

## MORNING PRAYER

HOLY SATURDAY

Greet the people, and make sure that everyone has a worship aid.

### OPENING VERSICLE

*All stand and make a sign of the cross as the leader sings or says:*

PRESIDER: **O Lord, open our lips**

ALL: **And we shall proclaim your praise.**

### MORNING HYMN

#### PSALM

*All are Seated*

#### PSALM PRAYER

*All stand.*

PRESIDER:

Let us pray.

-----pause for silence-----

[Place hands outstretched in the orans position, here]

Most holy God,  
we rejoice in your gift of life  
as shared with us in Christ.  
On this day, help us to enter more deeply  
into the mystery of your life lived among us,  
your people.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

AMEN.

## A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took his body.

Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds.

They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom.

Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried.

So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day; for the tomb was close by.

## The Gospel of the Lord

**REFLECTION** – Fr. Jim Schwartz, pastor

## PREPARATION RITES FOR THE ELECT

### THOSE TO BE BAPTIZED/CATECHUMENS

Cathy Kamp:

Brennan Garlock  
Debra Garlock  
Hadley Garlock  
Megan Hanselman

have been preparing for full initiation with our church at the Vigil of Easter

### BLESSING OF OIL OF CATECHUMENS

Fr. Jim: Let us pray

O God, source of strength  
and defender of your people,  
you have chosen to make this oil,  
created by your hand,  
an effective sign of your power.

Bless **+** this oil  
and strengthen these catechumens  
who will be anointed with it.  
Grant them your wisdom to understand the Gospel more  
deeply and your strength to accept the challenges of Christian  
life.

Enable them to rejoice in baptism  
and to partake of a new life in the Church as true children of  
your family.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

AMEN

### ANOINTING WITH OIL

Fr. Jim

We anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ  
our Savior. May he strengthen you with his power, who lives  
and reigns forever and ever. AMEN.

### EPHPHETHA

Fr. Jim

Ephphetha: that is, be opened, that you may profess the faith  
you hear to the praise and glory of God

Presider touches the left and right ear and the lips of the elect.  
*All are seated in prayer for a few moments.*

**CANTICLE OF ZACHARY***All Stand***PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL***All stand*

**PRESIDER:** Jesus, the Son of God came to set us free, lies bound in the earth.  
May all that hope for him await a new day, and so we pray

Reader You are the stone rejected by the builders; you have become the cornerstone: make all of us living stones in your Church.

*Cantor*

Reader Jesus died that we might have life to the full; Help us to be inspired and encouraged to call gifted women and men to ministry

*Cantor*

Reader We pray for all Christians: may they live in the joy of the resurrection, and may they be a visible sign of your presence by their mutual love.

*Cantor*

Reader We pray for our elect: Brennan Garlock, Debra Garlock, Hadley Garlock, Megan Hanselman, Lynn Bartholomew, Melissa Dawson, Jesseca Downey and Adam Greenly.

*Cantor*

Reader We pray for those who are sick; especially for those for whom we now pray

*(Cantor pause)**Cantor*

Reader We pray for those who have died and for those who mourn; especially for those for whom we now pray *(Cantor pause)*

*Cantor*

Reader For what else do we pray, today?---*allow people ample time to share prayers.*

*When all have shared, then Fr. Jim continues with the introduction to the Our Father*

## OUR FATHER

*Remain Standing*

PRESIDER:

Let us pray with confidence in the words  
our Savior gave us:

SUNG: ‘Our Father....for the kingdom, the power....

PRESIDER:

Let us share with one another a sign of Christ’s peace.

## CONCLUDING PRAYERS/ BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*Remain standing*

PRESIDER:

**The Lord be with you**

ALL:

**And With Your Spirit**

PRESIDER:

Bow your heads and pray  
for the blessing of our God

PRESIDER:

Jesus our joy---- in your presence we find forgiveness--  
and clear flowing waters. Thirsting for the realities of  
God, we recognize your presence as the Risen Lord.

And just as the earth is beginning to blossom in the  
light of springtime, you make even the deserts of the  
soul burst into flower. May our hearts find in you  
alone----perfect rest and peace. Through Christ our  
Lord, forever and ever.

AMEN.

PRESIDER:

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the  
Son

+

and the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

## HYMN OF GOING FORTH

*Remain standing*