Service of Evening Prayer with the Assignment of Calls

The Fourth Week of Easter
April 23, 2024 · 7 p.m.

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Order of Procession

Crucifer and Torch Bearers
Faculty Marshal
Candidates
Seminary Banner
Council of Presidents
Faculty
Dean of Faculty
Director of Placement
Officiant
Preacher
Seminary President
Choral Prelude

Give Me Jesus

Arranged by Molly Ijames

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world, give me Jesus.

And when I am alone, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world, give me Jesus.

And when I come to die, give me Jesus.
You can have all this world, give me Jesus.
As the processional hymn is introduced, please stand and face the processional cross.

Procesional Hymn

All the Earth with Joy Is Sounding

Arranged by Walter Pelz
The choir sings stanza 3.
Service of Light

Phos Hilaron – Hymn of Light

Joyous light of glory:

of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy,

blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the

setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light.

We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
Thanksgiving for Light

Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ: may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path: for You are merciful and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.
PSALMODY

Psalm 141

The congregation sings the parts marked C; the choirs sing the parts marked I and II.

Let us pray.
Silence for individual prayer.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

Amen.

C
Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

I
O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly; hear my voice
when I cry to You. C Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

II
Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I
Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evil-doers.

II
But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take refuge.
Strip me not of my life. C Glory be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in
Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

Amen.
Psalm 118

Setting by Marty Haugen

Choir:  Refrain

C  Refrain

Choir:  Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever.
        Let the house of Israel say: “His mercy endures forever.”

C  Refrain

Choir:  The hand of the Lord has struck with power, His right hand is exalted,
        I shall not die, but live anew, declaring the works of the Lord.

C  Refrain

Choir:  The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,
        the Lord of love and mercy has brought wonder to our eyes!

C  Refrain

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For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.
I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.

He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, my kind, wise, heav’nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I’ll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99.
The Messiah must suffer and die and rise again.

Luke 24:46
Second Reading

A reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection on God’s Word.

In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

“It’s About Jesus Christ and Him Crucified”

1 Corinthians 2:1–2
Hymn

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!  

The choir sings stanza 4.

Tune: Tanzanian.

Assignment of Calls
Magnificat

Refrain

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

1 For He has regarded.
2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
3 He has shown strength with His arm;
4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

1 the lowliness of His handmaid.
2 and holy is His name;
3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
4 and the rich He has sent empty.
5 and to the Holy Spirit;

1 For behold, from this day
2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him.
3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones.
4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy.
5 as it was in the beginning,
Litany

The congregation's response begins just as the leader's petition ends so that the word “Lord” is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation. The last note of the response is hummed by all as each prayer bid is sung.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C 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:

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

For Matthew, our Synod President, for all our District Presidents, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

For Joseph, our President, for all 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:

C 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:

C Lord, have mercy.
For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this place, 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 all our ministerial and diaconal candidates and the congregations and places they will serve, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

The prayers then continue:

The faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

Al-le-lu-ia.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

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.
Thou that hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more, a grateful heart,
Not thankful when it pleaseth me
As if Thy blessings had spare days;
But such a heart, whose pulse may be Thy praise.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Amen.
Recessional Hymn

Christ the Eternal Lord

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

Postlude

Easter Victory

Composed by Charles Callahan

Soli Deo Gloria
In the Lord’s Service

Officiant
Jon D. Vieker
Associate Professor of Practical Theology
Dean of Chapel

Preacher
Brian S. Saunders
President, Iowa District East
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Lector
Thomas J. Egger
President
Professor of Exegetical Theology

Faculty Marshal
Joel D. Biermann
Waldemar A. and June Schuette Professor of Systematic Theology

Crucifer
Seminarian Henry Eising

Torch Bearers
Seminarian Peyton Holland
Seminarian Jacob Moede

Banner Bearer
Seminarian Travis Galle

Assignment of Calls
Glenn A. Nielsen
Senior Professor of Practical Theology
Director of Placement
Director of Certification

David J. Peter
Professor of Practical Theology
Dean of Faculty
Alumni Relations Adviser

Conductor
Phillip Magness
Interim Associate of Music Arts

Choir
The St. Louis Lutheran Chorale

Organist
Justin Knabach
Interim Seminary Organist

Brass
Dustin Schrum, trumpet
Aaron Reynolds, trumpet
Christina Schempf, French horn
John Miller, trombone

Timpani
Luther Gulseth

The pre-service music on the Luther Tower carillon was provided by Chief Information Officer John Klinger, carillonneur.
Hearing device assistance is available in the chapel by downloading AudioFetch to your smart phone. Once installed, connect to “CSLListeningDevice” on the chapel WiFi and use “Seminary1839” as the password. You can then use personal headphones or earbuds to listen and adjust the sound as appropriate. If you need any help with this process, please speak with the tech worker at the sound booth located on the right side of the chapel.

Acknowledgments
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