

*Where in the world is God?  
Under Arrest*



**SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Bozeman, MT**

**Midweek Lent—March 10, 2021**

*Tonight's order of worship is an adapted version of the historic rite called Compline. It is the final service of the day before one retires for the night. This is a time for prayer and meditation. The believer finds peace in God's forgiveness and security under the shadow of His wings.*

## OPENING PRAYER

M: Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, Creator of the changes of day and night, giving rest to the weary, renewing the strength of those who are spent, giving us reason to sing in the evening. As You have protected us in the day that is past, so be with us in the coming night. Keep us from every sin, every evil, and every fear, for You are our light and salvation and the strength of our life. To You be the glory for endless ages.

C: **Amen.**

## OPENING RESPONSES

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

C: **Amen.**

M: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: **To sing praise to Your Name, O Most High;**

M: To herald Your love in the morning,

C: **Your truth at the close of day.**

M: Jesus, remember me when you come into Your kingdom.

C: **Jesus, remember me when you come into Your kingdom.**

## OPENING HYMN #117

*O Dearest Jesus*



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law have you bro - ken  
2 They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;  
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?  
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!  
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;



That such sharp sen - tence should on you be spo - ken?  
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge you;  
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must lan - guish;  
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;  
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



Of what great crime have you to make con -  
 They give you gall to drink, they still de -  
 Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you in -  
 The Mas - ter pays the debt his ser - vants  
 We for - feit - ed our lives, yet are ac -



fes - sion— What dark trans - gres - sion?  
 cry you; They cru - ci - fy you.  
 her - it, This I do mer - it.  
 owe him, Who would not know him.  
 quit - ted— God is com - mit - ted.

6 I'll think upon your mercy without ceasing,  
 That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;  
 To do your will shall be my sole endeavor  
 Henceforth forever.

7 And when, dear Lord, before your throne in heaven  
 To me the crown of joy at last is given,  
 Where sweetest hymns your saints forever raise you,  
 I too shall praise you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

*A moment of silence for self-examination*

## ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

<sup>17</sup> Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. <sup>18</sup> They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. <sup>19</sup> But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. <sup>20</sup> “Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people the full message of this new life.” <sup>21</sup> At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. <sup>22</sup> But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, <sup>23</sup> “We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside.” <sup>24</sup> On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were puzzled, wondering what would come of this. <sup>25</sup> Then someone came and said, “Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people.” <sup>26</sup> At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. <sup>27</sup> Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. <sup>28</sup> “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.” <sup>29</sup> Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men! <sup>30</sup> The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. <sup>32</sup> We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

I My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
me, Love to the love - less shown That they might  
love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my  
sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

4. **Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run; He gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
Themselves displease And 'gainst him rise.**
7. **Here might I stay and sing; No story so divine,  
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise  
I all my days Could gladly spend!**

**SERMON****John 18:1-12**

When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, and he and his disciples went into it. <sup>2</sup> Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup> So Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons. <sup>4</sup> Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?" <sup>5</sup> "Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "I am he," Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) <sup>6</sup> When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup> Again he asked them, "Who is it you want?" And they said, "Jesus of

Nazareth.” <sup>8</sup> “I told you that I am he,” Jesus answered. “If you are looking for me, then let these men go.” <sup>9</sup> This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: “I have not lost one of those you gave me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) <sup>11</sup> Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?” <sup>12</sup> Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus.

## PRAYERS

M: Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night,

**C: So that we who are wearied by the changes and chaos of this fleeting world may rest in Your eternal changelessness.**

M: O God our Father, by Your mercy and might, the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light.

**C: We place into Your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what You bless will prosper.**

M: To Your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love,

**C: Knowing that You alone are our sure Defender.**

M: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who watch or work or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep.

**C: Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, pity the afflicted, soothe the suffering, bless the dying – all for Your love’s sake.**

M: Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,

**C: That awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE 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.**

## BLESSING

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son (+), and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us this night and always.

C: Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN #587 (vv.1,3,4)

## *Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow*



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,  
3 Lord Je - sus, since you love me, Oh, spread your  
4 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



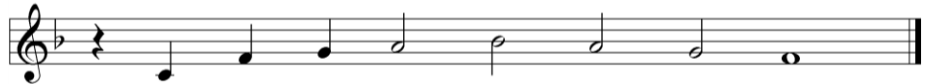
field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber  
wings a - bove me And shield me from a -  
night will sure - ly From per - il guard your



lies. But you, my heart, a - wak - en,  
larm. Though Sa - tan would as - sail me,  
heads. Sweet slum - bers may he send you



With prayer and song be tak - en;  
Your mer - cy will not fail me;  
And bid his hosts at - tend you



Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.  
I rest in your pro - tect - ing arm.  
And through the night watch o'er your beds.

## ***LENTEN SERMON SERIES - Where in the World is God?***

**Marth 17<sup>th</sup> - On Trial**

**March 24<sup>th</sup> - Under the Whip**