



## MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE

### PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Midweek Lenten Worship Service

March 20, 2024

### THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Responsive Prayer 1, LSB page 282*

Silent Prayer / The Prelude

Call to Worship

*Peace Handbell Choir*

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

*– arr. by Frances L. Callahan*

The Hymn of Invocation

**# 665** *(Tune: LSB 804)*

*"Be Strong in the Lord"*

- 1 Be strong in the Lord  
In armor of light,  
With helmet and sword,  
With shield for the fight;  
On prayer be dependent,  
Be belted and shod,  
In breastplate resplendent:  
The armor of God.
- 2 Integrity gird  
You round to impart  
The truth of His Word  
As truth in your heart;  
His righteousness wearing  
As breastplate of mail,  
His victory sharing,  
Be strong to prevail.

- 3 With eagerness shod  
Stand firm in your place,  
Or go forth for God  
With news of His grace;  
No foe shall disarm you  
Nor force you to yield,  
No arrow can harm you  
With faith as your shield.
- 4 Though Satan presume  
To test you and try,  
In helmet and plume  
Your head shall be high;  
Beset by temptation  
Be true to your Lord,  
Your helmet salvation  
And Scripture your sword.
- 5 So wield well your blade,  
Rejoice in its pow'rs,  
Fight on undismayed  
For Jesus is ours!  
Then in Him victorious  
Your armor lay down,  
To praise, ever glorious,  
His cross and His crown.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926  
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#### The Invocation

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

#### The Opening Versicles

- L Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,  
C **have mercy and hear us.**

#### The 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.**

#### The Apostles' Creed

- C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

The Responsive Prayer: *Evening*

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L Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,  
C **and grant us Your salvation.**

L Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness;  
C **and let Your saints shout for joy.**

L Lord, keep this nation under Your care,  
C **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

L Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
C **for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.**

L Let the peoples praise You, O God;  
C **let all the peoples praise You!**

L For the needy shall not always be forgotten,  
C **and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.**

L Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
C **and renew a right spirit within me.**

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
C **let my cry come to You.**

The Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 119:9–16

P How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.

C **With my whole heart I seek you;  
let me not wander from your commandments!**

P I have stored up your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.

C **Blessèd are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!**

P With my lips I declare  
all the just decrees of your mouth.

C **In the way of your testimonies I delight  
as much as in all riches.**

P I will meditate on your precepts  
and fix my eyes on your ways.

C **I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.**

C **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.**

The Old Testament

**Jeremiah 26:20-24**

<sup>20</sup>There was another man who prophesied in the name of the LORD, Uriah the son of Shemaiah from Kiriath-jearim. He prophesied against this city and against this land in words like those of Jeremiah. <sup>21</sup>And when King Jehoiakim, with all his warriors and all the officials, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death. But when Uriah heard of it, he was afraid and fled and escaped to Egypt. <sup>22</sup>Then King Jehoiakim sent to Egypt certain men, Elnathan the son of Achbor and others with him, <sup>23</sup>and they took Uriah from Egypt and brought him to King Jehoiakim, who struck him down with the sword and dumped his dead body into the burial place of the common people.

<sup>24</sup>But the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah so that he was not given over to the people to be put to death.

The Hymn of the Day

**# 685**

*“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”*

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
Follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us  
And to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading,  
Pilgrims here, our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love,  
Let us do the Father’s bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide;  
I shall follow where You guide.
- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus  
And with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness;

Where He is, there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter,  
We shall reap celestial joy;  
All discomforts that annoy  
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share Your woe;  
Help me there Your joy to know.

- 3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.  
Since by death He conquered death,  
He will free us from destruction,  
Give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion  
That would lead us into sin;  
And the grave that shuts us in  
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here with You I die,  
There to live with You on high.
- 4 Let us also live with Jesus.  
He has risen from the dead  
That to life we may awaken.  
Jesus, You are now our head.  
We are Your own living members;  
Where You live, there we shall be  
In Your presence constantly,  
Living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be,  
Life eternal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.  
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The Sermon

**“What God’s People Owe Their Pastor”  
Jeremiah 26:20-24**

The Offertory Hymn

*“On My Heart Imprint Your Image”*

# 422

- 1 On my heart imprint Your image,  
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,  
That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures  
Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be:  
Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope’s foundation,  
And my glory and salvation!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt. Text: Public domain

The Prayer of the Church

- P Lord, in Your mercy,  
C **hear our prayer.**

The Closing Prayer: *Evening*

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- 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.**

The Benedicamus

- L Let us bless the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

The Blessing

- L The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
C **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

*“Let Me Be Thine Forever”*

# 689

- 1 Let me be Thine forever,  
My faithful God and Lord;  
Let me forsake Thee never  
Nor wander from Thy Word.  
Lord, do not let me waver,  
But give me steadfastness,  
And for such grace forever  
Thy holy name I’ll bless.
- 2 Lord Jesus, my salvation,  
My light, my life divine,  
My only consolation,  
O make me wholly Thine!  
For Thou hast dearly bought me  
With blood and bitter pain.  
Let me, since Thou hast sought me,  
Eternal life obtain.
- 3 And Thou, O Holy Spirit,  
My comforter and guide,  
Grant that in Jesus’ merit  
I always may confide,  
Him to the end confessing  
Whom I have known by faith.  
Give me Thy constant blessing  
And grant a Christian death.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92; (sts. 2–3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt Text: Public domain

Silent Prayer / The Postlude



## LENTEN CALENDAR

**March 28<sup>th</sup> — Lent Midweek 6, (7 PM)**

**Maundy Thursday**

“Caught Red-Handed”

(St. John 13:21-30)

**March 29<sup>th</sup> — Lent Midweek 7, (7 PM)**

**Good Friday Tenebrae Service**

**March 31<sup>st</sup> — The Resurrection of Our Lord:**

**Easter Sunrise, 7 AM**

**March 31<sup>st</sup> — The Resurrection of Our Lord:**

**Easter Day, 9 AM**

**March 31<sup>st</sup> — The Resurrection of Our Lord:**

**Easter Day, 12 PM (Hmong Worship)**