

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



GOD ON TRIAL

March 13, 2024 Lenten Service
"God on Trial: Sympathy"

EVENING PRAYER (VESPERS) (page 52)

OPENING HYMN: #104 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" Public Domain

LENT

104

Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful mourn - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid his



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see.
life ar - rained. Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at his feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from his
Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
pain, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.
hear him cry; Learn of Je - sus Christ to die.
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GETHSEMANE (77 77 77) Richard Redhead, 1820–1901.

STAND

“O Lord, open my lips” from ‘Evening Prayer’, *Christian Worship*, 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. Tune: Kurt J. Eggert; Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer ©1993 Northwestern Publishing House. Both reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A722670. All rights reserved.

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.

BE SEATED

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LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU (Psalm 141)



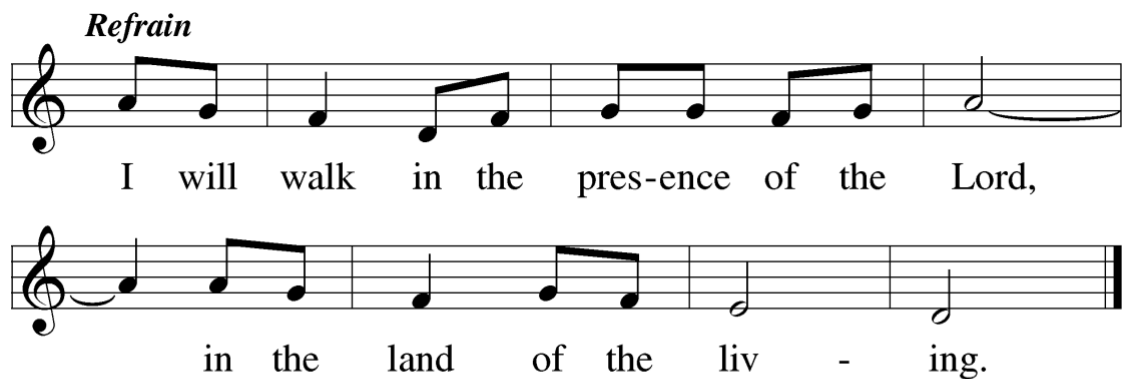
C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - 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 116 (p.107 in the front of the hymnal)

Refrain



I will walk in the pres - ence of the Lord,
in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm tone *



I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;*
he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,*
I will call on him as long as I live.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;*
when I was in great need, he saved me.

Refrain *I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.*

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

How can I repay the LORD*
for all his goodness to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation*
and call on the name of the LORD.

**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 *I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living*

Tune, Setting: Richard Proulx © 1975 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A722670. All rights reserved.

Silence for meditation.

Psalm Prayer: Lord, we bow down to you in thankful praise. You have made your ways both lowly and great on the earth. You have not abandoned the work of your hands, but have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Passion History of Our Lord: St. Mark 14:66-15:15

⁶⁶ And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

15 And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask

Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

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.

CHIEF HYMN: #140 "God Was There on Calvary" Text, Tune: Kurt J. Eggert © 1993 admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. Both reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A722670. All rights reserved.

God Was There on Calvary



1 God was there on Cal - va - ry, God the
 2 All the world on Cal - va - ry, Cru - ci -
 3 Sin was there on Cal - va - ry, All the
 4 Love was there on Cal - va - ry, Stream - ing
 5 Life was there on Cal - va - ry, Flow - ing



Fa - ther's on - ly Son, Dy - ing that the
 fied the Prince of life, Pierced the hands of
 sins of ev - 'ry - one, Laid up - on God's
 from the heart of God, Reach - ing out for
 from his wound - ed side, Spent that death it -



world might live, There on Cal - va - ry.
 God's own Son, There on Cal - va - ry.
 sin - less Lamb There on Cal - va - ry.
 ev - 'ry - one There on Cal - va - ry.
 self might die There on Cal - va - ry.

6 We were there on Calvary;
 We were pardoned, saved, set free,
 Saved to live eternally—
 Blessed Calvary!

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Tune: GOD WAS THERE ON CALVARY (77 75) Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved.
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SERMON: “God on Trial: Truth”

Text: John 18:33-40

³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

STAND

SONG OF MARY (*Magnificat*)

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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 - mighty - 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




proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y




from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.



He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich



he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the



help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his



prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,



to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

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.

C: 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

C: 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.

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*) Tune: Kurt Eggert; Setting: Kermit

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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.

CLOSING HYMN: #592 “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night” Public Domain (See next page.)

Officiant: Pastor Tom Schroeder

Organist: Julie Webber

592 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night For all the
 2 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as
 3 When in the night I sleep - less lie, My soul with



bless - ings of the light. Keep me, oh, keep me,
 lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die so
 heav'n - ly thoughts sup - ply; Let no ill dreams dis -



King of kings, Be - neath thine own al - might -
 that I may Rise glo - rious at the awe -
 turb my rest, No pow'rs of dark - ness me



y wings. For - give me, Lord, for thy dear
 full day. Oh, may my soul on thee re -
 dis - tress. Praise God, from whom all bless - ings



Son The ill that I this day have
 pose And may sweet sleep mine eye - lids
 flow; Praise him, all crea - tures here be -



done, That with the world, my - self, and thee
 close, Sleep that shall me more vig - 'rous make
 low; Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;



I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
 To serve my God when I a - wake.
 Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.