

## Vespers, April 1, 2020

1. Hymn: #290, *“Thy Soul. O Jesus, Hallow Me”*

2. *Confession of Sin, p. 120*

P: Dearly beloved! We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

**C: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, Our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

3. *The Versicles, p. 120*

P: O Lord, open my lips.

**C: ♪And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

**C: ♪Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**All: ♪Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; forever more. Amen.**

4. *The Psalmody: Psalm 22:1-13, 21*

L: My `God, My God,/ why have You `forsaken Me?

**C: Why are You so far `from helping Me,/ And from the words `of My groaning?**

L: O My God, I cry in the daytime, but `You do not hear;/ And in the night season, and `am not silent.

**C: But `You are holy,/ Enthroned in the praises `of Israel.**

L: Our fathers `trusted in You;/ They trusted, and You `delivered them.

**C: They cried to You, and `were delivered;/ They trusted in You, and `were not ashamed.**

L: But I am a `worm, and no man;/ A reproach of men, and despised `by the people.

**C: All those who see Me `ridicule Me;/ They shoot out the lip, they shake `the head, saying,**

L: “He trusted in the LORD, let `Him rescue Him;/ Let Him deliver Him, since He `delights in Him!”

**C: But You are He who took Me `out of the womb;/ You made Me trust while on `My mother’s breasts.**

L: I was cast up`on You from birth./ From My mother’s womb You `have been My God.

**C: Be not far from Me, For `trouble is near;/ For there `is none to help.**

L: Many bulls have `surrounded Me;/ Strong bulls of Bashan have `encircled Me.

**C: They gape at `Me with their mouths,/ Like a raging and `roaring lion.**

L: Save Me from `the lion’s mouth/ And from the horns of the wild oxen! You `have answered Me.

**All: Glory be to the Father, / and to the Son, and to / the Holy Ghost; as it was in the be- / -ginning, is now, and ever shall be: forever- / -more. Amen.**

5. *The Lesson: Matthew 27:39-65*

39 And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads 40 and saying, “You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

41 Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, 42 “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. 43 He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ”

44 Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing.

45 Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

47 Some of those who stood there, when they heard *that*, said, “This Man is calling for Elijah!” 48 Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled *it* with sour wine and put *it* on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink.

49 The rest said, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.”

50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, 52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; 53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

54 So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

55 And many women who followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to Him, were there looking on from afar, 56 among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee’s sons.

57 Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. 58 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him. 59 When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he

rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. **61** And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.

**62** On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, **63** saying, “Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise.’ **64** Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him *away*, and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead.’ So the last deception will be worse than the first.”

**65** Pilate said to them, “You have a guard; go your way, make *it* as secure as you know how.” **66** So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

*The Explanation to the Second Article:*

**All: I believe that Jesus Christ is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary; and that He is my Lord, Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood, and with His innocent suffering and death; in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

6. *The Chief Hymn: #333:1,2,4,6, “Christ, the Life of All the Living”*

7. *The Sermon: “Silence Before Onlookers”*

8. *Hymn #331:1,5 “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”*

10. *The Versicle, p. 122*

P: Let my prayers be set before You as incense:

**C: ♪And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice**

*11. The Canticle: The Magnificat, p. 123*

**All: ♪My soul / magnifies the Lord... And my spirit rejoices in / God my Savior.**

**For He / has regarded... The low estate of / His handmaiden;**

**For be-/-hold, from henceforth... all generations shall / call me blessed.**

**For He that is mighty has / done to me great things... And ho-/-ly is His name.**

**And His mercy is on / those that fear Him...From generation to / generation.**

**He has shown / strength with His arm; He has scattered *the* proud in the imagi-/-nation of their hearts.**

**He has put down the / mighty from *their* thrones...And exalted *those* / of low degree.**

**He has filled *the* / hungry with good things...And *the* rich He has sent / empty away.**

**He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance / of *His* mercy...As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his / seed forever.**

**Glory be to the Father / and to the Son... and to / the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever shall be... forev-/-er more. Amen.**

*12. The Prayers, beginning with The Kyrie, p. 124*

**All: ♪Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

*13. The Lord's Prayer, p. 125*

**All: ♪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 temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*14. The Collect, p. 126*

P: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us in the end of the day, in the end of our life, and in the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair when death shall come. Abide with us and with all the faithful through time and eternity. **C: ♪ Amen.**

*15. The Benedicamus, p. 127*

P: Let us bless the Lord. **C: ♪ Thanks be to God.**

*16. The Benediction, p. 127*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: ♪ Amen.**

*17. Closing Hymn: #593*