

### Prayers before Any Office

Grant, O Lord, that what we say with our lips we may believe in our hearts and practice in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Thy holy Name; cleanse my heart from all vain, foolish, wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding; enkindle my affections that I may say this office with attention and devotion and so may be meet to be heard before the presence of Thy divine majesty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Prayers after Any Office

Guide us, O Lord, in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help that in all our work begun, continued, and ended in Thee we may glorify Thy holy Name and finally by Thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

To Thee, O Lord, I commend the service which I, an unworthy sinner, have offered up unto Thee, God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and according to the fulness of Thy love and wisdom fulfill my petitions; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

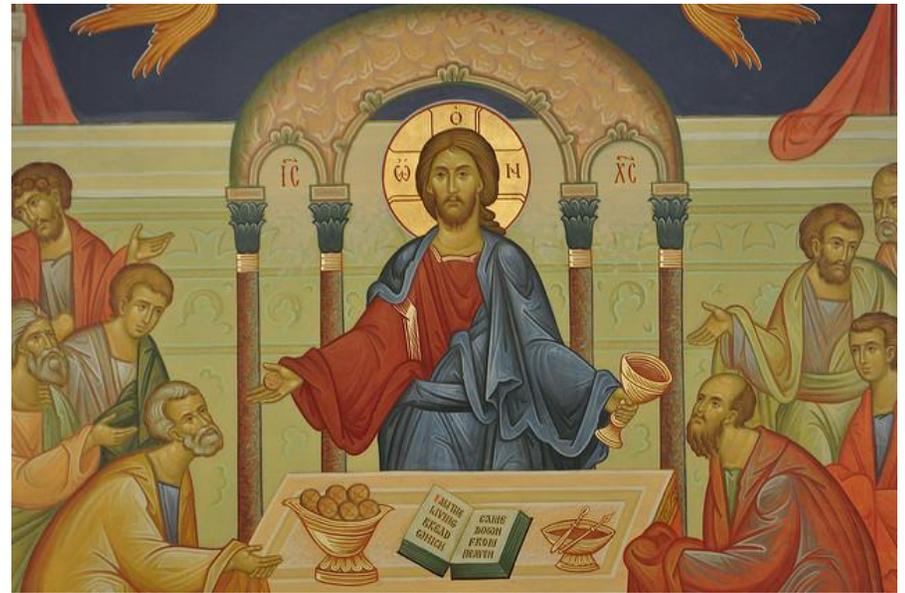
### Collect for Laetare

Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of Thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

### Collect for the Season of Lent

Almighty and Everlasting God, our Father, Who hatest nothing that Thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of Thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with the Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

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Midweek Lenten Vespers  
March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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*“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”*

*St. John 6:51*



## Psalm 139



P: O **LORD**, - || You | have | searched | me  
 C: And | — | **known** - | me. | —

P: || O Lord, You have searched me | and | known | me.  
 C: You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my | thought | **a-** - | far | off.

P: || You comprehend my path and my | ly- | ing | down,  
 C: And are acquainted | with | **all** - | my | ways.

P: || For there is not a word | on | my | tongue,  
 C: But behold, O Lord, You know it | al- | **to-** - | geth- | er.

P: || You have hedged me behind | and | be- | fore,  
 C: And laid Your | hand | **up-** - | on | me.

P: || Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful | for | me;  
 C: It is high, I can- | not | **at-** - | tain | it.

P: || Where can I go from | Your | Spi- | rit?  
 C: Or where can I flee | from | **Your** - | pre- | sence?

P: || If I ascend into heaven, | You | are | there;  
 C: If I make my bed in hell, be- | hold, | **You** - | are | there.

P: || If I take the wings of | the | morn- | ing,  
 C: And dwell in the uttermost | parts | **of** - | the | sea,

P: || Even there Your hand | shall | lead | me,  
 C: And Your right | hand | **shall** - | hold | me.

