

SPRUCE RUN LUTHERAN CHURCH – LENTEN VESPERS – MARCH 1, 2023

OPENING DIALOGUE

Almighty God grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

Amen.

By day, O God,

you grant your steadfast love,

And at night your song is with me,

a prayer to the God of my life.

LBW#272 "ABIDE WITH ME"

VERSE 1



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

EVENING SUFFRAGES

Show us your mercy, O God,
and grant us your salvation.

Give us the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Give peace in all the world;
for only in you can we live in safety.

Keep the nations under your care,
and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;
your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

WORD

PSALMODY

ALL:

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

CANTOR:

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I cry to you.

ALL:

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

CANTOR:

Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.
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. But my eyes are
turned to you, Lord God; in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.

ALL:

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

CANTOR:

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

ALL:

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

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.

Amen.

PSALM 25:1-21

To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
 nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
 rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**Show me your ways, O LORD,
 and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
 for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
 for they are from everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
 remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
 therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

You lead the lowly in justice
 and teach the lowly your way.

**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
 to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

For your name's sake, O LORD,
 forgive my sin, for it is great.

**Who are they who fear the LORD?
 You will teach them the way that they should choose.**

They shall dwell in prosperity,
 and their offspring shall inherit the land.

**You, LORD, are a friend to those who fear you,
 and will show them your covenant.**

My eyes are ever looking to you, O LORD,
 for you will pluck my feet out of the net.

**Turn to me and have pity on me,
for I am left alone and in misery.**

The sorrows of my heart have increased;
bring me out of my troubles.

**Look upon my adversity and misery
and forgive me all my sin.**

Look upon my enemies, for they are many,
and they bear a violent hatred against me.

**Protect my life and deliver me;
let me not be put to shame, for I have trusted in you.**

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for my hope has been in you.

SILENCE FOR MEDITATION

ROMANS 5:12-19

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

HOMILY

LBW#272 "ABIDE WITH ME"

VERSE 2 & 3

CONFESSION

Holy and gracious God,

I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. We rest now in his peace and rise in the morning to serve him.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

LBW#272 "ABIDE WITH ME"

VERSE 4 & 5

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.