




Midweek Prayer during Lent

Stand Opening



Behold, now is the accept - a - ble time; **now is the day of sal - vation.**

Turn us again, O God of our sal - vation,

that the light of your face may shine on us.

May your justice shine like the sun; **and may the poor be lift - ed up.**

Hymn of Light



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov-ing glow of God's own
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3 You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev-'ry danc - ing star of

face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us

ev - 'ry land and race. Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -

round us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov-ing Spir - it

God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent., para. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen

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Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. **Amen.**

Sit

Reading

Habakkuk 1

The prophet declares, ... 2O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? 3Why do you make me see wrong-doing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

God acknowledges the problem ... 6Look, I am about to empower the Babylonians, that ruthless and greedy nation. They sweep across the surface of the earth, seizing dwelling places that do not belong to them.

The prophet declares ... You are too just to tolerate evil; you are unable to condone wrongdoing. So why do you put up with such treacherous people? Why do you say nothing when the wicked devour those more righteous than they are?

Habakkuk 2

God answers ... 12The one who builds a city by bloodshed is as good as dead - he who starts a town by unjust deeds. 13Be sure of this! The Lord who commands armies has decreed: The nations' efforts will go up in smoke; their exhausting work will be for nothing. 14For recognition of the Lord's sovereign majesty will fill the earth just as the waters fill up the sea.

Habakkuk 3

The prophet acknowledges the presence of God in his life....16c I long for the day of distress to come upon the people who attack us. When the fig tree does not bud, and there are no grapes on the vines; when the olive trees do not produce, and the fields yield no crops; when the sheep disappear from the pen, and there are no cattle in the stalls, I will rejoice because of the Lord; I will be happy because of the God who delivers me! The sovereign Lord is my source of strength. He gives me the agility of a deer; he enables me to negotiate the rugged terrain.

Reflection

Reflection

Hymn of the Day ELW 311 (next page)

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
 pre - cious in your sight.
 hill to val - ley flow.
 king - dom with out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
 Music: FREUT EÜCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

Stand

Prayers

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all servants of the Church, and for all the people, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, ... let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord. ... **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord. ... **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. *Silence for meditation*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord. **To you, O Lord.**

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (next page)



Blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**