

✠ The Office of Compline ✠

April 9, 2025

The congregation assembles in silence.

Stand

Opening Versicles

LSB 253

L The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C Amen.

L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

L to herald Your love in the morning,

C Your truth at the close of the day.

Confession

Exhortation

LSB 254

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 254

L I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

- C** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- L** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Psalm

Psalm 95:1–7a

- ¹Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!
- ²**Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;***
let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!
- ³For the LORD is a | great God,*
and a great King a- | bove all gods.
- ⁴**In his hand are the depths | of the earth;***
the heights of the mountains are his | also.
- ⁵The sea is his, for he | made it,*
and his hands formed the | dry land.
- ⁶**Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;***
let us kneel before the LORD, our | Maker!
- ⁷For he | is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep | of his hand.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hymn: *“How Firm a Foundation”*

LSB 728

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
 Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
 What more can He say than to you He has said
 Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.
- 3 “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
 I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
 That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
 I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
- 4 “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
 My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
 The flames will not hurt you; I only design
 Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.
- 5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
 My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
 And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
 Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Readings from Holy Scripture

First Reading

Daniel 7:13–14

¹³I saw in the night visions,
 and behold, with the clouds of heaven
 there came one like a son of man,

and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.
¹⁴And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.

Silence for reflection.

Second Reading

Revelation 1:9–20

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. ¹⁹Write therefore the things that you

have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.
²⁰As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Silence for reflection.

Third Reading

John 3:11–18, 22–36

¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

²²After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing.

²³John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴(for John had not yet been put in prison).

²⁵Now a discussion arose between some of John’s disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him.” ²⁷John answered, “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ ²⁹The one who has

the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰He must increase, but I must decrease."

³¹He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. ³²He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. ³³Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. ³⁴For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. ³⁵The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Silence for reflection.

Responsory

LSB 255

L Into Your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

L You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

Office Hymn: *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

LSB 802

1 Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,

Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

3 To all life Thou givest—
to both great and small—
In all life Thou livest,
the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish—
but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee.

Homily: *“The Hand of the Lord Who Holds All Things”* *Rev. Gary Wright*

Stand

Prayer

- L** Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C listen to my cry.
- L** Keep me as the apple of Your eye;
C hide me in the shadow of Your wings.
- L** In righteousness I shall see You;
C when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

Collects

- L** Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.
- L** Lord Jesus, we confess our illusion of control, our attempts to wrest our lives from Your loving hands. Thank You for holding the whole world, and us, securely in Your grasp. Grant us faith to trust Your sovereign hand, even when we cannot see Your plan. Empower us to use our hands to serve our neighbors, knowing our eternal security is in You.
- C** Amen.
- L** Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our

wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

C 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.

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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 257

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

Nunc Dimittis

L Guide us waking, O Lord,
 and guard us sleeping
 that awake we may watch with Christ
 and asleep we may rest in peace.



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
 △ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,

Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and

va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
 in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
 Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

Benediction

LSB 259

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the
 Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.
C Amen.

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
 Lead me on, let me stand;
 I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 Through the storm, through the night,
 Lead me on to the light.
 Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

- 2 When my way grows drear,
 Precious Lord, linger near,
 When my life is almost gone,
 Hear my cry, hear my call;
 Hold my hand lest I fall.
 Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

- 3 When the darkness appears
 And the night draws near
 And the day is almost gone,
 At the river I stand;
 Guide my feet, hold my hand,
 Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

Acknowledgments

Compline from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.