

Lenten Evening Prayer

February 24, 2021



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

200 East Beidler Road King of Prussia, PA 19406

Rev. Roger W. Huffman
Pastor@PeaceWithGod.com
Pastor's cell: 610-256-5522

www.PeaceWithGod.com
Office@PeaceWithGod.com
Phone: 610-337-1997

THE HANDS OF THE PASSION

OPENING HYMN

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain | 106

1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho - ly moun-tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
 2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean-ness, Come de - filed, with -
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound-ed, par - a -
 4 He that drinks shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -

by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
 out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean-ness,
 lyzed, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

Flows to you, to me, to all, In a full, per -
 From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
 Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
 Break his cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
 make them white; You shall walk with God in light.
 will re - store; He that drinks shall thirst no more.
 deem - er died, Sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

M: O Lord, open my lips.

C: **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

M: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Refrain

Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O Lord;
re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

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 Tune: Michael Joncas. ©
1986 GIA Publications, Inc.,
Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com.
All rights reserved. Used by
permission. Reprinted under
OneLicense.net #A-712488

Refrain

Silence for meditation.

M: Gracious Father in heaven, in countless ways we have transgressed against you. But you have been merciful to us and have forgiven the guilt of our sin. Surround us with your unfailing love that we may rejoice in your great goodness now and forever; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

LESSON

Passion Reading 3

While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly Judas (one of the Twelve) arrived. With him was a large crowd with lanterns, torches, swords, and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people. **Judas was leading them.**

Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who are you looking for?"

"**Jesus the Nazarene**," they replied.

"I am he," Jesus told them.

Judas, the betrayer, was standing with them. When Jesus told them, "I am he," they backed away and fell to the ground.

Then Jesus asked them again, "Who are you looking for?"

“Jesus the Nazarene,” they said.

“I told you that I am he,” Jesus replied. “So if you are looking for me, let these men go.” This was to fulfill the statement he had spoken: **“I did not lose any of those you have given me.”**

Now the betrayer had given them a sign: **“The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him.”** Immediately he went to Jesus and said, **“Greetings, Rabbi!”** and kissed him.

Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

Then they advanced, took hold of Jesus, and arrested him. When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, **“Lord, should we strike with a sword?”** Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus.

But Jesus responded, “Stop! No more of this! Put your sword back into its place, because all who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you not realize that I could call on my Father, and at once he would provide me with more than twelve legions of angels? But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen this way?” **Then he touched the servant’s ear and healed him.**

At that same time Jesus said to the crowd, “Have you come out to arrest me with swords and clubs as if I were a robber? Day after day I was sitting in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets would be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The company of soldiers, their commander, and the Jewish guards arrested Jesus and bound him. First they led him to Annas, because he was father-in-law to Caiaphas, who was the high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews, **“It is better that one man die for the people.”**

Simon Peter and another disciple kept following Jesus. That disciple was known to the high priest, so he went into the high priest’s courtyard with Jesus. But Peter stood outside by the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out and talked to the girl watching the door and brought Peter in.

The servants and guards were standing around a fire of coals that they had made because it was cold. While they warmed themselves, Peter was standing with them, warming himself too.

One of the servant girls of the high priest came there. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked directly at him and said, **“You were also with Jesus the Galilean.”**

But he denied it in front of everyone, saying, “I don’t know what you are talking about. Woman, I do not know him.”

When Peter went out to the entryway, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, **“This is one of them. This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.”**

Again Peter denied it with an oath and said, “I do not know the man.”

After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, **“Surely you are also one of them, because even your accent gives you away. You are a Galilean!”**

Then he began to curse and to swear, “I do not know this man you are talking about! I do not know the man!”

At that very moment, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the Lord’s word, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows today you will deny me three times.” **He went outside, broke down, and wept bitterly.**

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I always taught in a synagogue or at the temple, where all the Jews gather. I said nothing in secret. Why are you questioning me? Ask those who heard what I told them. Look, they know what I said.”

When he said this, one of the guards standing there hit Jesus in the face. **“Is that how you answer the high priest?”** he demanded.

“If I said something wrong,” Jesus answered, “testify about what was wrong. But if I was right, why did you hit me?”

The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death. They found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward and said, **“This**

fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’” Yet even on this point, their testimony did not agree.

The high priest stood up and said to him, “Have you no answer? What is this that these men are testifying against you?” But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I place you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!”

Jesus said to him, “It is as you have said. But I tell you, soon you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, you have just heard the blasphemy! What do you think?”

They answered, “**He is deserving of death!**” Then some began to spit on him. They covered his face, struck him with their fists, and said, “**Prophesy to us, Christ! Who hit you?**” The guards also took him and beat him. And they went on saying many other blasphemous things against him.

M: This is the Passion History.

C: All we like sheep have gone astray,

M: and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

All: By his wounds we are healed.

HYMN

Jesus, My Great High Priest | 359

1 Je - sus, my great High Priest, Of - fered his blood and
2 To Christ, my sub - sti - tute, Will I com - mit my
3 My ad - vo - cate ap - pears For my de - fense on
4 Should all the hosts of death And pow'rs of hell un -

died; My guilt - y con - science seeks No sac - ri -
cause; He an - swers and ful - fills His Fa - ther's
high; A gra - cious Fa - ther hears And lays his
known Put their most dread - ful forms Of rage and

fice be - side. His pow'r - ful blood did once a -
bro - ken laws. Be - hold my soul at free - dom
thun - der by. Not all that hell or sin can
mis - chief on, I shall be safe, for Christ dis -

tone, And now it pleads be - fore the throne.
set— My Je - sus paid the dread - ful debt!
say Shall turn his heart, his love, a - way.
plays Su - pe - rior pow'r and guard - ian grace.

SERMON TEXT

Mark 14:55-65

⁵⁵ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for testimony against Jesus in order to put him to death, but they did not find any. ⁵⁶ Many testified falsely against him, but their testimonies did not agree. ⁵⁷ Some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: ⁵⁸ “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.’” ⁵⁹ Yet even on this point, their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰ The high priest stepped forward and questioned Jesus, “Have you no answer? What is this they are testifying against you?” ⁶¹ But Jesus was silent and did not answer anything. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?” ⁶² “I am,” Jesus said. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming with the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³ The high priest tore his robes and said, “Why do we need any more witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?” They all condemned him as being worthy of death. ⁶⁵ Then some began to spit on him. They covered his face and struck him with their fists, saying, “Prophesy!” The guards also took him and beat him.

SERMON

Hands of Hypocrisy (Caiaphas)

HYMN

Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow | 587

1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,
2 The rule of day is o - ver And shin - ing
3 Lord Je - sus, since you love me, Oh, spread your
4 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this

field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber
jew - els cov - er The heav - en's bound - less
wings a - bove me And shield me from a -
night will sure - ly From per - il guard your

lies. But you, my heart, a - wak - en,
blue. Thus I shall shine in - heav - en,
larm. Though Sa - tan would as - sail me,
heads. Sweet slum - bers may he send you

With prayer and song be tak - en;
Where crowns of gold are giv - en
Your mer - cy will not fail me;
And bid his hosts at - tend you

Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.
To all who faith - ful prove and true.
I rest in your pro - tect - ing arm.
And through the night watch o'er your beds.

OFFERING – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:*

Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

PRAYERS

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

- 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 mercy.**
- 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 mercy.**
- 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: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. 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.**

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: **Amen.**