

Mid-Week Lenten Services

March 6, 2024



Voices of the Passion

“Caiaphas, High Priest and Defender of the Faith”

Mid-Week Lenten Worship
March 6, 2024

PRELUDE

OPENING LITANY

P: God is our light and our salvation,

C: **our refuge and our stronghold.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: **We praise your name, O God.**

P: For with you is the fountain of life,

C: **and in your light we see light.**

HYMN

Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless

ELW 357

DIALOG FOR LENT

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time;

C: **now is the day of salvation.**

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

C: **that the light of your face may shine on us.**

P: May your justice shine like the sun;

C: **and may the poor be lifted up.**

PRAYER FOR LENTEN VESPERS

P: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

C: **Amen.**

THE READING

Matthew 26:57-68

57Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. 58But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. 59Now

the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, 60but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward 61and said, ‘This fellow said, “I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.” ’ 62The high priest stood up and said, ‘Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?’ 63But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, ‘I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.’ 64Jesus said to him, ‘You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.’

65Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. 66What is your verdict?’ They answered, ‘He deserves death.’ 67Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, 68saying, ‘Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?’

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE

During the Wednesdays of Lent and the days of Holy Week, we revisit the story of Jesus’ suffering and death as told from the perspective of various characters in the drama of Jesus’ passion. As they speak to us, we will discover how their story is also our story. We were there. We participated. We are the ultimate beneficiaries of the greatest story ever told. Tonight...

Voices of the Passion
“Caiaphas, High Priest and Defender of the Faith”

HYMN

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

ELW 325

PRAYERS

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy

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

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.

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

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share,
and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

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 pray to the Lord.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering,
and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need,
let us pray to the Lord.

For all servants of the church, for this assembly,
and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were
permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We
entrust to you the night; we rest securely, for you are our help, and you neither
slumber nor sleep; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

P: Now in peace I will lie down and sleep;

C: you alone, O God, make me secure.

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

God, Who Made The Earth And Heaven

ELW 564

POSTLUDE