

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

205 E. 7th St. Lexington, NE 68850

(308) 324-4341 www.tlclex.org

Senior Pastor Rob Kuefner rkuefner@tlclex.org (308) 746-2270

Visitation Pastor Bill Ohlmann wohlmann@tlclex.org (308) 325-0069

Administrative Assistant Maria Rodriguez mrodriguez@tlclex.org

Supported Missionaries Rev. Chuck Ferry and Family & Chelsea Irwin

"Equipping Disciples to Make Disciples for Jesus"



Lenten Midweek 1

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 6:15 p.m.

RETURN TO PRAYER

AS WE GATHER

The season of Lent is a time for self-examination and repentance, and it is a time for prayer. "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire . . . the Christian's vital breath," penned hymnwriter James Montgomery (TLH 454:1, 5). But sometimes that holy conversation is interrupted or sidelined from a place of priority in our lives. Even our Lord's closest disciples did not serve Him faithfully as watchers and prayers with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. In this holy season, we return to prayer, treasuring the opportunity to pray without ceasing and leading prayerful lives that reflect the mercy of our heavenly Father, who hears our supplications and responds to them in love.

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN

Now the Light Has Gone Away

LSB #887



1 Now the light has gone a - way; Fa - ther, lis - ten while I pray,
2 Je - sus, Sav - ior, wash a - way All that has been wrong to - day;
3 Let my near and dear ones be Al - ways near and dear to Thee;
4 Now my eve - ning praise I give; Thou didst die that I might live.
5 Thou, my best and kind - est Friend, Thou wilt love me to the end.



Ask - ing Thee to watch and keep And to send me qui - et sleep.
Help me ev - 'ry day to be Good and gen - tle, more like Thee.
O bring me and all I love To Thy hap - py home a - bove.
All my bless - ings come from Thee; Oh, how good Thou art to me!
Let me love Thee more and more, Al - ways bet - ter than be - fore.

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Joel 2:13; Colossians 4:2; Philippians 4:5-6

- P** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
- C** **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

- P** Continue steadfastly in prayer,
- C** **being watchful in it with thanksgiving.**

- P** The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything,
- C** **but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us make our confession to our God, seeking His grace and forgiveness. Together we sing stanza 1 of the hymn "Lord, to You I Make Confession."

HYMN OF CONFESSION

"Lord, to You I Make Confession"

LSB #608 V. 1

I Lord, to You I make con - fes - sion: I have sinned and
gone a - stray, I have mul - ti - plied trans - gres - sion,
Cho - sen for my - self my way. Led by You to
see my er - rors, Lord, I trem - ble at Your ter - rors.

Text and tune: Public domain

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

PSALM

Psalm 121

- P** I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
- C** **My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**
- P** He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.
- C** **Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**
- P** The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
- C** **The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**
- P** The LORD will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.

C The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God our Father, who in mercy hears all who call on You, graciously open Your ears to our petitions, and lead us by Your Spirit, that without doubting we may persevere in prayer and believingly await Your promised aid; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 32:22–30 (ESV)

A The Old Testament Reading for Ash Wednesday is from Genesis, the thirty-second chapter.

²² The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷ And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 8:22-28 (ESV)

A The Epistle is from Romans, the eighth chapter.

²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope

we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:36–46 (ESV)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." ³⁹ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." ⁴⁰ And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴² Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." ⁴³ And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵ Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

LSB #663



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -
 2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find
 3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat
 4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -
 5 But while watch - ing, al - so pray To the Lord un - ceas -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -
 you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and
 you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and
 fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy
 ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and faith in -



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a
 blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -
 cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less
 sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your
 creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.
 cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.
 friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.
 hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.
 nite to serve Him And for - ev - er love Him.

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SERMON

Return to Prayer

Matthew 26:36-46

OFFERING (*Offering and attendance cards can be placed in basket at the back.*)

PRAYERS OF THE DAY

- P** God our Father, You promise to hear our prayers, whether spoken or even too deep for words.
- G** **During these Lenten days, breathe the breath of Your Spirit into our mouths, that we learn to pray without ceasing;**

- P** Faithful God, through the ancient prophets You call us to return to You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- C** **Let these Lenten days be a time when, remembering how You relentlessly return to us in mercy, we return also to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**
- P** Ever-present God, stay with us, for darkness has come and the day is now past. Forgive, we pray, both our neglect in doing good this day and the wrongs we have done.
- C** **Awaken us in the morning, bathed in the light of our Baptism, so that we will be ready to love and serve You and our neighbor;**
- P** God our strength, the peace You provide through the cross of Christ flows like a river through the chaos of our lives. Lead us to drink deeply from the still waters of Your peace, and thereby dispel our anxieties and fears, so that we may serve you with humility and grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

CLOSING COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, 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 commend 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.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN*Lord of All Hopefulness***LSB #738**

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:
 Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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Preacher: Pastor Rob Kuefner
 Liturgist: Pastor Bill Ohlmann
 Pianist/Organist: Chuck Messerschmidt