P: || If I say, “Surely the darkness shall | fall | on | me,”  
 C: Even the night shall be | light | **a-** - | bout | me;

P: || Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines | as | the | day;

C: The darkness and the light are both | a- | **like** - | to | You.  
 P: || For You formed my | in- | ward | parts;

C: You covered me in | my | **moth-** - | er’s | womb.  
 P: || I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonder- | ful- | ly | made;

C: Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul | knows | **ver-** - | y | well.

P: || My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made | in | sec- | ret,

C: And skillfully wrought in the lowest | parts | **of** - | the | earth.  
 P: || Your eyes saw my substance, being | yet | un- | formed.



C: And in Your book they | all | **were** - | writ- | ten,  
 P: || The days fa- | shioned | for | me,

C: When as yet there | were | **none** - | of | them.  
 P: || How precious also are Your thoughts to me, | O | God!

C: How great is | the | **sum** - | of | them!  
 P: || If I should count them, they would be more in number | than | the | sand;

C: When I awake, I | am | **still** - | with | You.  
 P: || Oh, that You would slay the wick- | ed, | O | God!

C: Depart from me, therefore, you | blood- | **thirst-** - | y | men.  
 P: || For they speak against You | wick- | ed- | ly;

C: Your enemies take | Your | **name** - | in | vain.  
 P: || Do I not hate them, O Lord, | who | hate | You?

C: And do I not loathe those who rise | up | **a-** - | gainst | You?  
 P: || I hate them with per- | fect | hat- | red;

C: I count them | my | **en-** - | e- | mies.  
 P: || Search me, O God, and | know | my | heart;

C: Try me, and know my | an- | **xi-** - | e- | ties;  
 P: || And see if there is any wicked | way | in | me,

C: And lead me in the way | ev- | **er-** - | last- | ing.

**ALL: GLO- RY** - || be to the Father, and | to | the | Son,  
 And to | the | **Ho-** - | ly | Ghost;

**AS IT** - || was in the begin -*ning*, (+) is now, and ev- | er | shall | be  
 World with- | out | **end.** - | A- | men.

P: || O Lord, You | have | searched | me  
 C: And | — | **known** - | me. | —

**TLH 169 “Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Holy”**

Michal Grodzki, c. 1550

1. Jesus Christ, our Lord most holy,  
Lamb of God so pure and lowly,  
Blameless, blameless, on the cross art offered,  
Sinless, sinless, for our sins hast suffered.
2. Weep now, all ye wretched creatures,  
As ye view His gracious features.  
Jesus, Jesus, on the cross is dying,  
Nature, nature, in dark gloom is sighing.
3. Christ, His last word having spoken,  
Bows His head as life is broken.  
Mournful, mournful, stands His mother weeping,  
Loved ones, loved ones, silent watch are keeping.
4. The great veil was torn asunder,  
Earth did quake mid roars of thunder,  
Boulders, boulders, into bits were breaking;  
Sainted, sainted, dead from death were waking.
5. As His side with spear was riven,  
Blood and water forth were given.  
Jesus, Jesus, sinners' only Savior,  
Mercy, mercy, grant to us forever. Amen.

**TLH 173 “Lord Jesus, We Give Thanks to Thee”**

Christoph Fischer, 1597

1. Lord Jesus, we give thanks to Thee  
That Thou hast died to set us free;  
Made righteous thro' Thy precious blood,  
We now are reconciled to God.
2. By virtue of Thy wounds we pray,  
True God and Man, be Thou our Stay,  
Our Comfort when we yield our breath,  
Our Rescue from eternal death.
3. Defend us, Lord, from sin and shame;  
Help us by Thine Almighty Name  
To bear our crosses patiently,  
Consoled by Thy great agony,
4. And thus the full assurance gain  
That Thou to us wilt true remain  
And not forsake us in our strife  
Until we enter into life. Amen.

**TLH 179 “On My Heart Imprint Thine Image”**

Thomas Kingo, 1689

1. On my heart imprint Thine image,  
Blessed Jesus, King of Grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures  
Have no pow'r Thee to efface.  
This the superscription be:  
Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's Foundation,  
And my Glory and Salvation. Amen.