

### Prayers before Any Office

Grant, O Lord, that what we say with our lips we may believe in our hearts and practice in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Thy holy Name; cleanse my heart from all vain, foolish, wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding; enkindle my affections that I may say this office with attention and devotion and so may be meet to be heard before the presence of Thy divine majesty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Prayers after Any Office

Guide us, O Lord, in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help that in all our work begun, continued, and ended in Thee we may glorify Thy holy Name and finally by Thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

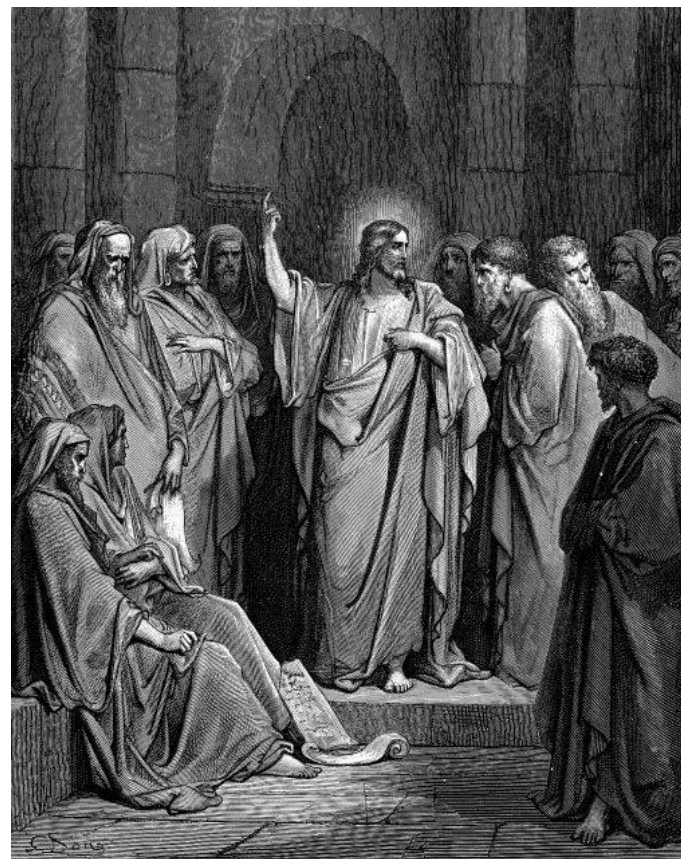
To Thee, O Lord, I commend the service which I, an unworthy sinner, have offered up unto Thee, God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and according to the fulness of Thy love and wisdom fulfill my petitions; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Collect for Judica

We beseech Thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon Thy people, that by Thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

### Collect for the Season of Lent

Almighty and Everlasting God, our Father, Who hatest nothing that Thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of Thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



Midweek Lenten Vespers  
March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.**

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*“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.” St. Matthew 10:34*

## The Office of Vespers

### The Ringing of the Bell

#### Silent Prayer

**The Hymn**                    *“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”*                    TLH 153

*Stand*

**The Opening Versicles**                    TLH p. 41

**The Psalmody**                    Psalm 27                    INSERT

*Sit*

**The Lection**                    1 Corinthians 1:21-31

St. Matthew 10:32-42

**The Response**                    *(After each reading)*                    TLH p. 42

**The Hymn**                    *“Our Blessed Savior Seven Times Spoke”*                    TLH 177

**The Sermon**                    *He Who Loses His Life for My Sake Will Find It*

**Recitation of the Catechism**                    Christian Questions with Their Answers

#### The Offering

**The Office Hymn**                    *“Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing”*                    TLH 144

*Stand*

**The Versicle**                    TLH p. 43

**The Canticle**                    *“The Magnificat” (Omit Gloria Patri)*                    TLH p. 43

**The Litany**                    INSERT

**The Salutation**                    TLH p. 45

**The Collect for the Day**                    Back Cover

**Other Collects** *(if necessary)*

**The Collect for Peace**                    TLH p. 45

**The Litany Collect**                    INSERT

**The Benedicamus**                    TLH p. 45

**The Benediction**                    TLH p. 45

#### Silent Prayer

## 1 Corinthians 1:21-31

<sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

<sup>22</sup> For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. <sup>27</sup> But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; <sup>28</sup> and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, <sup>29</sup> that no flesh should glory in His presence. <sup>30</sup> But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—<sup>31</sup> that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.”

## St. Matthew 10:32-42

<sup>32</sup> “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. <sup>34</sup> Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; <sup>36</sup> and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’ <sup>37</sup> He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. <sup>38</sup> And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. <sup>39</sup> He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it. <sup>40</sup> He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. <sup>41</sup> He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. <sup>42</sup> And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

## Psalm 27



P: THE **LORD** - || is my light and my salvation; Whom | shall | I | fear?

**C:** The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall | I | **be** - | a- | fraid?

P: || When the wicked came against me to eat up my flesh, my ene- | mies | and | foes,

**C:** They | stum- | **bled** - | and | fell.

P: || Though an army may encamp against me, my heart | shall | not | fear;

**C:** Though war should rise against me, in this I will | be | **con**- - | fi- | dent.

P: || One thing I have desired of the Lord, that | will | I | seek:

**C:** That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire | in | **His** - | tem- | ple.

P: || For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His | pa- | vi- | lion;

**C:** In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high | up- | **on** - | a | rock.

P: || And now my head shall be lifted *up* (+) above my enemies all | a- | round | me;

**C:** Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing prais- | es | **to** - | the | Lord.

P: || Hear, O Lord, when I cry | with | my | voice!

