descending,
 Comes our homage to command.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
 As of old on earth he stood,
 Lord of lords in human likeness,
 In the body and the blood
 He will give to all the faithful
 His own self for heav'nly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
 Spread its vanguard on the way
 As the Light from Light, descending
 From the realms of endless day,
 Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish
 As the darkness clears away.

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph,
 Cherubim with sleepless eye,
 Veil their faces to the presence
 As with ceaseless voice they cry:
 "Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

GOSPEL CANTICLE/SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

L Guide us wak-ing, O Lord, **G** and guard us sleep -

ing; **L** that a-wake we may watch with Christ **G** and a -

sleep we may rest in peace.

G In peace, Lord, in peace you let your ser-vant now de -

part ac-cord-ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal-

va-tion, which you have pre-pared for ev-'ry peo-ple, a

light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo-ry of your peo-ple

Is - ra - el. In peace, in peace.

BLESSING

M The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us.

C Amen.

HYMN

Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow | 794

1 Now rest beneath night's shadow The woodland, field, and meadow;
The world in slumber lies.
But you, my heart, awaken, With prayer and song be taken;
Let praise to your Creator rise.

2 The rule of day is over And shining jewels cover
The heaven's boundless blue.
Thus I shall shine in heaven, Where crowns of gold are given
To all who faithful prove and true.

3 Lord Jesus, since you love me, Oh, spread your wings above me
And shield me from alarm.
Though Satan would assail me, Your mercy will not fail me;
I rest in your protecting arm.

4 My loved ones, rest securely, For God this night will surely
From peril guard your heads.
Sweet slumbers may he send you And bid his hosts attend you
And through the night watch o'er your beds.