

*New Life Ev. Lutheran Church  
Lake Zurich, IL*

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**Fifth Mid-Week Lenten Service  
Here I Stand—Standing in Prayer**

**March 29, 2017**

*“Let us, therefore, never doubt that we have a ‘Yes’ in heaven, imbedded in the heart of our Lord Jesus Christ, and His Father’s, and that in His time it will be revealed.”  
(Martin Luther, a sermon from the second Sunday in Lent, 1534)*

*Before Service Prayer:* In the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into Your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

*Tonight’s Service:* *Evening Prayer, NPH; reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #11327771.*

*Pastor’s Welcome*

*Stand*

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything,

**C: But in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**

P: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, In you the  
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are  
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of



Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,  
lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and  
God, life - giv - ing Lord; Where - fore you are through



blest is he, And blest are you, his on - ly Son.  
Spir - it: God Who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.  
all the earth And in the high - est heav'n a - dored.

P: Lord God, we thank You for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with Your forgiving love in Christ. May Your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of Your presence though the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship You: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*Be Seated*

**C:** Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing  
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I  
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I  
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,  
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

**P:** Heavenly Father, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear and answer us. When we celebrate events with joy, turn our hearts to prayers of thankfulness and praise. When we struggle in doubt, fear or loss, lead us by Your Spirit to turn to You for help and comfort. We know that in Jesus our Lord, all of Your promises are answered with the “Yes!” of Your love and power. Hear our prayers and accept our praise in Jesus’ name.

**C:** Amen.

*Luther’s Evening Prayer Video Clip*

*The Passion History: Lesson Four (read responsively, Wartburg Project Translation)*

**LEADER:** 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 in your presence. I have found in this Man no basis for the charges you are bringing against Him. Herod did not either, for He sent Him back to us. See, He has done nothing worthy of death. So I will have Him flogged and release Him.”

**MEN:** At the time of the Festival the governor had a custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner they wanted.

**CONGREGATION:** 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 Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

**LEADER:** So when they were assembled, Pilate said to them, “Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you? Which one do you want me to release to you? Barabbas—or Jesus, who is called Christ?” For Pilate in fact knew that they had handed Jesus over to him because of envy.

**WOMEN:** While he was sitting on the judgment seat, Pilate’s wife sent him a message. “Have nothing to do with that righteous Man,” she said, “since I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.”

**MEN:** But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death.

**LEADER:** The governor asked them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”

**CONGREGATION:** They all shouted together with one voice: “Take Him away! Release Barabbas to us!”

**LEADER:** 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?”

**CONGREGATION:** They all said to him, “Crucify Him!”

**LEADER:** But the governor said, “Why? What has He done wrong?”

**CONGREGATION:** But they kept shouting even louder: “Crucify Him!”

**MEN:** Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept shouting, “Crucify! Crucify Him!”

**LEADER:** 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.”

**WOMEN:** But they kept pressuring him with loud voices, demanding that He be crucified. And their voices were overwhelming.

**CONGREGATION:** Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged.

**LEADER:** 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 also kept hitting Him in the face.

**MEN:** 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.”

**LEADER:** So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the Man!”

**CONGREGATION:** When the chief priests and guards saw Him, they shouted, “Crucify! Crucify!”

**MEN:** Pilate told them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no basis for a charge against Him.”

**WOMEN:** The Jews answered Him, “We have a law, and according to that law He ought to die, because He claimed to be the Son of God.”

**LEADER:** When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He went back inside the palace again and asked Jesus, “Where are You from?”

**WOMEN:** But Jesus gave him no answer.

**MEN:** 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?”

**LEADER:** 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.”

**CONGREGATION:** 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!”

**LEADER:** 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 Preparation Day for the Passover. Pilate said to the Jews, “Here is your king!”

**CONGREGATION:** They shouted, “Away with Him! Away with Him! Crucify Him!”

**LEADER:** Pilate said to them, “Should I crucify your king?”

**MEN:** “We have no king but Caesar!” the chief priests answered.

**CONGREGATION:** 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.

**MEN:** 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.”

**CONGREGATION:** And all the people answered, “Let His blood be on us and on our children!”

**LEADER:** Since he wanted to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them.

**WOMEN:** So then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

**LEADER:** 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. Jesus was carrying His own cross.

**MEN:** 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.

**WOMEN:** A large crowd of the people was following Him, including women who were mourning and wailing for Him.

**LEADER:** Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 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?”

*The Seasonal Response:* All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. By His wounds we are healed.

*The Hymn:* CW 472 “**Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray**”

*The Sermon Text:* **Matthew 26:36-46**

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with His disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and He said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” <sup>37</sup> He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with Him, and He began to be sorrowful and troubled. <sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with Me.”

<sup>39</sup> Going a little farther, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.”

<sup>40</sup> Then He returned to His disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with Me for one hour?” He asked Peter. <sup>41</sup> “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

<sup>42</sup> He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done.”

<sup>43</sup> When He came back, He again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So He left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

<sup>45</sup> Then He returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup> Rise! Let us go! Here comes My betrayer!” (NIV 2011)

*The Sermon Theme:* **Here I Stand—Standing in Prayer**

*Post Sermon Hymn:* **The Magnificat** (*Mary's Song of Praise*)

1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters  
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y

leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -  
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -

gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.  
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.  
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

*The Offering*

*Stand*

### The Prayer

P: Our God and Savior, you have commanded us to prayer and have promised to hear and answer us. Teach us to pray to you faithfully, fervently and at all times. Lead us to bring every need and word of praise before your throne of grace. Jesus our Lord,

**C: You are the “Yes!” to God’s promises.**

P: Our God and Savior, we pray today for those who are hurting, who are suffering in illness or loss and for those who are afraid that their prayers are not heard. Help us to comfort them and strengthen them through your Word and the power of your Spirit. Help them to hear the loving “Yes” of your heart. Jesus our Lord,

**C: You are the “Yes!” to God’s promises.**

P: Our God and Savior, we pray for those in this world who are still lost in the darkness of sin. Give us opportunities to share the good news of Jesus with them. By the power of your Holy Spirit, open their hearts and minds to hear the “Yes!” of your redeeming love. Jesus our Lord,

**C: You are the “Yes!” to God’s promises.**

P: We now ask that for Your sake our Father in heaven would hear us, as we pray together the words You taught us to pray....

### The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

### Prayer for Peace

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

**C: Amen.**

*Song of Simeon*



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part



ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen



your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry



peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tles



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

*The Benediction*

P: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God,

**C: Let us hold fast our confession.**

P: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

**C: But one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.**

P: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,

**C: That we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**

P: Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

**C: Amen.**

The Closing Hymn: CW 408 “Christians, While on Earth Abiding”

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Announcements

Thank you to the James family for serving the German supper prior to the service this evening.

Thank you to Pastor Dave Carlovsky from Lord and Savior Lutheran Church in Crystal Lake for serving as our guest preacher this evening.

Next Wednesday, Pastor Kevin Raddatz from St. John Lutheran Church in Libertyville will serve as our guest preacher. Next Wednesday’s theme is “Standing Unafraid.”

The Tone Chime Choir will meet after the service tonight.

An SAA long range planning meeting will be held after the service tonight. Tonight, our Ministry Moto will be examined and “values” for our congregation (what we cherish and want to stand for) will be developed. The meeting will last no longer than one hour.

Help is needed, after the service tonight, to work on assembling items for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday.