

# Good Friday Vespers

Anno Domini 2021

## Hymn on Entry

### 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane,  
All who feel the tempter's pow'r;  
Your Redeemer's conflict see,  
Watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away;  
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
  
- 2 Follow to the judgment hall,  
View the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!  
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;  
Learn from Him to bear the cross.
  
- 3 Cal'ry's mournful mountain climb;  
There, adoring at His feet,  
Mark that miracle of time,  
God's own sacrifice complete.  
"It is finished!" hear Him cry;  
Learn from Jesus Christ to die.
  
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb  
Where they laid His breathless clay;  
All is solitude and gloom.  
Who has taken Him away?  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.  
Savior, teach us so to rise.

Text: Public domain

*Stand*

## Common Versicles

LSB 229

L O Lord, open my lips,

C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

C **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.  
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our Salvation.**

## Psalmody

### Psalm

Psalm 22

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?\*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,\*

and by night, but I | find no rest.

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are | holy,\*

enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

<sup>4</sup>In you our fathers | trusted,\*

they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

<sup>5</sup>To you they cried and were | rescued,\*

in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and | not a man,\*

scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.

<sup>7</sup>All who see me | mock me;\*

they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

<sup>8</sup>“He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him,\*

let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”

<sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;\*

you made me trust you at my | mother’s breasts.

<sup>10</sup>On you was I cast | from my birth,\*

and from my mother’s womb you have | been my God.

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me,

for trouble | is near,\*

and there is | none to help.

12 Many bulls en- | compass me;\*  
strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;  
13 they open wide their | mouths at me,\*  
like a ravening and roaring | lion.

14 I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are | out of joint;\*  
my heart is like wax;  
it is melted with- | in my breast;  
15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;\*  
you lay me in the | dust of death.

16 For dogs en- | compass me;\*  
a company of evildoers encircles me;  
they have pierced my | hands and feet—  
17 I can count | all my bones—\*  
they stare and gloat | over me;  
18 they divide my garments a- | mong them,\*  
and for my clothing they | cast lots.

19 But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!\*  
O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!  
20 Deliver my soul | from the sword,\*  
my precious life from the power | of the dog!  
21 Save me from the mouth of the | lion!\*

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!

22 I will tell of your name to my | brothers,\*  
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:  
23 You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,\*  
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!

24 For he has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and he has not hidden his | face from him,\*  
but has heard, when he | cried to him.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;\*  
my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.

26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!\*

May your hearts live for- | ever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn | to the LORD,\*

and all the families of the nations  
shall worship be- | fore you.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs | to the LORD,\*  
and he rules over the | nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;\*  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall | serve him;\*  
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;

<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,\*  
that he has | done it.

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without  
end. Amen.**

*Sit*

## **Office Hymn**

### **453 Upon the Cross Extended**

- 1 Upon the cross extended  
See, world, your Lord suspended.  
Your Savior yields His breath.  
The Prince of Life from heaven  
Himself has freely given  
To shame and blows and bitter death.
  
- 2 Come, see these things and ponder,  
Your soul will fill with wonder  
As blood streams from each pore.  
Through grief beyond all knowing  
From His great heart came flowing  
Sighs welling from its deepest core.

- 3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You?  
Who has so sore abused You  
And caused You all Your woe?  
We all must make confession  
Of sin and dire transgression  
While You no ways of evil know.
- 4 I caused Your grief and sighing  
By evils multiplying  
As countless as the sands.  
I caused the woes unnumbered  
With which Your soul is cumbered,  
Your sorrows raised by wicked hands.
- 5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,  
Your head with thorns surrounded,  
You died to ransom me.  
The cross for me enduring,  
The crown for me securing,  
You healed my wounds and set me free.
- 6 Your cords of love, my Savior,  
Bind me to You forever,  
I am no longer mine.  
To You I gladly tender  
All that my life can render  
And all I have to You resign.
- 7 Your cross I place before me;  
Its saving pow'r restore me,  
Sustain me in the test.  
It will, when life is ending,  
Be guiding and attending  
My way to Your eternal rest.

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## Readings

## The Old Testament Reading.

*Isaiah 52:13—53:12*

<sup>13</sup>Behold, my servant shall act wisely;  
he shall be high and lifted up,  
and shall be exalted.

<sup>14</sup>As many were astonished at you—  
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

<sup>15</sup>so shall he sprinkle many nations;  
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;  
for that which has not been told them they see,  
and that which they have not heard they understand.

<sup>1</sup>Who has believed what they heard from us?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.

<sup>3</sup>He was despised and rejected by men;  
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;  
and as one from whom men hide their faces  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his stripes we are healed.

<sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned every one to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.

<sup>8</sup>By oppression and judgment he was taken away;

and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?  
<sup>9</sup>And they made his grave with the wicked  
and with a rich man in his death,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.  
<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;  
he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.  
<sup>11</sup>Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.  
<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and makes intercession for the transgressors.  
P O Lord, have mercy on us.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Epistle Reading**

*Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9*

<sup>14</sup>Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Reading**, the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ as drawn from the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Part V Calvary

## V. Calvary

The soldiers now had charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out of the city to a place called Skull Hill, in Hebrew, *Golgotha*. As they led him away, they laid hold of Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country. On him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus. Following him was a great company of people and of women who bewailed and lamented him. Jesus turned to them and said,

“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. The days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck.’ Then they will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things with a green tree, what will happen with a dry one?”

