

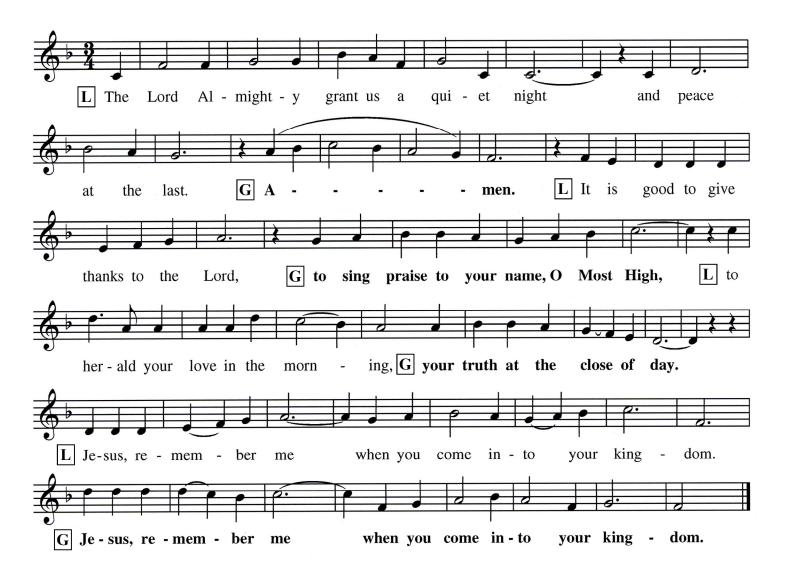
Grace Ev. Lutheran Church Tucson, AZ

Midweek 6 6:30 PM March 25, 2015

Parts of the service designated "L" are for the Leader (Pastor). The Congregation is invited to join in the parts marked "G" for "Group."

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please stand



CONFESSION OF SINS

- [L] Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- [G] who made heaven and earth.
- [L] Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination

- [L] Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
- [G] we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.
- [L] By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun when we shall serve him in newness of life.
- [G] Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN

Oh, Come, My Soul Christian Worship #99

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 16

- [L] Keep me safe, O God,
- [G] for in you I take refuge.
- [L] I said to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
- [G] apart from you I have no good thing."
- [L] I have set the Lord always before me.
- [G] because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- [L] My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
- [G] my body also will rest secure,
- [L] because you will not abandon me to the grave,
- [G] Nor will you let your Holy One see decay.
- [L] You have made known to me the path of life;
- [G] you will fill me with joy in your presence.

PSALM PRAYER

- [L] Lord Jesus, keep our minds fixed on your precious Word and our thoughts on your glorious victory over death
- [G] so that we may know the joy of your resurrection and share the pleasures of the saints at your right hand, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PASSION HISTORY Lesson 5

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who is misleading the people. Look, I have examined him before you. I have found no basis for a charge against this man regarding the things of which you accuse him. Herod did not either, because he sent him back to us. See, he has done nothing worthy of death. So I will punish him and then release him."

At the time of the feast the governor had a custom: to release one prisoner to the crowd, whomever they wanted. At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner named

Barabbas, who had been thrown in prison for a rebellion in the city and for murder. The crowd came up and began to ask him to do what he usually did for them. So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, "Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you? Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?" Pilate in fact knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy.

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, Pilate's wife sent him a message. She said, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, since I have suffered many things today in a

dream because of him." But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death. The governor asked them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They all shouted together with one voice: "Take him away! Release Barabbas to us!" Pilate said to them, "Then what do you want me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews? What should I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "Crucify him!" But the governor said, "Why? What has he done wrong?" But they kept shouting even louder: "Crucify him!" Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, "Crucify! Crucify him!" He said to them the third time, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found no grounds for sentencing him to death. So I will whip him and release him." But they kept pressuring him with loud shouts, demanding that he be crucified. And their voices were overwhelming.

When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, and that instead it was turning into a riot, he decided that what they demanded would be done. He took water, washed his hands in front of the crowd, and said, "I am innocent of this righteous man's blood. It is your responsibility." And all the people answered, "His blood will be on us and on our children!" Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head. They kept hitting him in the face. Pilate went outside again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him."

Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and temple police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" Pilate told them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I

find no basis for a charge against him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God." When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He went back inside the palace again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate asked him, "Are you not talking to me? Don't you know that I have the authority to release you or to crucify you?" Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over me at all, if it had not been given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate tried to release Jesus. But the Jews shouted, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar! Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar!" When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside. He sat down on the judge's seat at a place called the Stone Pavement, or Gabbatha in Aramaic. It was about the sixth hour on the day of preparation for the Passover. Pilate said to the Jews, "Here is your king!" They shouted, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your king?" "We have no king but Caesar!" the chief priests answered. So then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

After they had mocked him, the soldiers took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him with Jesus carrying his own cross. As they were going out of the city, a certain man, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), was passing by on his way in from the country. They placed the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd of the people was following him, including women who were mourning and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. Yes, be sure of this: the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never gave birth, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things to the green wood, what will happen to the dry?"

