



**CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**DIVINE SERVICE FOR HOLY THURSDAY EVENING**  
**APRIL 2, 2026**



**✠ SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION ✠**

*Stand*

**INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES**

**P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** I will go to the altar of God,

**C** to God my exceeding joy.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Sit*

**HOLY THURSDAY EXHORTATION**

**P** During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord’s call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this day when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God’s wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.” It is as if He said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat.”

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Again, it is as if He said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink.”

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples’ feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C** Amen.

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

*Kneel*

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

## ABSOLUTION

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**C** Amen.

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C** Yes.

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## BLESSING

**P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

**C** Amen.

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

## SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

**Exodus 12:1-14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

"Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened,

your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

*Psalm 116:12-19*

*(sung as indicated)*



**I** *What shall I render | to the LORD \*for all his bene- | fits to me?*

**C** **I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation \* and call on the name | of the Lord,**

**I** *I will pay my vows | to the LORD \*in the presence of all his | people.*

**C** **Precious in the sight | of the LORD \* is the death | of his saints.**

**I** *O Lord, I am your | servant; \* I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.*

**C** **I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving \* and call on the name | of the LORD.**

**I** *I will pay my vows | to the LORD \*in the presence of all his | people,*

**C** **in the courts of the house | of the LORD, \* in your midst, O Jerusalem. | Praise the LORD!**

**EPISTLE READING**

**1 Corinthians 11:23-32**

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

*John 13:1b*

*(sung as indicated)*



**I** *Having loved his own who were | in the world, \* he loved them | to the end.*

**HOLY GOSPEL READING**

**John 13:1-15, 34-35**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter.



**C** **Glo - ry to You, O Lord.**

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him,

“Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” Jesus said to him, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you....

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Lord, We Praise Thee

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1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,  
 2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,  
 3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor

In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy  
 Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er  
 That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -

bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that  
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -  
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this

they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!

May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our  
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy  
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that

sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead  
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;  
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see

In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!  
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

SERMON

Stand

## 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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

## GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

*Worshippers may leave offerings in the plates near the sanctuary doors.*

## OFFERTORY



**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE



The Lord be with you.



And al-so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### SANCTUS

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## THE WORDS OF THE LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

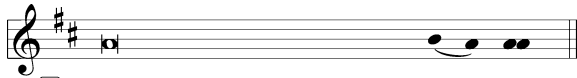
**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## 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.

## PAX DOMINI



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## AGNUS DEI

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

*(sung by cantors)*

Carl Schalk

*Sit*

## RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

*Follow the ushers’ instructions to approach the communion rail. Individuals who are not communing may receive a blessing; please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire a blessing.*



1 Thee we a - dore, O hid - den Sav - ior, Thee,  
 2 In this me - mo - rial of Thy death, O Lord,  
 3 Thou, like the pel - i - can to feed her brood,  
 4 Foun - tain of good - ness, Je - sus, Lord and God:  
 5 O Christ, whom now be - neath a veil we see,



Who in Thy Sac - ra - ment art pleased to be;  
 Thou dost Thy bod - y and Thy blood af - ford:  
 Didst pierce Thy - self to give us liv - ing food;  
 Cleanse us, un - clean, with Thy most cleans - ing blood;  
 May what we thirst for soon our por - tion be:



Both flesh and spir - it in Thy pres - ence fail,  
 Oh, may our souls for - ev - er feed on Thee,  
 Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win  
 In - crease our faith and love, that we may know  
 To gaze on Thee un - veiled and see Thy face,



Yet here Thy pres - ence we de - vout - ly hail.  
 And Thou, O Christ, for - ev - er pre - cious be.  
 For - give - ness for our world and all its sin.  
 The hope and peace which from Thy pres - ence flow.  
 The vi - sion of Thy glo - ry, and Thy grace. A - men.





1 Now, my tongue, the mys - t'ry tell - ing Of the glo - rious  
 2 Giv'n for us, and con - de - scend - ing To be born for  
 3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing Mid the Twelve, His  
 4 Word made flesh, the bread He tak - eth, By His word His  
 △ 5 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing To the Fa - ther



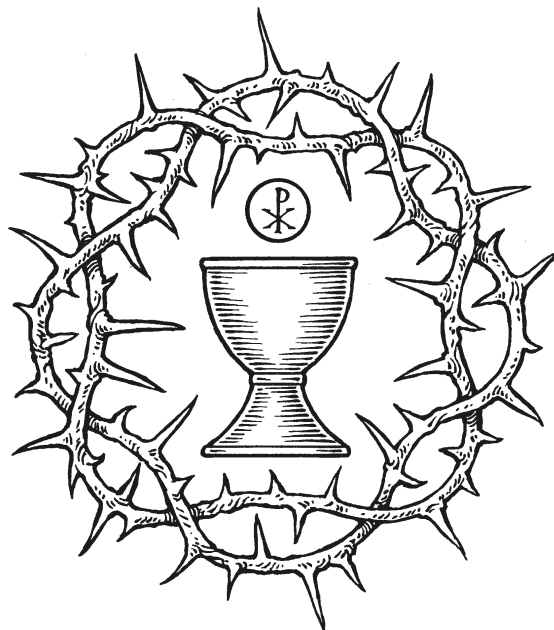
bod - y sing, And the blood, all price ex - cel - ling,  
 us be - low, He with us in con - verse blend - ing,  
 cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,  
 flesh to be; Wine His sa - cred blood He mak - eth,  
 and the Son, Hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



Which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, Once on earth a -  
 Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, Till He closed with  
 Keeps the feast its rites de - mand; Then, more pre - cious  
 Though the sens - es fail to see; Faith a - lone the  
 While e - ter - nal a - ges run; Ev - er too His



mong us dwell - ing, Shed for this world's ran - som - ing.  
 won - drous end - ing His most pa - tient life of woe.  
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives Him - self with His own hand.  
 true heart wak - eth To be - hold the mys - ter - y.  
 love con - fess - ing Who from both with both is One.



