

Evening Prayer Wednesdays in Lent 2025

## OPENING

The assembly stands.

Behold, now is the accept- | able time;
now is the day | of salvation.
Turn us again, O God of | our salvation,
that the light of your face may | shine on us.
May your justice shine | like the sun;
and may the poor be | lifted up.

# THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set light in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ: may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

The assembly is seated.

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## PSALMODY

#### Psalm 141

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, I call to you; come <sup>|</sup> to me quickly; hear my voice when I <sup>|</sup> cry to you.

<sup>2</sup>Let my prayer rise before <sup>1</sup> you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the <sup>1</sup> evening sacrifice.

<sup>3</sup>Set a watch before my <sup>|</sup> mouth, O LORD, and guard the door <sup>|</sup> of my lips.

<sup>4</sup>Let not my heart incline to any <sup>1</sup> evil thing. let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers, nor eat of <sup>1</sup> their sweet foods.

<sup>5</sup>Let the righteous strike me; their rebukes, as oil upon the head, are not to <sup>1</sup> be refused.

Yet my prayers are continually against the deeds <sup>|</sup> of the wicked. <sup>6</sup>Let their rulers be thrown down up-<sup>|</sup> on the stones,

## that they may hear my words, for <sup>1</sup> they are sweet.

<sup>7</sup>Just as one who tills the earth <sup>|</sup> breaks the rock,

so let their bones be scattered at the mouth <sup>|</sup> of the grave.

#### <sup>8</sup>But my eyes are turned to <sup>1</sup> you, Lord GOD;

in you I take refuge; strip me not <sup>1</sup> of my life.

<sup>9</sup>Guard me from the trap that they have <sup>|</sup> laid for me and from the snares of <sup>|</sup> evildoers.

# <sup>10</sup>Let the wicked fall into <sup>1</sup> their own nets, while I a- <sup>1</sup> lone pass through.

#### Silence

#### Psalm of the Week – Psalm 113

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Give praise, you servants <sup>1</sup> of the LORD; praise the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Let the name of the <sup>1</sup>LORD be blessed, from this time forth for- <sup>1</sup> evermore. <sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its <sup>1</sup> going down\* let the name of the <sup>1</sup> LORD be praised.
<sup>4</sup>The LORD is high a-<sup>1</sup> bove all nations, and his glory a-<sup>1</sup> bove the heavens.
<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God, who sits en-<sup>1</sup> throned on high, but stoops to behold the heavens <sup>1</sup> and the earth?
<sup>6</sup>He takes up the weak out <sup>1</sup> of the dust and lifts up the poor <sup>1</sup> from the ashes.
<sup>7</sup>He sets them <sup>1</sup> with the princes, with the princes <sup>1</sup> of his people.
<sup>8</sup>He makes the woman of a <sup>1</sup> childless house to be a joyful moth-<sup>1</sup> er of children.

## WORD

#### Reading

The reading of scripture is followed by silence for reflection. Other forms of reflection may also follow, such as brief commentary, teaching, or personal witness; nonbiblical readings; interpretation through music or other art forms; or guided conversation among those present.

#### Luke 22:1-38

<sup>1</sup>Now the festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was near. <sup>2</sup>The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they were afraid of the people.

<sup>3</sup>Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; <sup>4</sup>he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. <sup>5</sup>They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup>So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present.

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup>They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" <sup>10</sup>Listen, he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters <sup>11</sup>and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ' <sup>12</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." <sup>13</sup>So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>14</sup>When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup>He said to

them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; <sup>16</sup>for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; <sup>18</sup>for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." <sup>19</sup>Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup>And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. <sup>21</sup>But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. <sup>22</sup>For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!" <sup>23</sup>Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

<sup>24</sup>A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. <sup>25</sup>But he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. <sup>26</sup>But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. <sup>27</sup>For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

<sup>28</sup>You are those who have stood by me in my trials; <sup>29</sup>and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, <sup>30</sup>so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

<sup>31</sup>Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, <sup>32</sup>but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup>And he said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me."

<sup>35</sup>He said to them, "When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "No, not a thing." <sup>36</sup>He said to them, "But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. <sup>37</sup>For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled." <sup>38</sup>They said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." He replied, "It is enough."

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways | by the prophets, **but in these last days God has spoken to us | by the Son.** 

## PRAYERS

The assembly kneels or remains seated.

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In peace, let us <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

## Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us <sup>1</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** 

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us <sup>I</sup> pray to the Lord.

## Lord, have mercy.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** 

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** 

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** 

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

#### Lord, have mercy.

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For our Bishops, Kurt and Elizabeth, and all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us <sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

# Lord, have mercy.

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Other petitions may be added.
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Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

# To you, O Lord.

The litany may be followed by one or more additional prayers.

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 our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

# Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and help us to pray.

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.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

#### BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

#### Amen.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

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#### FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 246 South Main Street Greensburg, Pennsylvania 724-834-1457 felchurch.org

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Chris Combs Marvin J. Huls Pastor Director of Music