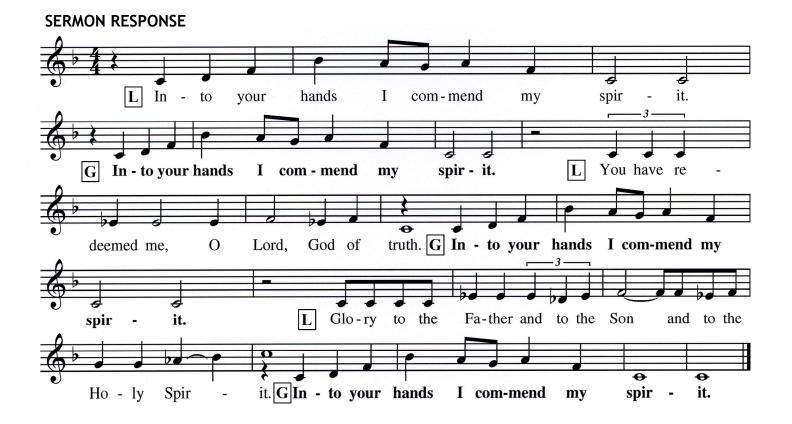
SERMON

John 12:23-27 If One Dies, It Produces Life For Many

Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for

eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour."

Please stand



Please be seated

OFFERING Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest tonight, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

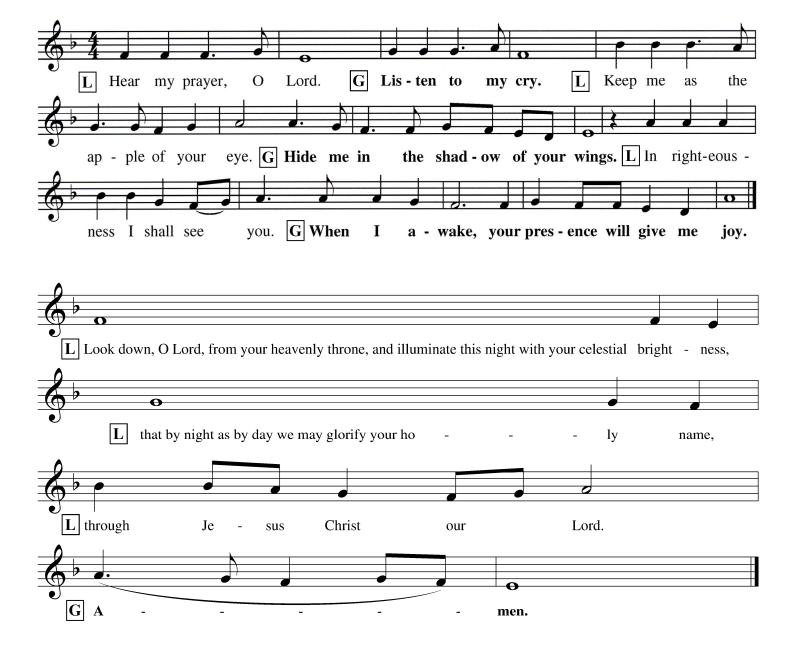


If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the pew and pass it along. Thank You!

Please stand

PRAYER



LORD'S PRAYER



BLESSING

- [L] The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the Son, (†) and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.
- [G] Amen.

Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN

God Loved the World So that He Gave Christian Worship #391

Those Assisting in Worship this Evening

Service	Pastor Ron Koehler
Service Accompanist	Tina Christianson
Sound and Recording Tech	Jeremy Snavely

Copyright Information:

Prayer at the Close of Day © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710199.

The Passion History for our Lenten worship this year was produced by a group of Lutheran pastors and professors who are working together to produce a new translation of the Bible. It is a sample project to illustrate the style and aims of the Wartburg Project translation. It is a preliminary draft which has not yet undergone final editing.

For more information visit http://wartburgproject.org

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 2

10:00 AM at Grace-Sahuarita 10 AM & 6:30 PM at Grace-Tucson

Good Friday

Friday, April 3

6:30 PM at Grace-Sahuarita

Tenebrae Service (Service of Darkness) 6:30 PM at Grace-Tucson

Worshippers are asked to leave this church service in silence, leaving in stillness and darkness until the dawn of a glorious Easter Day. Please visit with friends and family prior to entering church for worship.



Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5

Grace-Benson Festival Worship—7:30 AM

Grace-Sahuarita Festival Worship—9:45 AM

Grace-Tucson
Sunrise Worship—7 AM
Easter Breakfast—8 AM
Easter Concert—9 AM
Festival Worship—10 AM

Grace-Vail
Easter Breakfast—9 AM
Festival Worship—10 AM



Grace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.

For more information about our synod and what we believe visit: www.wels.net