

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Geneva

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Fifth Sunday of Lent + 29 March 2020

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: *Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia*

Musical Preparation

Welcome Andy

Prelude

Opening words

In a time of tears and tombs,
we wait for God, like those who watch for the morning.
When the dead are mourned from afar, and churches echo emptiness,
Jesus weeps.
When apartments feel like prisons, and lungs suddenly give way,
we count every breath as a gift of the Spirit.

In a time of tombs and tears,
we invite God, who knows our fears and dreams, to come near.
We cry out to the One who hears our questions
and make space before the unrolled stones of graves.
In the silence,

In the silence,

In the silence, when no answer satisfies,
nevertheless, we sing our praise,
and trust the Holy Community, the Trinity of Love,
one God, now and forever.

Hymn

O God, why are you silent

verse 1

Marty Haugen

Hans Leo Hassler, Harmony, J.S. Bach



1. O God, why are you si - lent? We can - not hear your voice. The
 2. Now lost with - in our griev - ing, we fall and lose our way, our
 3. Our hope lies bruised and bat - tered, our wound - ed heart is torn; our
 4. Through end - less nights of weep - ing, through wea - ry days of grief, our
 5. May pain draw forth com - pas - sion, let wis - dom rise from loss, O



proud and strong and vio - lent all claim you and re - jice. You pro - mised you would hold us
 fra - gile, faint be - liev - ing so swift - ly swept a - way. O God of pain and sor - row,
 spir - its spent and shat - tered by life's re - lent - less storm. Will you not bend to hear us,
 heart is in your keep - ing, our com - fort, our re - lief. Come share our tears and sad - ness,
 take our hearts and fash - ion the im - age of your cross. Then may we know your heal - ing



with ten - der - ness and care. Draw near, O Love, en - fold us, and ease the pain we bear.
 our com - pass and our guide, We can - not face the mor - row with - out you by our side.
 our cries from deep with - in? Have you no word to cheer us when night is clos - ing in?
 come, suf - fer in our pain; O bring us home to glad - ness, re - store our hope a - gain.
 through heal - ing that we share, your grace and love re - veal - ing your ten - der - ness and care.

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Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Hymn O God, why are you silent verse 2

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!
 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?
 But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Hymn O God, why are you silent verse 3

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
 my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,
 more than those who watch for the morning.

Hymn O God, why are you silent verse 4

O Israel, hope in the Lord!
 For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
 and with him is great power to redeem.
 It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Hymn O God, why are you silent verse 5

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Let us pray,
 Out of the depths, we cry to you, O Lord,
 whose living testifies to life at its fullest,
 whose suffering gives worth to all who suffer,
 whose death conquers death:
 hear us in this time of uncertainty and need,
 not that we escape the pain of our world,
 but that borne up by your grace,
 we face the unknown before us with compassion for others,

and faithfulness to your love,
 discovering the depths of your spirit,
 renewing us each day,
 honoring your name, Jesus Christ,
Amen.

Acclamation

Mine voin mennä

English, Per Harling

Pekka Simojoki: Finland

1. Min - ne voin men - nä, min - ne voin men - nä? I - kui - sen
 1. Who shall we turn to, who shall we turn to? Who has the

e lä - män sa - no - ja hain. Si - nul - ta, Jee - sus,
 words of e - ter - nal life? 1. Turn - ing to Je - sus

löy - sin ne vain, Si - nul - ta, Jee - sus, löy - sin ne vain.
 we'll find the word. Turn - ing to Je - sus we'll find the word.

Gospel Reading

John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.'

So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.'

The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.

Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Lament

Where are you, now that our world is shut down,
God of death and life?
Livelihoods have been usurped by unending questions,
and plans shattered.
If you were here,
would you not see the fear in the faces?
Would you not hear the weeping of those who cannot bury their dead?
Would you not warn us to value the weakest, as well as the wellness of the well-off?
If you really are good,
what place for such a virus?
If you really are loving,
how could you allow the infections to grow so rapidly?
If you really are powerful,
where is the cure?
If,
If,
If. . . .
God, whom we don't understand,
out of the depths we cry to you.
Hear our voice.
Hear the voices in the hospitals.
Hear the voices of those controlling the lines in front of the pharmacies.
Hear the voices of the children locked in their apartments.
Let your ears be attentive to our cries.
We cannot wait, God.
For too many, the morning will not arrive.
If you were here. . . .

Response

Out of the depths, I cry to you

Martin Luther: Germany

1. Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord now hear me call - ing. In - cline your
ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling. Do not re - gard my sin - ful
deeds. Send me the grace my spir - it needs; with-out it I am noth - ing.

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Gospel Reading

Martha said to Jesus: 'But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Response

God in the darkness

Elizabeth J. Smith: Australia

Colin Gibson: Aoteroa/New Zealand

1. God in the dark - ness, God be - yond our know - ing, pat - ient cre - a - tor, seed in se - cret
2. God in the dark - ness, God in all our griev - ing, friend of our tears, com - pan - ion nev - er

grow - ing, rock of the liv - ing, wa - ter ev - er - flow - ing, come and re - new us.
leav - ing, draw - ing us past the lim - its of be - liev - ing, come and re - new us.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

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Gospel Reading

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.'

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.'

Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone.

And Jesus looked upward and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Hymn

How can I keep from singing

Lowell Mason: USA

1. My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion, I catch the sweet, though
 2. Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing. It finds an ech-o
 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav-ior liv-eth. What though the dark-ness
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing! All things are mine since
 far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion. No storm can shake my in-most calm while
 in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
 I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing.
 to that Rock I'm cling-ing. Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing.

Prayers of Intercession

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.
and also with you.

Gathering of Gifts

You raise me up

Brendan Graham: Ireland

Rolf Løvland: Norway

When I am down and, oh my soul, so wea-ry; when trou-bles come and my heart bur-dened be;
 There is no life, no life with-out its hun-ger; each rest-less heart beats so im-per-fect-ly;
 then, I am still and wait here in the si-lence, un-til you come and sit a-while with me.
 but when you come and I am filled with won-der, some-times, I think I glimpse e-ter-ni-ty.
 You raise me up, so I can stand on moun-tains; you raise me up, to walk on stor-my seas;
 I am strong, when I am on your shoul-ders; you raise me up to more than I can be.

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The Prayer over the Gifts

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Let us pray.
 God of Life,
 when out of the depths or with jittery nerves we cry to you,
 you hear our voice
and raise us up. Thank you.
 Because there is forgiveness with you,
 you heal us of the marks of our iniquities
and raise us up. Thank you.

Waiting for you, gracious God,
we find hope,
as if with each dawn you offer us a new breath of beginning
and raise us up. Thank you.

With you there is steadfast love,
that holds us through the cooped-up hours,
and redeems the time.
Thank you for raising us up, now and always.

The 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.
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.*

Words of Grace

Romans 8:9-11a

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.
But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Sending Prayer

You have not left us for dead, God of life,
but have entered our tombs
and breathed into us your Spirit.
Even in this time when we must be physically separate,
let love multiply and divide like yeast,
so all your people are fed,
and led to life in Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

Announcements

Hymn

For everyone born

Shirley Erena Murray

Brian Mann

1. For ev - ery - one born, All a place at the ta - ble, for ev - ery - one born, clean
 2. For young and for old, a voice to be heard, a
 3. For ev - ery - one born, to live with - out fear, and

wa - ter and bread, a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 part in the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 sim - ply to be, to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

Refrain

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head, and
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and joy,

com - pas sion and peace: yes, God will de - light when we are cre -

a - tors of jus - tice, jus - tice and joy!

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Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.