

# The Sounds of Lent

“Consider carefully how you *listen*” (Jesus, in Luke 8:18).

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Evening Prayer for March 7, 2018

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HYMN 106

*Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain*

*All rise after the opening hymn.*

*Our service: Evening Prayer. For music, see page 52 in the hymnal.*

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.** (*All are seated.*)

C: (*♩ — for melody see page 55 in hymnal*) **Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. O Lord, I call to you. Come to me quickly. Hear my voice, when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

*after brief silence for meditation:*

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

PSALM 22:1–21

*We sing a paraphrase*

1. *soloist:* The shekels clink, the rooster crows:  
Does Judas hear? Or Peter?  
Volcanic crowds demand his death  
As angels gasp in wonder.  
The splash of Pilate’s water bowl,  
The wailing of the women —  
The sounds of Lent arrest my soul  
And swell the Savior’s questions:
2. *all:* **My God, my God, I plead with you:  
Why am I left, forsaken?  
I cry by day; why are you far?  
By night — no answer, again.  
If you’re the Holy One, enthroned —  
In you our fathers trusted —  
Why am I like the lowest worm?  
Why lay me in the dust, dead?**
3. **Why all the insults, all the scorn,  
While every head is shaking:  
“He trusted in the Lord, his God!  
So let the Lord now save him!”  
You took me from my mother’s womb!  
My God you were — no missteps.  
From birth I have been thrown on you;  
Do not be far. No one helps.**
4. **The strongest bulls encircle me,  
The loudest dogs, and lions  
Who tear their prey. Why do they roar?  
Why sharpest horns of oxen?  
Men stab my hands, they pierce my feet,  
My bones are all disjointed.  
They gamble for my meager clothes.  
Why is my death appointed?**

*Silence is kept for meditation.*

M: Father in heaven, when your Son hung on the cross, he cried out to you in agony and grief and you gave him the endurance to destroy death and restore eternal life for us. Grant us peace through our Savior all our days, and keep us in true faith in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.** *(spoken)*

MARK 14:43-65

M: Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.<sup>44</sup> Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them:

B: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”

M:<sup>45</sup> Going at once to Jesus, Judas said,

B: “Rabbi!”

M: and kissed him.<sup>46</sup> The men seized Jesus and arrested him.<sup>47</sup> Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

J:<sup>48</sup> “Am I leading a rebellion,”

M: said Jesus,

J: “that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me?

<sup>49</sup> Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.”

M:<sup>50</sup> Then everyone deserted him and fled.

<sup>51</sup> A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him,<sup>52</sup> he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.

<sup>53</sup> They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, elders and teachers of the law came together.<sup>54</sup> Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire.

M:<sup>55</sup> The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any.<sup>56</sup> Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree.

<sup>57</sup> Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him:

C:<sup>58</sup> **“We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this man-made temple and in three days will build another, not made by man.’”**

M:<sup>59</sup> Yet even then their testimony did not agree.<sup>60</sup> Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

H: “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?”

M:<sup>61</sup> But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him,

H: “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?”

J:<sup>62</sup> “I am,”

M: said Jesus.

J: “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

M:<sup>63</sup> The high priest tore his clothes.

H: “Why do we need any more witnesses?”

M: he asked.

H:<sup>64</sup> “You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?”

M: They all condemned him as worthy of death.<sup>65</sup> Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said,

C: **“Prophesy!”**

M: And the guards took him and beat him.

HYMN 115

*He Stood Before the Court*

SERMON on Matthew 27:24, *The Sounds of Lent, #4:*

THE SPLASHING OFF THE WATER

When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing and that instead it was turning into a riot, he took water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, “I am innocent of this righteous man’s blood. It is your responsibility.”

OFFERING AND SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

2018 LENT THEME HYMN

*How Deep the Father’s Love for Us  
sung during offering by soloists*

1. How deep the Father’s love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That he should give his only Son  
To make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss -  
The Father turns his face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.
2. Behold the man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life —  
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
But this I know with all my heart —  
His wounds have paid my ransom.

PRAYERS

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

C: **(J) Lord, have mercy.**

M: For every Pilate today, trying to wash his or her hands; 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: **(J) Christ, have mercy.**

M: For Christians who have recently become engaged to be married, for Fran Gleason as he undergoes a heart procedure, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

C: **(J) Lord, have mercy.**

M: For Sheriff Lange, local sheriff’s deputies, county personnel who serve us in St. Peter and for all 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: **(J) Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For our organ repairs to go well, for favorable weather and safe roads, 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: **(J) 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.**

C: **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.**

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 are 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.** (*spoken*)

C: (♩ — *melody on page 61*) **In peace, Lord,  
you let your servant now depart  
according to your word.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared for every people,  
A light to lighten the Gentiles,  
And the glory of your people Israel.**

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.**

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*Our thanks to Pastor Matt Moldstad of Peace Lutheran in Mankato for conducting our service. This is the first time Pastor Moldstad has preached at Trinity.*

*Thanks also to Dinah Spurgin, our pianist; to our singers, Susie Blaalid, Nancy Finch and Mandi Russow; to those who spoke during our Scripture lesson, to our ushers, to those who helped with video streaming and to all who helped with tonight's meal.*

*Pastor Witte was at Peace tonight.*

*Next week's Sound of Lent will be "The Shouting of the Crowd," with a sermon by Vicar Zach Steinke of St. Paul's Lutheran in Mankato, based on Matthew 27:21–23. Please return for the 5:30–6:30 p.m. meal and the 7:00 p.m. service.*

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