

*St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
*Founded 1856*  
*1343 Penniman Avenue*  
*Plymouth, MI 48170*  
*Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod*



*Lenten Vespers Service*  
*March 15, 2023*  
*Repent: Turn to Jesus; He Longs to Forgive You*

# OPENING HYMN #115 “He Stood Before the Court”

Text: Christopher M. Idle. ©1982 Hope Publishing Co. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A-722670. All rights reserved.

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music, each with four-part harmony (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and corresponding lyrics. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, each corresponding to a line of music. The first line of music has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second line of music has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The third line of music has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The fourth line of music has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

1 He stood be - fore the court On trial in - stead of  
2 These are the crimes that tell The tale of hu - man  
3 The sen - tence must be passed, The un - known pris - 'ner  
4 Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is

us; He met its pow'r to hurt, Con - demned to  
guilt; Our sins, our death, our hell— On these the  
killed; The price is paid at last, The law of  
done; We live, for he has died, Our con - dem -

face the cross— Our King, ac - cused of treach - er -  
case is built. To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays  
God ful - filled. He takes our blame, and from that  
na - tion gone. In Christ are we both dead and

y; Our God, a - bused for blas - phe - my!  
dumb. The guilt is ours; no an - swers come.  
day Th' ac - cu - ser's claim is wiped a - way.  
raised, A - live and free— his name be praised!

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938, alt. © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company).  
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Tune: MARLEE (66 66 88) Leland B. Sateren, b. 1913. © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*. All rights reserved.  
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## STAND

**M:** O Lord, open my lips.



**C:** And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

**M:** Hasten to save me, O God.



**C:** O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

**M:** The Lord be with you.



**C:** And al - so with you.

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

**C: Amen**

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***BE SEATED***

***LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU***  
***(Psalm 141)***

**C:** Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift-ing  
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I  
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I  
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,  
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri - fice.

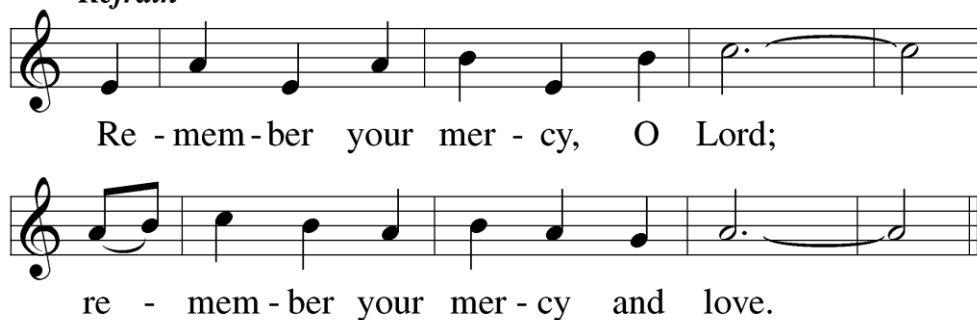
**M:** Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** Amen

## PSALM 32

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*Refrain*



*Psalm tone*



Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,\*  
whose sins are covered.

When I kept silent, your hand was heavy upon me;\*  
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you\*  
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"\*  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. ***Refrain***

You are my hiding place;\*  
you will protect me from trouble.

Many are the woes of the wicked,\*  
but the LORD'S unfailing love surrounds those who  
trust in him.

**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***

***Silence for Meditation***

**PSALM PRAYER:** Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

**PASSION HISTORY LESSON: Matthew 26:57-75**

<sup>57</sup> Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. <sup>58</sup> And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. <sup>59</sup> Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, <sup>60</sup> but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward <sup>61</sup> and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'" <sup>62</sup> And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men

testify against you?" <sup>63</sup> But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." <sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." <sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy." <sup>66</sup> What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." <sup>67</sup> Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, <sup>68</sup> saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." <sup>70</sup> But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." <sup>71</sup> And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>72</sup> And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." <sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." <sup>74</sup> Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup> And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

**SEASONAL RESPONSE:** All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. By his wounds we are healed.

## HYMN #128 “Not All the Blood of Beasts”

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

1 Not all the blood of beasts On Is - rael's  
 2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our  
 3 In faith I place my hand On that dear  
 4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den  
 5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the

al - tars slain Could give the guilt - y con - science  
 sins a - way, A sac - ri - fice of no - bler  
 head di - vine, As pen - i - tent - ly here I  
 you did bear When hang - ing on the curs - ed  
 curse re - move; We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful

peace Or wash a - way the stain.  
 name And rich - er blood than they.  
 stand And lay on him my sin.  
 tree— I know my guilt was there!  
 voice And sing his bleed - ing love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: SOUTHWELL (SM) William Daman, c. 1540–91.



***SERMON:*** “Repent: Turn to Jesus; He Longs to Forgive You”

**Sermon Text:** Luke 23:32-34

<sup>32</sup> Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup> And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup> And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments.

***STAND***

**SONG OF MARY**

# Magnificat



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-



joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor



on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions



will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great



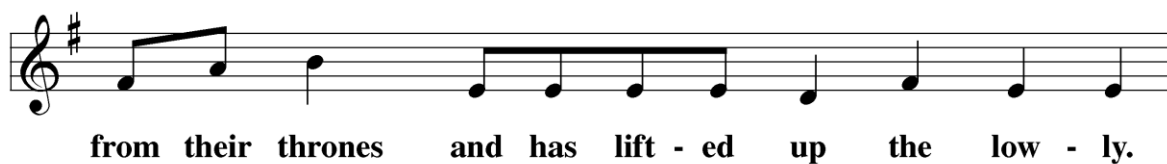
things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on



those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the



# LORD, HAVE MERCY

## *Kyrie*

**M:** In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray,  
O Lord:



**C:** Lord, have mer - cy.

**M:** For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



**C:** Christ, have mer - cy.

**M:** For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



**C:** Lord, have mer - cy.

**M:** For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



**C:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**M:** For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



**C:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**M:** For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



**C:** Thanks be to God.

**M:** In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



**C:** A - men.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

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## **PRAYER FOR PEACE**

**M:** Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

# SONG OF SIMEON

## *Nunc Dimittis*

C: In peace, Lord, 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.

## BLESSING

**M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: A - men.

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# CLOSING HYMN #108 “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

Text: Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498)



1 Je - sus, Ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,  
2 Dare we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -  
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry,  
pent - ant vow, As we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing,  
love for you! May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing



Sav - ior from the world a - bove, Oh, how oft your  
See your thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Since your sin - less  
To be - hold your cross a - new, Till in glo - ry,



eyes, of - fend - ed, Gaze up - on a sin - ner's fall! Yet, up -  
death has brought us Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest, On - ly  
part - ed nev - er From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en



on the cross ex - tend - ed, You en - dured the pain of all.  
what your grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
in our hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied!

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

Officiant: Pastor Paul Schaefer  
Organist: Jan Jacobi