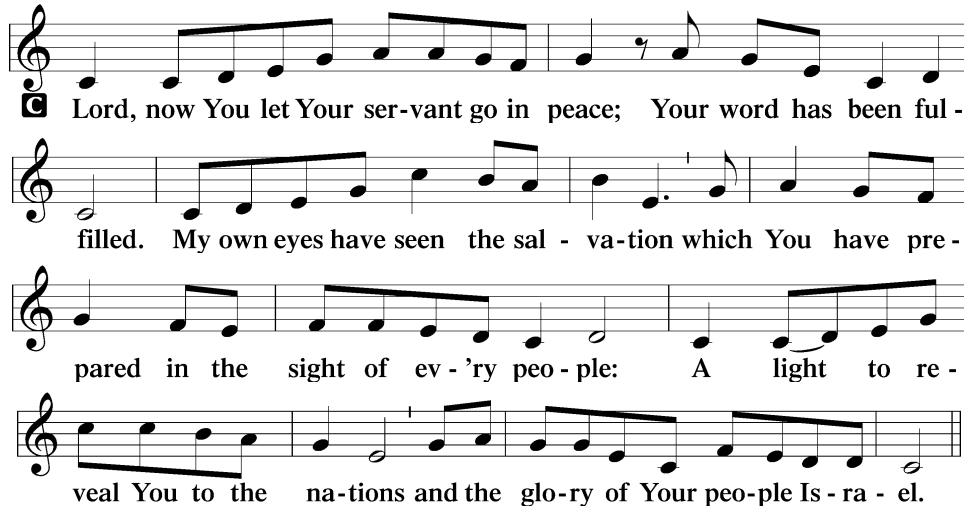
*Stand after the Presiding Minister has placed the sacramental vessels in order.*

### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** Amen.

### NUNC DIMITTIS



**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## ✠ STRIPPING OF THE CHANCEL ✠

*The stripping of the chancel recalls the indignities that our Lord Jesus Christ suffered for our sake during the late hours of Holy Thursday and the early hours of Good Friday. The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.*

### PSALM

Psalm 22

(sung by cantors)

*My God, my God, look upon me; why hast thou forsaken me and art so far from my health, and from the words of my complaint?  
O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season also I take no rest.  
And thou continuest holy, O thou worship of Israel. Our fathers hoped in thee; they trusted in thee, and thou didst deliver them.  
They called upon thee, and were holpen; they put their trust in thee, and were not confounded.  
But as for me, I am a worm, and no man; a very scorn of men, and the outcast of the people.  
All they that see me laugh me to scorn; they shoot out their lips, and shake their heads, saying,  
He trusted in God, that he would deliver him; let him deliver him, if he will have him.  
But thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb; thou wast my hope, when I hanged yet upon my mother's breasts.  
I have been left unto thee ever since I was born; thou art my God, even from my mother's womb.  
O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand, and there is none to help me.  
Many oxen are come about me: fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side. They gape upon me with their mouths, as it were a  
ramping and a roaring lion.  
I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart also in the midst of my body is even like melting wax.  
My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaveth to my gums, and thou shalt bring me into the dust of death.  
For many dogs are come about me, and the council of the wicked layeth siege against me.  
They pierced my hands and my feet; I may tell all my bones. They stand staring and looking upon me.  
They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.  
But be not thou far from me, O Lord; thou art my succour. Haste thee to help me.  
Deliver my soul from the sword, my darling from the power of the dog.  
Save me from the lion's mouth; thou hast heard me also from among the horns of the unicorns.  
I will declare thy Name unto my brethren; in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.  
O praise the Lord, ye that fear him; magnify him, all ye of the seed of Jacob, and fear him, all ye seed of Israel.  
For he hath not despised, nor abhorred, the low estate of the poor; he hath not hid his face from him, but when he called unto  
him, he heard him.  
My praise is of thee in the great congregation; my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied; they that seek after the Lord shall praise him. Your heart shall live for ever.  
All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord; and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship  
before him.  
For the kingdom is the Lord's, and he is the Governor among the people.  
All such as be fat upon earth have eaten and worshipped. All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him; and no man  
hath quickened his own soul.  
My seed shall serve him; they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation. They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his  
righteousness unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made.*

Matthew Camidge

***All leave in silence after the psalm has been sung and the altar has been stripped.***

***The commemoration of our Lord's death for our salvation takes place tomorrow  
with the Chief Service at 12:00pm and Passion Vespers at 7:00pm.***

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#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Hymn: "O Lord, We Praise Thee"

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Hymn: "Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior"

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Hymn: "Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling"

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