Only Jesus... Can Make Us Look Up on the Last Day



SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH Bozeman, MT

Midweek Lent—April 1, 2020

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.

To watch and participate in the service <u>click here</u>:

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.



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.

THE PASSION HISTORY

Matthew 27:27-66

²⁷Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort¹ of soldiers around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. ²⁹They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head.

³¹After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. ³²As they were going out of the city, they found a man of Cyrene named Simon. They forced him to carry Jesus' cross. ³³They came to a place called Golgotha, which means, "The place of the skull." ³⁴They offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵After they had crucified him, they divided his clothing among themselves by casting lots. ³⁶Then they sat down and were keeping watch over him there. ³⁷Above his head they posted the written charge against him: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

¹27 A Roman *cohort* was about six hundred soldiers.

³⁸At the same time two criminals were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹People who passed by kept insulting him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰and saying, "You who were going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!"

⁴¹In the same way the chief priests, experts in the law, and elders kept mocking him. They said, ⁴²"He saved others, but he cannot save himself. If he's the King of Israel, let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now, if he wants him, because he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴In the same way even the criminals who were crucified with him kept insulting him.

⁴⁵From the sixth hour until the ninth hour,² there was darkness over all the land. ⁴⁶About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, *"Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?"* which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"³

⁴⁷When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "This fellow is calling for Elijah."

⁴⁸Immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, and soaked it with sour wine. Then he put it on a stick and gave him a drink. ⁴⁹The rest said, "Leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

⁵⁰After Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. ⁵¹Suddenly, the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and rocks were split. ⁵²Tombs were opened, and many bodies of saints who had fallen asleep were raised to life. ⁵³Those who came out of the tombs went into the holy city after Jesus' resurrection and appeared to many people. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were guarding Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they were terrified and said, "Truly this was the Son of God."

⁵⁵Many women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and who had served him were there, watching from a distance. ⁵⁶Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named

²45 From noon to 3 PM

³46 Psalm 22:1

Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered that it be given to him. ⁵⁹Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb that he had cut in the rock. He rolled a large stone over the tomb's entrance and left. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶²On the next day, which was the day after the Preparation Day, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered in the presence of Pilate ⁶³and said, "Sir, we remembered what that deceiver said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise again.' ⁶⁴So give a command that the tomb be made secure until the third day. Otherwise his disciples might steal his body and tell the people, 'He is risen from the dead.' And this last deception will be worse than the first."

⁶⁵Pilate said to them, "You have a guard. Go, make it as secure as you know how." ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and posting a guard.



There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

HYMN #114 (vv.1,7)

Christ, The Life of All the Living

- Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death, of death, our foe, Who, thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe — Through thy suff rings, death and merit I eternal life inherit. Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
- 7. Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For thy sorrows deep and sore, For thine anguish in the garden, I will thank thee evermore, Thank thee for thy groaning, sighing, For thy bleeding and thy dy'ing, For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise thee, Lord, on high.

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. Amen.



Announcements

You can send your **offerings** to the Lord via mail: 1710 Vaquero Parkway, Bozeman MT 59718

or

by setting up direct deposit through our secure giving site by <u>clicking here</u>.

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