



The Service of Vespers for
THE SIXTH WEDNESDAY OF LENT
March 20, 2024

Hymn of Invocation

LSB 587

Stand

Opening Versicles

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(Please note that the Lent ascription of praise is used)

Psalmody

Psalm 32:1-11 Antiphon vs. 5,6

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity; *
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found; *
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given, *
whose sin is | covered.

²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity, *
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

³For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away *
through my groaning | all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me; *
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity; *
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found; *
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.

⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from | trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way | you should go; *
I will counsel you with my eye up- | on you.

⁹Be not like a horse or a mule, without under- | standing; *
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay | near you.

¹⁰Many are the sorrows of the | wicked; *
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O | righteous; *
and shout for joy, all you up- | right in heart!

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity; *
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found; *
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.

Office Hymn

LSB 688

The Catechism: The Third Article

Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

The Reading

Jonah 3:5-10

L A reading from Jonah, chapter 3.

⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.



The Reading

Luke 23:32-56

L A reading from Luke, chapter 23.

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?” ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, “Certainly this man was innocent!” ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

⁵⁰Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, ⁵¹who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. ⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. ⁵⁴It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments.

On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.**C** Thanks be to God.**Lent Responory**

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Sermon*“About Face”*

Jonah 3:5-10

Hymn

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The Canticle

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Kyrie

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Lord’s Prayer**Collect of the Day and Additional Collects****The Benedicamus and Benediction**

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Announcements**Closing Hymn**

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The Participants

The Preacher

Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols

The Organist

Mr. Stephen Johnson

Visitors, we welcome you.***Please sign the guest book and introduce yourself to the Pastor.******Also complete a blue attendance card located in the pews
and hand it to an usher on the way out.******We invite you to join us for Bible Study on Sundays
at 9:30 a.m. in the school gym.***

