



Devoted: “Keep Watch with Me”

March 25, 2026 A.D. + 6:30 p.m. + Zion Lutheran Church + Wausau, Wisconsin

Midweek Preaching Series:

DEVOTED: Praying Day by Day

Every Wednesday in Lent + 12:15 and 6:30 PM

Devoted: Praying Day by Day

Lord, teach us to pray. With our Lord, we will seek a deeper and more focused practice of daily prayer. Our guide will be Holy Scripture and the Daily Prayers provided in the Small Catechism. They teach us to mark morning, evening, and mealtime with remembrance of Holy Baptism, the Word of God, petition, and thanksgiving.

February 18: Practicing Your Righteousness

February 25: Keep Me This Day: Morning Prayer

March 4: Keep Me This Night: Evening Prayer

March 11: Table Prayer: Asking for a Blessing

March 18: Table Prayer: Returning Thanks

March 25: Keep Watch with Me

THE LITURGY OF VESPERS

PRELUDE

"Suite Evocatrice"

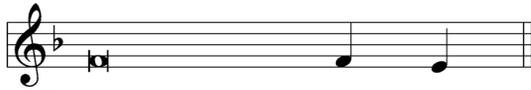
... Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

RINGING OF THE BELLS

*After the bells have rung, please stand and face the back.
The Paschal Candle, symbolizing Christ, is carried into the congregation.*

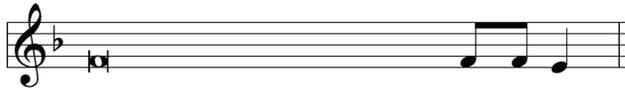
SERVICE OF LIGHT

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time;



C now is the day of sal - va - tion.

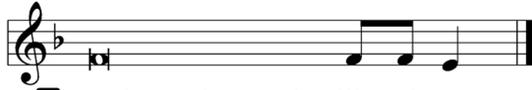
P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,



C that the light of Your face may shine on us.

*The opening responses
are sung a cappella,
(without organ
accompaniment).*

P: May your justice shine like the sun;



C and may the poor be lift - ed up.

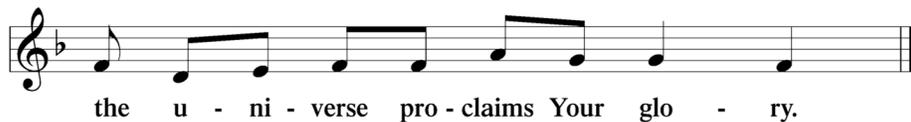
P: Joyous light of glory:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bles - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



P: Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Please kneel.

PSALMODY *Psalm 141*



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice

when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.

Strip me not of my life.



Silence for reflection.

P: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

PSALMODY *Psalm 55:4-8, 16-19, 22*

P: My heart is in anguish within me;

C: **the terrors of death have fallen upon me.**

P: Fear and trembling come upon me, and horror overwhelms me.

C: **And I say, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest;**

P: yes, I would wander far away; I would lodge in the wilderness;

C: **I would hurry to find a shelter from the raging wind and tempest."**

P: But I call to God, and the LORD will save me.

C: **Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice.**

P: He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage, for many are arrayed against me.

C: **God will give ear and humble them, he who is enthroned from of old, because they do not change and do not fear God.**

P: Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;

C: **he will never permit the righteous to be moved.**

Silence for reflection.

PSALM PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, you were rejected by your people, betrayed by the kiss of a friend, and deserted by your disciples. In our trouble, give us the confidence that you had in the Father and the assurance of our salvation now and forever.

C: **Amen**

HYMN "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

... LSB #780

LESSON Mark 14:32-42

³²And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. ³⁴And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." ³⁵And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." ³⁷And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ³⁹And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. ⁴¹And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN "Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray"

... LSB #663

SERMON "Keep Watch with Me"

VERSICLES

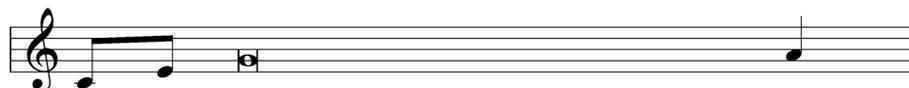
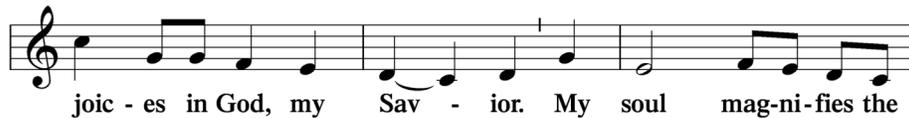
P: In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C: **But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.**

Please stand.

MAGNIFICAT

Refrain

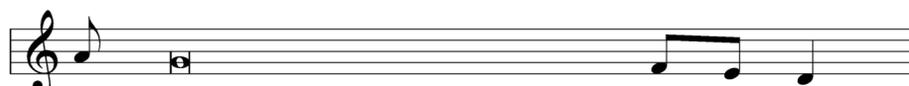


1 For _____ He has re - garded

2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,

3 He has shown strength with His arm;

4 He has filled the hungry with good things,

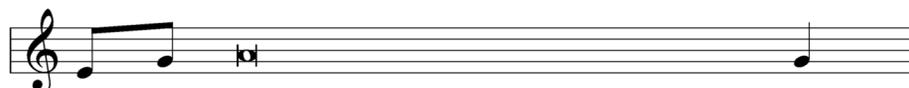


1 the lowliness of His hand - maiden.

2 and holy is His name;

3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.

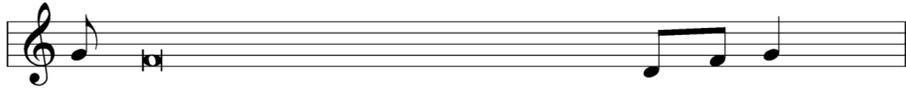


1 For be - hold, from this day

2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him

3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones

4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy



- 1 all generations will call me blessèd.
- 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
- 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
- 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.

Please kneel.

LITANY

Each petition will end with "let us pray to the Lord," to which the congregation responds,



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: *(silence for meditation)*

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



C To You, O Lord.

EVENING PRAYER



P: I thank you, my heavenly | Father*,
C: through Jesus Christ, | your dear Son,

that you have | graciously*
kept | me this day;

and I pray that you would forgive me all my sins where I | have done
wrong*,
and graciously keep | me this night.

For into your hands I com - | mend myself*,
my body and soul, | and all things.

Let your holy angel | be with me*,
that the evil foe may have no power over me. | Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us 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**

Please stand.

BENEDICAMUS

L: Let us bless the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

L: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.



☐ A - men.

HYMN "Abide with Me"



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

POSTLUDE

"Priere" ("Prayer")

... Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

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Serving at Worship

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Organist: Kantor Jacob Drengler

Acolyte: Eulalia Ray

Ushers: Jayda Beilke, Kenli Kulesa, Harley Renken

Church Offerings may be placed in the wall-box to the left of the chapel chancel.

Acknowledgements

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