

The congregation assembles in silence.

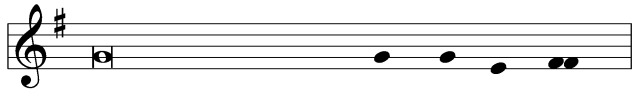
Kneel/Stand



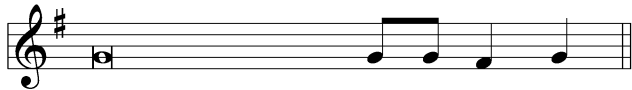
L The Lord Almighty grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



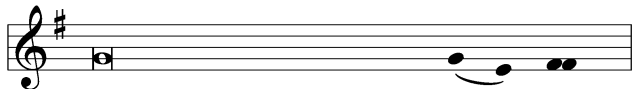
C A - men.



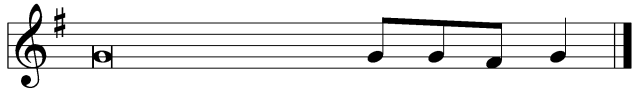
L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,



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



L to herald Your love in the morn - ing,



C Your truth at the close of the day.

Confession

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

Silence for self-examination.

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 32

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

³For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away*
through my groaning | all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me;*
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.

⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from | trouble;*
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way | you should go,*
I will counsel you with my eye up- | on you.

⁹Be not like a horse or a mule, without under- | standing,*
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay | near you.

¹⁰Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O | righteous,*
and shout for joy, all you up- | right in heart!

Sit

880 Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,
2 The ra - diant sun has van - ished, Its gold - en
3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in
4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your
5 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.
rays are ban - ished From dark - 'ning skies of night;
star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un-known;
wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.
night will sure - ly From per - il guard your heads.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic
But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our
And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish
Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing
Sweet slum - bers may He send you And bid His hosts at -



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.
sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.
be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.
o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.
tend you And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517
Text and tune: Public domain

Readings from Holy Scripture

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

⁷Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,

¹²like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,
and your years will have no end.”

¹³And to which of the angels has he ever said,

“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

Silence for reflection.

Responsory

LSB 255



L In-to Your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spir - it.



C In-to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



L You have re - deemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

C In - to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

L Glory be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

C In - to Your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

Lenten Catechesis

759 This Body in the Grave We Lay

1 This bod - y in the grave we lay There to a -
 2 And so to earth we now en - trust What came from
 3 The soul for - ev - er lives with God, Who free - ly
 4 All tri - als and all griefs are past, A bless - ed

wait that sol - emn day When God Him - self shall
 dust and turns to dust And from the dust shall
 hath His grace be - stowed And through His Son re -
 end has come at last. Christ's yoke was borne with

bid it rise To mount tri - um - phant to the skies.
 rise that day In glo - rious tri - umph o'er de - cay.
 deemed it here From ev - 'ry sin, from ev - 'ry fear.
 read - y will; Who di - eth thus is liv - ing still.

5 We have no cause to mourn or weep;
 Securely shall this body sleep
 Till Christ Himself shall death destroy
 And raise the blessèd dead to joy.

6 Then let us leave this place of rest
 And homeward turn, for they are blest
 Who heed God's warning and prepare
 Lest death should find them unaware.

7 So help us, Jesus, ground of faith;
 Thou hast redeemed us by Thy death
 From endless death and set us free.
 We laud and praise and worship Thee.

Text: tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873-1964; (sts. 1-6): Michael Weisse, c. 1480-1534; (st. 7): Gesangbuch, 1540, Magdeburg
 Tune: Neue deutsche geistliche Gesenge, 1544, Wittenberg
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 Tune: Public domain

Meditation on the Priestly Ministry of Our Lord Jesus Christ through Life and Death

Kneel/Stand

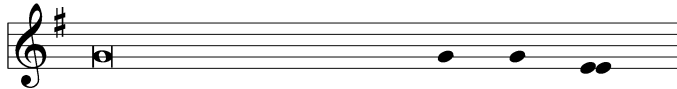
Prayer



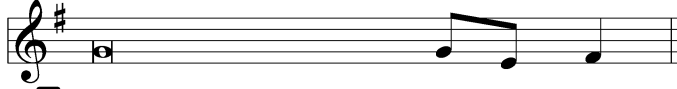
L Hear my prayer, O Lord;



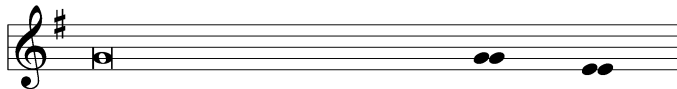
C listen to my cry.



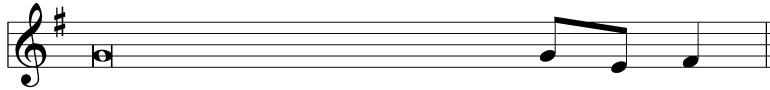
L Keep me as the apple of Your eye;



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.

One or more of the following are prayed.

- L** Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L** 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.
- L** 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.
- L** Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- 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.
- L** 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.



C A - men.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Antiphon

L Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing
that a - wake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

C Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful - filled.
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have prepared
in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to reveal You to the na - tions
and the glory of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the
Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for -
Antiphon
ev - er. A - men. Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,

and guard us sleep - ing that a - wake we may
 watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

Benediction

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Fa - ther, the † Son,
 and the Holy Spir - it, bless us and keep us.
C A - men.

708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om
 bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And
 in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in
 peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -
 tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Compline from Lutheran Service Book

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