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**Fourth Mid-Week Lenten Service
“Here I Stand—Lent with Martin Luther”
March 22, 2017**

*“Before I starve for want of the Word of God, I would rather do without bread
and die of hunger.”*

(Martin Luther, a sermon for the first Sunday in Lent, 1534)

Prayer at the Close of the Day—Compline

“Prayer at the Close of the 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 congregation gathers in silence. Pre-service music is omitted, and the lighting is subdued. This is a time for prayer and meditation. The believer finds peace in God’s forgiveness and security under the shadow of His wings.

Before Service Prayer: (From Luther’s Small Catechism, Book of Concordia)

In the evening, when you go to bed, you shall bless yourself with the holy cross and say: In the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then, kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer. If you choose, you may, in addition, say this little prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into Your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Then go to sleep promptly and cheerfully.

Pastor’s Welcome

(Pastor sings parts marked with [L], congregation sings [G])

The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of ten staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. Performance instructions are indicated by boxed letters: [L] for the pastor and [G] for the congregation. The lyrics are: "The Lord Al - might - y grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last. A - men. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High, to her-ald your love in the morn - ing, your truth at the close of day. Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom. Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs.

[L] The Lord Al - might - y grant us a qui - et
night and peace at the last. [G] A -
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. [G] Je - sus, re - mem - ber
me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Opening Hymn: “Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens” (tune CW 121)

**Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens, Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me, Let each promise still my fear.
Death’s dread pow’r, its inward strife, Wars against Your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love’s strong fervor That I cling to You forever!**

**Lord, Your words are waters living When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving; On Your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, Your words will be my light Through death’s cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unfailing!**

**As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let Your words in me take root.
May Your Spirit e’er be near me That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing Your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven!**

Invocation and Responsive Reading.....John 6:30-35

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: So [the crowd] said to [Jesus], “Then what sign do You do, that we may see and believe You? What work do You perform?”

C: Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

P: Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven,

C: But My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.

P: For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to Him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

C: Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.

Prayer of the Day

P: Jesus, Bread of Life, You turned away every temptation of Satan by confronting the tempter with the Word. Help us by Your Spirit to resist all temptations of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh and to confront, as You did, every temptation with the Word. Do not let us starve for Your Word. Lead us to read and study the Holy Scriptures, to take them to heart and to

hunger and thirst for the life-giving Gospel, the good news of our salvation in Your name. Hear our prayer, Lord, and accept our praise.

C: Amen.

Video segment from “Martin Luther” 1953 (*Luther, standing in the word at the Diet of Worms*)

**The Passion Reading--THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
LESSON THREE** (*Wartburg Project Translation*)

LEADER: Simon Peter and another disciple kept following Jesus. That disciple was known to the high priest, so he went into the high priest’s courtyard with Jesus.

CONGREGATION: But Peter stood outside by the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out and talked to the girl watching the door and brought Peter in.

WOMEN: The servants and guards were standing around a fire of coals that they had made because it was cold.

MEN: While they warmed themselves, Peter was standing with them, warming himself too.

LEADER: One of the servant girls of the high priest came there. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked directly at him and said, “You were also with Jesus the Galilean.”

CONGREGATION: But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, “I don’t know what you are talking about. Woman, I do not know Him.”

WOMEN: When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, “This is one of them. This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

MEN: Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, “I do not know the Man.”

CONGREGATION: After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, “Surely you are also one of them, because even your accent gives you away. You are a Galilean!”

MEN: Then he began to curse and to swear, “I do not know this Man you are talking about! I do not know the Man!”

LEADER: At that very moment, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the Lord’s word, how He had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today you will deny Me three times.” He went outside, broke down, and wept bitterly.

WOMEN: The high priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching.

CONGREGATION: Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I always taught in a synagogue or at the temple, where all the Jews gather. I said nothing in secret. Why are you questioning Me? Ask those who heard what I told them. Look, they know what I said.”

MEN: When He said this, one of the guards standing there hit Jesus in the face. “Is that how You answer the high priest?” he demanded.

LEADER: “If I said something wrong,” Jesus answered, “testify about what was wrong. But if I was right, why did you hit Me?”

CONGREGATION: The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put Him to death. They found none, even though many false witnesses came forward.

MEN: Finally two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’”

WOMEN: Yet even on this point, their testimony did not agree.

CONGREGATION: The high priest stood up and said to Him, “Have you no answer? What is this that these men are testifying against You?”

LEADER: But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to Him, “I place You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!”

MEN: Jesus said to him, “It is as you have said. But I tell you, soon you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

LEADER: Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, you have just heard the blasphemy! What do you think?”

WOMEN: They answered, “He is deserving of death!”

CONGREGATION: Then some began to spit on Him. They covered His face, struck Him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy to us, Christ! Who hit You?”

MEN: The guards also took Him and beat Him. And they went on saying many other blasphemous things against Him.

LEADER: As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both chief priests and experts in the law.

CONGREGATION: They brought Jesus into their Sanhedrin and said, “If You are the Christ, tell us.”

MEN: But He said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer Me or release Me. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

CONGREGATION: They all said, “Are You then the Son of God?”

LEADER: He said to them, “I am what you are saying.”

MEN: Then they said, “Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from His own mouth!”

WOMEN: Then the chief priests with the elders and experts in the law, together with the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision.

MEN: They bound Jesus, led Him away, and handed Him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

LEADER: Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse. He brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders and said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.”

CONGREGATION: But they said, “What is that to us? That’s your problem.”

WOMEN: He threw the pieces of silver into the temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself.

LEADER: The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is blood money.”

