



"...For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17:20b

*-a congregation of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

*"Peace Conway is a loving Christian family, faithfully serving all people by sharing the good news of Jesus and caring for people in need."*

**6<sup>th</sup> Lenten Wednesday**

**March 25, 2026**

## AS WE GATHER – 6<sup>th</sup> Lenten Wednesday

As we gather this Lenten midweek, we come face to face with our Lord in the garden, met not by open enemies, but by a friend's betrayal. In Luke 22:47–53, Jesus endures the sting of disappointment, the weight of disenchantment, and what surely looks like failure in the eyes of the world. And we know those battles well. We know what it is to be let down, to grow weary, to see things fall apart despite our best hopes and efforts. Yet here, in the darkness of that moment, Christ does not turn away. He stands firm, submitting Himself to the Father's will for the sake of those who would fail Him. Tonight, we come not as those who have held fast, but as those who have faltered, and we meet the Savior who remains faithful still.

### +PRESENTATION+

## 663 RISE, MY SOUL, TO WATCH AND PRAY



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.

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671–1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien, 1694, Dresden, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

## INVOCATION

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

## OPENING SENTENCES

- L** The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting.
- C** In the morning you shall be filled with bread.
- L** I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound.
- C** I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
- L** My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.
- C** I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- L** Let us confess our sins before God Almighty.
- C** We confess, Lord our God, that we have wavered both in faith and in our trust in Your presence. We confess our failure to pray continually. We sin in thought, word, and deed and cannot keep your holy Law. Forgive us and grant us grace to live as those who have received Your kingdom and live in gratitude for Your blessings.
- L** You have been forgiven by our gracious God for the sacrifice of His Son, our Lord Jesus. Rejoice as brothers and sisters in His kingdom, fellow citizens of heaven! As a fellow servant of Christ and at His command, I declare His forgiveness to you of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen. Thy kingdom come to us and through us.

## PSALM

*Psalm 103:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry! Give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit! <sup>2</sup>From your presence let my vindication come! Let your eyes behold the right! <sup>3</sup>You have tried my heart, you have visited me by night, you have tested me, and you will find nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress. <sup>4</sup>With regard to the works of man, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

<sup>5</sup>My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped. <sup>6</sup>I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words. <sup>7</sup>Wondrously show your steadfast love, O Savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand. <sup>8</sup>Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, <sup>9</sup>from the wicked who do me violence, my deadly enemies who surround me. <sup>10</sup>They close their hearts to pity; with their mouths they speak arrogantly. <sup>11</sup>They have now surrounded our steps; they set their eyes to cast us to the ground. <sup>12</sup>He is like a lion eager to tear, as a young lion lurking in ambush. <sup>13</sup>Arise, O LORD! Confront him, subdue him!

Deliver my soul from the wicked by your sword, <sup>14</sup>from men by your hand, O LORD, from men of the world whose portion is in this life. You fill their womb with treasure; they are satisfied with children, and they leave their abundance to their infants. <sup>15</sup>As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness.

## 437 ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED

st. 5

5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The  
 debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -  
 self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824 Text and tune: Public domain

## FIRST READING

John 12:1–8

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at the table. <sup>3</sup>Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>“Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” <sup>6</sup>He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.      **G** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

Luke 22:39–53

<sup>39</sup>And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup>And when he came to the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” <sup>41</sup>And he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and knelt down and prayed, <sup>42</sup>saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.” <sup>43</sup>And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. <sup>44</sup>And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

<sup>45</sup>And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

<sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, <sup>48</sup>but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” <sup>49</sup>And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” <sup>50</sup>And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup>But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? <sup>53</sup>When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

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

## DRAMA INTRODUCTION

## DRAMA PRESENTATION: JUDAS, THE GOOD DISCIPLE

### 440 JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW

sts. 1–3



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now    On Your ho - ly pas - sion;  
 2 Make me see Your great dis - tress,    An - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone    Make me see Your pas - sion,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow    For such med - i - ta - tion.  
 Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness    And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
 But its cause to me make known    And its ter - mi - na - tion.



Grant that I in love and faith    May the im - age cher - ish  
 Make me see how scourge and rod,    Spear and nails did wound You,  
 Ah! I al - so and my sin    Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death    That I may not per - ish.  
 How for them You died, O God,    Who with thorns had crowned You.  
 This in - deed the cause has been    Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615 Text and tune: Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- L** Let us pray for the Church around the world, for ourselves in this place, for people in positions of authority, for families, and for all in need. Guide and protect Your Church, Lord Jesus, as it endeavors to share the Gospel in the many circumstances of this sin-ridden world. Embolden leaders to speak Your Word with conviction, open the ears of those who hear the Good News in all circumstances, and grant increase of faith and numbers wherever people gather around Word and Sacrament.
- C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.
- L** O Holy Spirit, strengthen this congregation so that we are a beacon of Your gracious love, calling one and all to join us to celebrate the Good News shining in this darkened world.
- C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.
- L** Lord over all, guide and protect the officers of nations; armed forces deployed and police at home; leaders of large corporations; those who work in the media; those who grow, tend, and distribute food; and all who respond in emergencies, that together they work for the common good.
- C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.
- L** Heavenly Father, grant peace and love in families, give wisdom to parents and willingness to learn to children, and provide faithful congregations, caring friends, and extended relatives to support them through all the changes in life.
- C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.
- L** Lord our God, hear the prayers of Your people near and dear to us, whom we name in our hearts... as well as those known only to You. As fits Your gracious plans for them, give healing, relief, and comfort, so that they may live out each day in peace and joy.
- C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.
- L** These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## NICENE CREED

- C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## OFFERING & VIDEO

*As good stewards and as an act of worship we thankfully bring our tithes & offerings to the Lord who gave ALL of Himself for us. Also, at this time, please fill out the attendance sheet in the colored bulletin and place it in the offering plate.*

## 956 CREATE IN ME

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new  
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way  
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;  
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12 Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583–1651, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 241

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.**

## BENEDICTION

- L** The Lord, who provided all that the people needed in the wilderness, bless you. The Lord, who fed them until they reached the Promised Land, bless you. The Lord, who spoke to Moses and has worked faith in your hearts, bless and keep you, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## 440 JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW

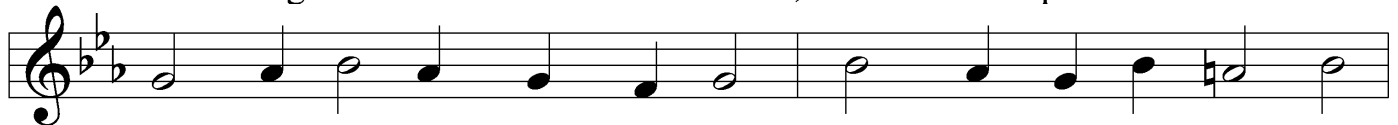
sts. 4–6



4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.  
5 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science grieve me,  
6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.  
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.  
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure  
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.  
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?  
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!  
That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615 Text and tune: Public domain

## CLOSING PEACE

- L** Go in Peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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