



Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

212-289-8128

www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

Midweek Services for Lent 2021 LBW Spoken Evening Prayer With Psalms of Lament

6:30 PM Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Warm welcome, everyone, to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

We are recording this service from the parsonage. This is where Carol and I live. It is the church's apartment.

Thank you for joining us for this spoken service of Evening Prayer, together with some reflections on the Psalms of Lament we have chosen for this year's Midweek Lent Series. This evening's lament is Joel 1. It is lament for the devastation of the land.

A nice thing to note is that you may pray Evening Prayer at home for your personal or family devotions. The service does not require an ordained minister. It grieves me some not to hear Pastor Carol sing evening prayer, but the service does not need to be sung. It can be read aloud, quietly if you are all by yourself, but still read aloud.

We are honored and delighted that you are here and hope that you will return. If you do not already have a church home in our city, please consider joining this congregation. We would rejoice to have you. Just speak with Pastor Carol or send her an email (caefryer@gmail.com).

In Christ,

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

Service of Light

L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**

L Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**

L Let your light scatter the darkness,
C **and illumine your Church.**

As the hymn is said, the candles on and near the altar are lighted. When the large candle is used, the candles are lighted from its flame.

L Joyous light of glory:
C **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:
You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O Giver of life: The universe proclaims your glory.

The thanksgiving concludes the Service of Light.

L The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

L Blessed 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.

C **Amen**

Psalmody

The Psalmody begins with this song for forgiveness and protection.

☩ Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.
Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
in you I take refuge. Strip me not of my life.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Silence for meditation.

ℒ Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon 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 and ever.

☩ Amen

A second psalm is said. Silence for meditation follows each psalm or canticle.

PSALM 42

¹As the deer longs for the water-brooks,
so longs my soul for you, O God.

²My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God;
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

³My tears have been my food day and night,
while all day long they say to me, "Where now is your God?"

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4I pour out my soul when I think on these things;
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,
⁵with the voice of praise and thanksgiving,
among those who keep holy-day.
6Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?
And why are you so disquieted within me?
⁷Put your trust in God;
for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance, and my
God.
8My soul is heavy within me;
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan, and from the peak
of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.
⁹One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts;
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.
10The LORD grants his lovingkindness in the daytime;
in the night season his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
¹¹I will say to the God of my strength, "Why have you forgotten me,
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?"
12While my bones are being broken,
my enemies mock me to my face;
¹³all day long they mock me
and say to me, "Where now is your God?"
14Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?
And why are you so disquieted within me?
¹⁵Put your trust in God;
for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance, and my
God.

PSALM PRAYER

☒ Lord God, never-failing fountain of life, through the saving waters of baptism you called us from the depth of sin to the depths of mercy. Do not forget the trials of our exile, but from the wellspring of the Word satisfy our thirst for you, so that we may come rejoicing to your holy mountain, where you live and reign now and forever. **Amen.**

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." ¹³The Pharisees then said to him, "You are bearing witness to yourself; your testimony is not true." ¹⁴Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness to myself, my testimony is true, for I know whence I have come and whither I am going, but you do not know whence I come or whither I am going. ¹⁵You judge according to the flesh, I judge no one. ¹⁶Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone that judge, but I and he who sent me. ¹⁷In your law it is written that the testimony of two men is true; ¹⁸I bear witness to myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness to me." ¹⁹They said to him therefore, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father; if you knew me, you would know my Father also." ²⁰These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

Silence for meditation follows each reading. The leader then continues:

- ☐ 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.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE (Mary's Magnificat)

☑ **My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed.**

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Litany

℣ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

☩ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

☩ **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.

☩ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

☩ **Lord, have mercy.**

℣ For *Bishop Daniel*, for our *pastors* in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

☩ **Lord, have mercy.**

℣ For our 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.

☩ **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.

☩ **Lord, have mercy.**

℣ For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, 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 the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

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

Silence for meditation

℣ 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.**

℣ 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 the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

℣ Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

☩ **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.**

℣ Let us bless the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

Homily — A Reflection on Psalm 42

CLOSING PRAYER

℣ Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BENEDICTION

℣ The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, ✝ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen**

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