

Salem Lutheran Church Lenten Service
Evening Prayer Service
March 25, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;
the light no darkness can overcome;
Stay with us now, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.
Let your light scatter the darkness,
and shine within your people here.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And also with you.

ALL: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe – from old you led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation. Amen

SCRIPTURE Matthew 27:15-26

MESSAGE Barabbas

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

ALL: Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Faithful God, shower the world with your
Loving kindness, that all may know your peace.
Open our eyes to the needs of our neighbors,
that all may know your love.
Comfort the sick and dying,
that all may know your mercy.
Guide our leaders in the way of truth,

that all may know your justice.
Focus our hearts on the way of the cross,
that all may have faith in you.

Let us pray in the words of Martin Luther:

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled.
My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.
I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that
my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a
strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable
to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen
my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure
of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to
be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright.
With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the
fullness of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with
you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give.
Amen. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 87*)

Finally, let us pray with the words our Savior gave us:

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.

PRAYER OF BENEDICTION

May God, Creator, bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever
light for our lives, may the Spirit of Love be our guide and
path, for all of our days. **Amen.**