

The Order of Vespers Laetare
Wednesday, pp. 41-45

Hymn # 147

1. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest
away the sin of the world, have mercy
upon us!

2. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest
away the sin of the world, have mercy
upon us!

3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest
away the sin of the world, grant us Thy
peace! Amen.

P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

**C: And my mouth shall show forth
Thy praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the
Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be: world without end. Amen.**

Psalm 130 p. 153

1 Out of the depths have I cried unto
thee, O LORD.

2 Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears
be attentive to the voice of my supplica-
tions.

3 If thou, LORD, shouldst mark iniqui-
ties, O Lord, who shall stand?

4 But *there is* forgiveness with thee,
that thou mayest be feared.

5 I wait for the LORD, my soul doth
wait, and in his word do I hope.

6 My soul *waiteth* for the Lord more
than they that watch for the morning: *I*
say, more than they that watch for the
morning.

7 Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with
the LORD *there is* mercy, and with him *is*
plenteous redemption.

8 And he shall redeem Israel from all
his iniquities.

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the
Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be: world without end. Amen.**

Lesson: Gen. 3.7-8,21

7 And the eyes of them both were

opened, and they knew that they *were*
naked; and they sewed fig leaves to-
gether, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the
LORD God walking in the garden in the
cool of the day: and Adam and his wife
hid themselves from the presence of the
LORD God amongst the trees of the gar-
den...

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did
the LORD God make coats of skins, and
clothed them.

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon
us.

C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.

Lesson: Matt. 27.24-30

24 When Pilate saw that he could
prevail nothing, but *that* rather a tu-
mult was made, he took water, and
washed *his* hands before the multitude,
saying, I am innocent of the blood of
this just person: see ye *to it*.

25 Then answered all the people, and
said, His blood *be* on us, and on our
children.

26 Then released he Barabbas unto
them: and when he had scourged Jesus,
he delivered *him* to be crucified.

27 Then the soldiers of the governor
took Jesus into the common hall, and
gathered unto him the whole band of
soldiers.

28 And they stripped him, and put on
him a scarlet robe.

29 And when they had platted a
crown of thorns, they put *it* upon his
head, and a reed in his right hand: and
they bowed the knee before him, and
mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the
Jews!

30 And they spit upon him, and took
the reed, and smote him on the head.

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon
us.

C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.

Hymn # 142

1. A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of all men bearing;
And laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing!
Goes patient on, grow weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer;
Bears shame and stripes, and wounds

and death,
Anguish and mockery, and saith,
"Willing all this I suffer."

2. This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great
Friend,

The Lamb of God, our Savior;
Him God the Father chose to send
To gain for us His favor.

"Go forth, My Son," the Father saith,
"And free men from the fear of death,
From guilt and condemnation.
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by Thy Passion men shall share
The fruit of Thy salvation."

3. "Yea, Father, yea, most willingly
I'll bear what Thou commandest;
My will conforms to Thy decree,
I do what Thou demandest."
O wondrous Love, what hast Thou done!
The Father offers up His Son!
The Son, content, descendeth!
O Love, how strong Thou art to save!
Thou beddest Him within the grave
Whose word the mountains rendeth.

4. From morn till eve my theme shall be
Thy mercy's wondrous measure;
To sacrifice myself for Thee
Shall be my aim and pleasure.
My stream of life shall ever be
A current flowing ceaselessly,
Thy constant praise outpouring.
I'll treasure in my memory,
O Lord, all Thou hast done for me,
Thy gracious love adoring.

5. Of death I am no more afraid,
New life from Thee is flowing;
Thy cross affords me cooling shade
When noonday's sun is glowing.
When by my grief I am opprest,
On Thee my weary soul shall rest
Serenely as on pillows.
Thou art my Anchor when by woe
My bark is driven to and fro
On trouble's surging billows.

6. And when Thy glory I shall see
And taste Thy kingdom's pleasure,
Thy blood my royal robe shall be,
My joy beyond all measure.
When I appear before Thy throne,
Thy righteousness shall be my crown,-
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought
As Thine own bride, I shall be brought
To stand in joy beside Thee. Amen.

Sermon

P: Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as incense:

C: And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

C: Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

**For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

Several collects are prayed, concluding with the Collect for Peace. After each, the Amen is sung or said.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed, give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that we, being defended by Thee from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C: Amen.

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

C: Amen.

Doxology # 644

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.