



Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

212-289-8128

www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

Midweek Service for Holy Week Spoken Evening Prayer, LBW With Psalm of Lament 22

6:30 PM Holy Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Warm welcome, everyone, to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

We are recording this service from the parsonage. This is where Carol and I live. It is the church's apartment.

Thank you for joining us for this spoken service of Evening Prayer, together with some reflections on the Psalms of Lament we have chosen for this year's Midweek Lent Series. This evening's Psalm is Psalm 22.

We are honored and delighted that you are here and hope that you will return. If you do not already have a church home in our city, please consider joining this congregation. We would rejoice to have you. Just speak with me or send me an email (gpfryer@gmail.com).

In Christ,

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

Service of Light

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**

P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**

P Let your light scatter the darkness,
C **and illumine your Church.**

As the hymn is said, the candles on and near the altar are lighted. When the large candle is used, the candles are lighted from its flame.

P Joyous light of glory:
C **of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.**
We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light.
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O Giver of life: The universe proclaims your glory.

The thanksgiving concludes the Service of Light.

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night:
Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ;
May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation,
and we, your creatures, glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

Psalmody

The Psalmody begins with this song for forgiveness and protection.

☞ Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.
Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
in you I take refuge. Strip me not of my life.

Glory 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.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Silence for meditation.

☞ Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

☞ Amen

A second psalm is said. Silence for meditation follows each psalm or canticle.

PSALM 22

- ¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me
and are so far from my cry, and from the words of my distress?
- ²**O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;
by night as well, but I find no rest.**
- ³Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- ⁴**Our forefathers put their trust in you;
they trusted, and you delivered them.**
- ⁵They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- ⁶**But as for me, I am a worm and no man,
scorned by all and despised by the people.**
- ⁷All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- ⁸**"He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."**
- ⁹Yet you are he who took me out of the womb,
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- ¹⁰**I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.**
- ¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.
- ¹²**Many young bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.**
- ¹³They open wide their jaws at me,
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- ¹⁴**I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.**
- ¹⁵My mouth is dried out like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my
mouth;
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- ¹⁶**Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me;
they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count all my bones.**
- ¹⁷They stare and gloat over me;
they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.

(Continued)

- ¹⁸**Be not far away, O LORD;**
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- ¹⁹Save me from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog.
- ²⁰**Save me from the lion's mouth,**
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- ²¹I will declare your name to my brethren;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- ²²**Praise the LORD, you that fear him;**
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give
glory.
- ²³For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he
hide his face from them;
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- ²⁴**My praise is of him in the great assembly;**
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- ²⁵The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise
him:
"May your heart live forever!"
- ²⁶**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,**
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- ²⁷For kingship belongs to the LORD;
he rules over the nations.
- ²⁸**To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;**
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- ²⁹My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the LORD's forever.
- ³⁰**They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn**
the saving deeds that he has done.

PSALM PRAYER

Father, when your Son was handed over to torture and felt abandoned by you, he cried out from the cross. Then death was destroyed, and life was restored. By his death and resurrection save the poor, lift up the downtrodden, break the chains of the oppressed, that your Church may sing your praises; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

LESSONS

One or two lessons are read.

Holy Wednesday, March 31.....John 12:27-36

[Jesus said] Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. ³⁴The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

Silence for meditation follows each reading. The leader then continues:

In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

GOSPEL CANTICLE (*Mary’s Magnificat*)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory 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

LITANY

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For *Bishop Daniel*, for our *pastors* in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.

Alleluia.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for meditation

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

To you, O Lord.

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 defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY, March 31 (Holy Wednesday) – Psalm 22

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BENEDICTION

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, ✝ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Amen

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.