

The Incarnation of Our Lord and Good Friday

March 25, 2016

✠ THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION ✠

The Invocation

The Litany (pp. 137-138)

The Collect

P: Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

C: He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities.

P: We beseech You, O Lord, pour forth Your grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of the angel, so by His cross and Passion we may be brought into the glory of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

The First Lesson - Genesis 3:8-15

A Hymn - #165, vv. 7-8 - "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

The Holy Gospel - St. Luke 1:26-38

A Hymn - #165, vv. 1, 3 - "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

The Sermon

The significance of Jesus' Incarnation and Death may be emphasized in a series of meditations based on the seven sayings of Jesus from the cross. Connections may also be made to the parts of Mary's Magnificat (texts in parentheses). Hymn verses may be sung after each meditation.

I. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (St. Luke 1:39-42)

#274, vv. 1, 4, 6 - "When Our Head Are Bowed with Woe" - AND/OR -
#102, vv. 1-2 - "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

II. "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." (St. Luke 1:43-45)

#334/335, vv. 1, 8 - "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" - AND/OR -
#148, vv. 1, 7-8 - "Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men"

III. "Woman, behold, your son." "Behold, your mother!" (St. Luke 1:46-49)

#294, vv. 1, 3 - "Near the Cross Was Mary Weeping" - AND/OR -
#123, vv. 2-3, 13 - "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

IV. "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (St. Luke 1:50-52)

#297, v. 2 - "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" - AND/OR -
#145, vv. 1-2 - "What Child Is This?"

V. "I thirst." (St. Luke 1:53)

#291, v. 6 - "Lord Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light" - AND/OR -
TLH #58, vv. 3-4 - "O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee"

VI. "It is finished!" (St. Luke 1:54)

#284, v. 3 - "Go to Dark Gethsemane" - AND/OR -
#115, v. 13 - "All My Heart Sings and Rejoices"

VII. "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." (St. Luke 1:55-56)

#292, vv. 4-5 - "O Dearest Jesus" - AND/OR -
#110, vv. 4-5 - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

The Offering

During the Offering, #333 may be sung.

✠ THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

Prayer before Holy Communion (p. 40)

P: We do not presume to come to Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the Lord who desires always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the Body of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His Blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (p. 53)

The Words of Institution (p. 54)

The Agnus Dei Hymn - #41 "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"

The Distribution

During the Distribution, #298, #128, #144, or another hymn may be sung.

The Collect for Lent (pp. 57-58)

The Closing Verse - #593 "On My Heart Imprint Thine Image"



Prepared by the Worship Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Permission is granted to adapt this service for congregational use as desired. All hymns and page numbers are from the *Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary* unless otherwise noted.