



OPENING SENTENCES

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World,

C: The light no darkness can overcome.

P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening.

C: And the day is almost over.

P: Be our light and scatter the darkness,

C: And hear our evening hymn of praise.

SING:

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,

In you the Father's glory shone.

Immortal, holy, blest is he, And blest are you, his only Son.

Now sunset comes, but light shines forth;

The lamps are lit to pierce the night.

Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God who dwells in the eternal light.

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**Worthy are you of endless praise, O Son of God, life-giving Lord;
Wherefore you are through all the earth
And in the highest heav'n adored.**

PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with 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. We, your creatures, glorify you: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

**C: (SING) 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.**

P: Let my prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
 For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
 For sins of habit and sins of choice,
 For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
 You should cast me away from your presence forever.
 O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his Called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE PASSION HISTORY FROM MARK

On Trial Before Pilate – Mark 15:1-20

Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. “Are you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate. “Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied. The chief priests accused him of many things. So again Pilate asked him. “Aren’t you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of.” But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. “Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Barabbas over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. “What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them. “Crucify him!” they shouted. “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!” Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. And they began to call out to him, “Hail, king of the Jews!” Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

P: The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C: **By his wounds we are healed.**

HYMN – *“Enslaved by Sin and Bound in Chains”*

CW 102

PICTURES OF A GREAT HIGH PRIEST:

The Priest Maker– Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

OFFERING

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

C: Amen.

HYMN – “Sticken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

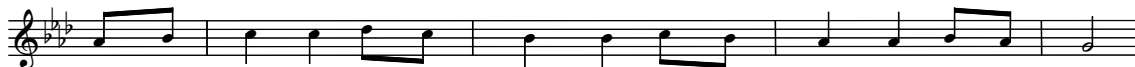
CW 127



If you think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil great,
Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the lost;



Here you see its na - ture right - ly, Here its guilt may es - ti - mate.
Christ's the rock of our sal - va - tion, His the name of which we boast.



Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed; See who bears the aw - ful load -
Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt -



'Tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
None shall ev - er be con - found - ed Who on him their hope have built.