MEN: They reached a decision to buy the potter’s field with the money, as a burial place for foreigners.

WOMEN: So that field has been called The Field of Blood to this day. Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

MEN: They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price the sons of Israel had set for Him, and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord commanded me.

LEADER: Early in the morning, the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. They did not enter the Praetorium themselves, so that they would not become ceremonially unclean. (They wanted to be able to eat the Passover meal.) So Pilate went out to them and said, “What charge do you bring against this Man?”

WOMEN: They answered him, “If this Man were not a criminal, we would not have handed Him over to you.”

LEADER: Pilate told them, “Take Him yourselves and judge Him according to your law.”

CONGREGATION: The Jews said, “It’s not legal for us to put anyone to death.” This happened so that the statement Jesus had spoken indicating what kind of death He was going to die would be fulfilled.

MEN: They began to accuse Him, saying, “We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a king.”

WOMEN: Pilate asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?”

LEADER: “It is as you say,” Jesus replied.

CONGREGATION: The chief priests accused Him of many things. When He was accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing.

MEN: Pilate questioned Him again, “Are You not going to answer anything? See how many charges they are bringing against You!”

WOMEN: But Jesus still did not answer anything, so Pilate was amazed.

CONGREGATION: Pilate went back into the Praetorium and summoned Jesus. He asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?”

LEADER: Jesus answered, “Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you about Me?”

CONGREGATION: Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own people and chief priests handed You over to me. What have You done?”

LEADER: Jesus replied, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But now My kingdom is not from here.”

MEN: “You are a king then?” Pilate asked.

LEADER: Jesus answered, “I am, as you say, a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to My voice.”

MEN: “What is truth?” Pilate said to Him.

CONGREGATION: After he said this, he went out again to the Jews and told them, “I find no basis for a charge against Him.”

WOMEN: But they kept insisting, “He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here.”

LEADER: When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that He was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

WOMEN: When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time he had wanted to see Him, because he had heard many things about Him.

MEN: He hoped to see some miracle performed by Him. He questioned Him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer.

CONGREGATION: The chief priests and the experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing Him.

WOMEN: Herod, along with his soldiers, treated Him with contempt and ridiculed Him. Dressing Him in bright clothing, Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate.

LEADER: Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other.

L In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it. **G** In - to your

hands I com-mend my spir - it. **L** You have re-deemed me, O

Lord, God of truth. **G** In - to your hands I com-mend my

The musical score consists of three staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff concludes the phrase with a double bar line. The lyrics are: **L** In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it. **G** In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it. **L** You have re-deemed me, O Lord, God of truth. **G** In - to your hands I com-mend my

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.

The Sermon Hymn: “O Living Bread from Heaven” (tune CW 105)

**O living Bread from heaven, How well you feed your guest!
 The gifts that You have given Have filled my heart with rest.
 Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
 My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows.**

**My Lord, You here have led me Within Your holiest place
 And here have kindly fed me With treasures of Your grace,
 For You have freely given What earth could never buy,
 The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die.**

**You gave me all I wanted--This food can death destroy--
 And You have freely granted The cup of endless joy.
 My Lord, I do not merit The favor You have shown,
 And all my soul and spirit Bow down before Your throne.**

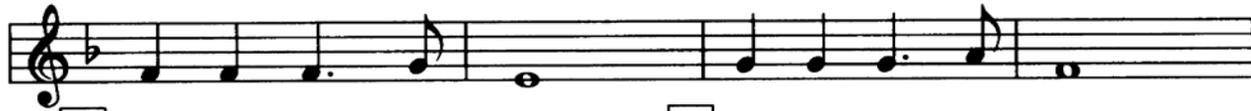
**Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened With heav'nly food, while here
 My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.
 And when You call my spirit To leave this world below,
 I enter, through Your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.**

The Sermon Text: Matthew 4:4

⁴ Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” (NIV 2011)

The Sermon Theme: Here I Stand—Standing in the Word

The Offering



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.

The Prayer

P: Mighty Savior, when we seek the pleasures of this world, teach us instead to hunger and thirst for Your Word. Let Your Word dwell richly within us as we help and encourage one another to follow You each day. Jesus, Bread of life,

C: Feed us with Your holy Word.

P: Mighty Savior, we pray for those who need the comfort of Your promises and Your presence. Help those who are suffering through despair, grief or illness. Strengthen those who are persecuted because of their faith in You. Lead us to help and serve those in need. Jesus, Bread of life,

C: Feed us with Your holy Word.

P: Mighty Savior, through this season of Lent, as we follow Your path to the cross, help us to walk with You each day in lives of love and service to others. Jesus, Bread of life,

C: Feed us with Your holy Word.

P: We now ask that for Your sake our Father in heaven would hear us, as we pray together the words You taught us to pray....

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.



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.

Song of Simeon



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.

The Blessing

P: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life ...

C: This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

P: I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

C: If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever."

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn: CW 593 "Now the Light Has Gone Away"

Announcements

Thank you to the Nicklaus family for serving the supper we enjoyed before the service.

Thank you to Rev. Thomas Schultz who served as our guest preacher this evening. Rev. Schultz is the pastor of Christ the King in Palatine, IL.

Next Wednesday, Pastor David Carlovsky from Lord and Savior in Crystal Lake will serve as our guest preacher. Next Wednesday's theme is "Standing in Prayer."

After the service the Outreach Committee will have its March meeting.

Work will continue on the assignments we want to work on as part of our participation in the SAA program. John Landenberger will facilitate the meeting. The meeting will last no longer than an hour after the Lenten service.

