

Order of Vespers

Stand

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord.

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.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

+ PSALMODY +

PSALMODY - Psalm 30 (*antiphon Psalm 22*)

P: They divide my garments among them

C: and cast lots for my clothing

P: to you, O Lord, I cry

C: and to the Lord I plea for mercy

P: what profit is there in my death

C: if I go down to the pit?

P: will the dust praise you?

C: will it tell of your faithfulness?

P: Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me.

C: O Lord, be my helper

P: You have turned for me my mourning
C: **into dancing**

P: You have loosed by sackcloth
C: **and clothed me with gladness**

P: that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent
C: **O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

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.**

P: They divide my garments among them
C: **and cast lots for my clothing**

Sit

HYMN: "In the Shattered Bliss of Eden" #572

+ READINGS +

OLD TESTAMENT –

Genesis 3:7–21

⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD

God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life. I will put enmity between
you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her Offspring; He
shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise His heel."

¹⁶ To the woman He said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be contrary to your husband,
but he shall rule over you."

¹⁷ And to Adam He said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
'You shall not eat of it,'

cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰ The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she
was the mother of all living. ²¹ And the LORD God made
for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and
clothed them.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE –

Galatians 3:23–29

²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the
law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in
order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that
faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for
in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For
as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on
Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither
slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all
one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ’s, then you are
Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL –

John 19:1–5, 23–24

¹ Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged Him. ² And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head and arrayed Him in a purple robe. ³ They came up to Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck Him with their hands. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing Him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in Him.” ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” . . . ²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also His tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴ so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

“They divided My garments among them,
and for My clothing they cast lots.”
So the soldiers did these things.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

SERMON

Stand

HYMN “My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord.” # 934

OFFERING

+ PRAYERS +

KYRIE

C: Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

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.

COLLECTS

P: O Lord, hear my prayer.

C: **And let my cry come to You.**

P: Almighty and everlasting Father, even though Your Son had no sin of His own, He willingly bore our sins and was stricken, smitten, and afflicted by You. Fix our eyes to the cross that we may see our healing in His wounds, our glory in His suffering, and our life in His death; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN: “Behold the Man”

Behold the man before you:
The One who would restore you
Stands silent in your stead.
He waits for His conviction—
Your rightful crucifixion.
He bows His holy, weary head.

Hands, feet, and shoulders bleeding,
To God the Father pleading
For your own heart and soul.
Come, sinner, watch in wonder:
His body laden under
The ransom of your sin in whole.

Exposed and bare, He covers
Your shame with grace that hovers
Upon you night and day.
His final breath expended—
The reign of death upended.
His verdict kills the devil's sway.

Behold your God, here buried:
Your sin and sorrows carried
Into the earthen tomb.
But wait with expectation:
The Lord of your salvation
Will rescue you from graven doom.

Christ, God and man, is living!
His risen body giving
Proof that our Savior won.
Your hands will raise to bless Him,
Your lips will e'er confess Him:
The born and dead and risen One!

Acknowledgments

Vespers from *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.