There were also two others, criminals whom they led along to be put to death with him. When they came to the place called Golgotha, they gave him wine mingled with gall to drink, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

It was the third hour, and there they crucified him.

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

The two criminals they also crucified with him—one on his right, the other on his left, with Jesus in the middle. The Scripture was then fulfilled which says, “And he was numbered with the transgressors.”

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they cast lots to divide his clothes and decide what each should take. They made four parts, one for each soldier. There remained his tunic, which was without seam, woven in one piece from the top to the bottom. They said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to decide who shall have it.” The Scripture was thus fulfilled which says, “They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.” These things the soldiers did and, sitting down, they kept watch over him there.

Over his head was put the charge against him. Pilate wrote the notice to be put on the cross. It read, JESUS OF NAZARETH, KING OF THE JEWS. This title was read by many of the Jews, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near to the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. The chief priests of the Jews then said to Pilate, "You should not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but 'This man said, I am the King of the Jews.'"

Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

People stood by, watching. Those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads, and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself. If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him to one another saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross that we may see and believe. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

The soldiers also mocked him, coming to him and offering him wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." The thieves who were crucified with him also reviled him. And one of the criminals who hung there with him railed at him:

"Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us."

But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God since you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are getting what we deserve for what we have done; but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Near to the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

When some of them that were standing there heard it, they said, "He is calling for Elijah."

After this, Jesus knew that all things were accomplished. Fulfilling the Scripture he said, "I thirst." There was a jar of wine standing there. One of them ran immediately to get a sponge. He filled it with wine, put it on a reed, held it up to his mouth, and gave it to him to drink.

Others said, "Wait and see if Elijah will come and save him."

When Jesus had received the wine, he cried with a loud voice, "It is finished!" Then he said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he died, he said, "Truly, this man was the Son of God."

All the people who had gathered to see the sight, when they saw what had happened, turned away beating their breasts. Those who had known him stood at a distance, as also the women who had followed him from Galilee. Among them was Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

It was the day of Preparation before the Sabbath, and this was Passover Sabbath. Therefore, so that the bodies should not remain on the crosses during the Sabbath, the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies removed. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. One who saw it is our witness, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth that you also may believe. These things were done that the Scripture

should be fulfilled, “Not one of his bones shall be broken.” And again, another Scripture says, “They shall look on him whom they pierced.”

By this time evening had come. A respected member of the council, Joseph of Arimathea, was one who was looking for the kingdom of God, a good and righteous man who had not consented to their purpose and deed. He was a disciple of Jesus secretly, for he feared the Jews. Now he took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

Pilate was astonished that he could be dead already. He called for the centurion and asked him whether Jesus was already dead. When he was assured by the centurion that it was so, Pilate granted Joseph the corpse and commanded that it be given over to him.

Joseph bought fine linen and came and took the body of Jesus. Nicodemus came also, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pound weight. It was he who had first come to Jesus by night. They then took the body of Jesus and wrapped it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.

Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new tomb, where no one had ever been buried. Joseph laid the body in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock, and rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed.

Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus were sitting there opposite the sepulcher and saw where he was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath day they rested according to the commandment.

On the next day, the day after the Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees went together to Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember what that imposter said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command that the sepulcher be made secure until the third day to stop his disciples from coming and stealing him and saying to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ making the final deception worse than the first.”

Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go and make it as secure as you know how.” So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting a watch.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon.** Text, the Old Testament Reading. Theme, the Passio Magna of Jesus Christ.

Canticle

*Stand*

**Antiphon (Common)**

*LSB 231*

L Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**Magnificat**

*LSB 231*

C **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;**

for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.

For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;  
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the  
imagination of their hearts.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty  
away.

He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke  
to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

C **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.**

*Sit*

**Offering** – Due to this being an online service only and If you have set aside a Holy Week offering, please bring it on Sunday or place it in the mail.

Prayer

*Kneel/Stand*

**Kyrie**

*LSB 233*

**C Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

**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.**

**Litany**

*LSB 249*

**L In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
C Lord, have mercy.  
L For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:  
C Lord, have mercy.  
L 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:  
C Lord, have mercy.  
L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let  
us pray to the Lord:  
C Lord, have mercy.  
L For [names of synodical and district presidents], for all pastors in Christ, for  
all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:  
C Lord, have mercy.**

- L For *[name of president or monarch]*, for all 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:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L 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:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C **Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers then continue:*

- L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
- C **Thanks be to God.**
- L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

- L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
- C **To You, O Lord.**

## Collects

## Introduction to Collects

*LSB 233*

L O Lord, hear my prayer.

C **And let my cry come to You.**

## Collect of the Day

P O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

## Collect for Pandemic

*LSB Altar Book*

Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress. In mercy put an end to the pandemic that afflicts us. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all that mourn. Sustain all medical personnel in their labors, and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## Collect for Peace

L 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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## Luther's Evening Prayer

**All: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

*Stand*

## Benedicamus

*LSB 234*

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **Benediction**

*LSB 234*

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

C **Amen.**

## **Hymn to Depart - 437 - Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed**

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
And did my sov'reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?
- 2 Was it for crimes that I had done  
He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
And love beyond degree!
- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide  
And shut his glories in  
When God, the mighty maker, died  
For His own creatures' sin.
- 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face  
While His dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
And melt mine eyes to tears.
- 5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
The debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away:  
'Tis all that I can do.

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