**C:** Have mercy also upon me, | and | **ans**- - | wer | me.

P: || When You said, | “Seek | My | face,” \*

**C:** My heart said to You, “Your face, | Lord, | **I** - | will | seek.”

P: || Do not hide Your face from *me*; (+) Do not turn Your servant away | in | an- | ger; \*

**C:** You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of | my | **sal**- - | va- | tion.

P: || When my father and my mother | for- | sake | me,

**C:** Then the Lord will | take | **care** - | of | me.

P: || Teach me Your | way, | O | Lord,

**C:** And lead me in a smooth path, because of | my | **en**- - | e- | mies.



P: || Do not deliver me to the will of my ad- | ver- | sa- | ries;

**C:** For false witnesses have risen against me, and such as breathe | out | **vi**- - | o- | lence.

P: || I would | have | lost | heart,

**C:** Unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land | of | **the** - | liv- | ing.

P: || Wait on the Lord; Be of good cour-*age*, (+) and He shall streng- | then | your | heart;

**C:** Wait, I | say, | **on** - | the | Lord!

P: || The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom | shall | I | fear?

**C:** The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall | I | **be** - | a- | fraid?

### **TLH 153 “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”**

Thomas Kelly, 1804

1. Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
See Him dying on the tree!  
‘Tis the Christ by man rejected;  
Yes, my soul, ‘tis He! ‘tis He!  
‘Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
David’s Son, yet David’s Lord;  
Proofs I see sufficient of it:  
‘Tis the True and Faithful Word.

2. Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like His?  
Friends thro’ fear His cause disowning,  
Foes insulting His distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound Him,  
None would interpose to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him  
Was the stroke that Justice gave.

3. Ye who think of sin but lightly  
Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the Sacrifice appointed,  
See Who bears the awful load;  
‘Tis the WORD, the LORD’S ANOINTED,  
Son of Man and Son of God.

4. Here we have a firm foundation,  
Here the refuge of the lost;  
Christ’s the Rock of our salvation,  
His the Name of which we boast.  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded  
Who on Him their hope have built. Amen.

### **TLH 177 “Our Blessed Savior Seven Times Spoke”**

Johann Böschenstain, c. 1515

1. Our blessed Savior sev’n times spoke  
When on the cross our sins He took  
And died lest man should perish.  
Let us His last and dying words  
In our remembrance cherish.

2. “Father, forgive these men, for, lo,  
They truly know not what they do.”  
So far His love extended.  
Forgive us, Lord, for we, too, have  
Thro’ ignorance offended.

3. Now to the contrite thief He cries:  
“Thou, verily, in Paradise  
Shalt meet Me ere tomorrow.”  
Lord, take us to Thy Kingdom soon  
Who linger here in sorrow.

4. To weeping Mary, standing by,  
“Behold thy son!” now hear him cry;  
To John, “Behold thy mother!”  
Provide, O Lord, for those we leave;  
Let each befriend the other.

5. The Savior’s fourth word was “I thirst!”  
O mighty Prince of Life, Thy thirst  
For us and our salvation  
Is truly great; do help us, then,  
That we escape damnation.

6. The fifth, “My God, My God, O why  
Forsake Me?” Hark, the awe-full cry!  
Lord, Thou wast here forsaken  
That we might be received on high;  
Let this hope not be shaken.

7. The sixth, when victory was won,  
“‘Tis finished!” for Thy work was done.  
Grant, Lord, that, onward pressing,  
We may the work Thou dost impose  
Fulfil with Thine own blessing.

8. The last, as woe and sufferings end,  
“O God, My Father, I commend  
Into Thy hands My spirit.”  
Be this, dear Lord, my dying wish;  
O heavenly Father, hear it.

9. Whoe’er, by sense of sin opprest,  
Upon these words his thoughts will rest,  
He joy and hope obtaineth  
And, through God’s love and boundless grace  
A peaceful conscience gaineth.

10. O Jesus Christ, Thou Crucified,  
Who hast for our offenses died,  
Grant that we e’er may ponder  
Thy wounds, Thy cross, Thy bitter death,  
Both here below and yonder. Amen.

### **TLH 144 “Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing”**

Johann Heermann, 1644, abridged

1. Jesus, grant that balm and healing  
In Thy holy wounds I find,  
Ev’ry hour that I am feeling

Pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil tho't within  
Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,  
Show the peril, and from sinning  
Keep me ere its first beginning.

2. Should some lust or sharp temptation  
Prove too strong for flesh and blood,  
Let me think upon Thy Passion,  
And the breach is soon made good.  
Or should Satan press me hard,  
Let me then be on my guard,  
Saying, "Christ for me was wounded,"  
That the Tempter flee confounded.

3. If the world my heart entices  
On the broad and easy road  
With it mirth and luring vices,  
Let me think upon the load  
Thou didst carry and endure  
That I flee all tho'ts impure,  
Banishing each wild emotion,  
Calm and blest in my devotion.

4. Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me,  
By Thy stripes, Lord, is made whole;  
When I'm faint, Thy Cross revives me,  
Granting new life to my soul.  
Yea, Thy comfort renders sweet  
Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;  
For Thy all-atoning Passion  
Has procured my soul's salvation.

5. O my God, my Rock and Tower,  
Grant that in Thy death I trust,  
Knowing Death has lost his power  
Since Thou trodd'st him in the dust.  
Savior, let Thine agony  
Ever help and comfort me;  
When I die, be my Protection,  
Light and Life and Resurrection. Amen.