

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7 p.m.

Prelude

Welcome

(Stand)

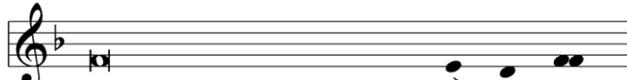


L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

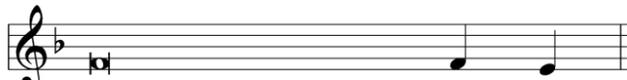


C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

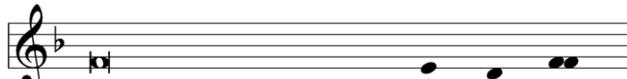
Congregation joins in chant



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.



L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



C and il - lu - mine Your Church.



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:

Hymn of Light *O Light Whose Splendor* LSB Hymnal 891



1 O Light whose splen - dor thrills and glad - dens
2 As twi - light hov - ers near at sun - set,
3 In all life's bril - liant time - less mo - ments,



With ra - diance bright - er than the sun,
And lamps are lit, and chil - dren nod,
Let faith - ful voic - es sing Your praise,



Pure gleam of God's un - end - ing glo - ry,
In eve - ning hymns we lift our voic - es
O Son of God, our Life - be - stow - er,



O Je - sus, blest A - noint - ed One;
To Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son: one God.
Whose glo - ry light - ens end - less days.

Tune: Public domain

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Collect

Leader 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.

People **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Leader Holy and gracious God,

People **I confess to You that I have sinned. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

(Silence for personal confession)

Leader By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We are now at peace with God.

People **Amen.** *(Sit)*

Passion Reading 5

Leader “Which one of the two do you want me to release to you?” With one voice they cried out to the governor: “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!” Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city and for murder. Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Leader For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore, I will have him punished and then release him.” But the Jews kept shouting, “If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar.” When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge’s seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement. It was the day of the Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour.

Leader Pilate said to the Jews: “Here is your king.” “Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!” “Shall I crucify your king?” “We have no king but Caesar.” When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. He said: “I am innocent of this man’s blood. It is your responsibility.” “Let his blood be on us and on our children!” Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

Leader The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.

Leader Jesus turned and said to them: “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’” “Then, they will say to the mountains: ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills: ‘Cover us!’ For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

Leader Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. They came to a place called Golgatha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. There they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

Leader Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read, Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate: “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.” Pilate answered: “What I have written, I have written.”

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers. Compiled by Mark R. Bitter. ISBN 0-8100-0365-1.

Leader 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. *Isaiah 53:6 (ESV)*

(Stand)

Hymn *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* LSB Hymnal 425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
 sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text and tune: Public domain

Testimony *Charlie Trautwein*

Message *Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr.*

Offering Anthem *Sung by Sydney McHugh*

Lord and Savior, Do You Hear Us

Verse 1

Lord and Savior, do You hear us?
Have You turned Your face away?
Do You know the pain we suffer
And the fear we face each day?
Yet You, Lord, have known our sorrow;
You have shared our grief and pain.
As the Lamb for sinners slain,
You cried out in silent darkness,
Hanging from the dreadful tree:
“Why have You forsaken Me?”

Verse 3

When distress and trouble grieve us,
Bringing illness, storm, or loss,
May we, patiently enduring,
Bear with faithfulness the cross.
As we, Lord, receive Your mercy,
May we then Your mercy share,
Giving comfort, hope, and care.
For this work may we be nourished,
As our hearts to love are stirred,
By Your Supper and Your Word.

Prayer

Leader O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Leader Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Leader Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

People **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. 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.**

Verse 4

In the world, Lord, You have told us
There is trouble to endure.
Fill our doubting hearts with courage,
For in You our hope is sure.
As with Your disciples sailing
On the windy, storm-tossed sea,
You awoke and heard their plea,
Stilling storm and wind and water
Bid our fear and sorrow cease
With Your quiet Word of peace.

By Carol Geisler. Tune by David Von Kampen.

Closing Hymn

Abide with Me LSB Hymnal 878, verses 1, 3, 4, and 6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text and tune: Public domain

Blessing

Silent Prayer

Postlude

Special thanks to our Cantor Sydney McHugh.