

Lenten Midday Prayer – April 9, 2025 (Fourth Wednesday of Lent)

Welcome + Invocation

Litany of Healing – Screen

L: Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers:

(Please take a moment of silent reflection.)

L: God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation.

C: Have mercy on us.

L: God the Son, who came that we might have life, and have it more abundantly.

C: Have mercy on us.

L: God the Spirit, whose temple our bodies are.

C: Have mercy on us.

L: Holy Trinity, in whom we live, and move, and have our being.

C: Have mercy on us. Amen.

Opening Prayer – Screen

L: O God of Peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:11-27 – Screen

As they were listening to this, he went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. So he said, ‘A nobleman went to a distant country to get royal power for himself and then return. He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them, “Do business with these until I come back.” But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, “We do not want this man to rule over us.” When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading. The first came forward and said, “Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.” He said to him, “Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities.” Then the second came, saying, “Lord, your pound has made five pounds.” He said to him, “And you, rule over five cities.” Then the other came, saying, “Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth, for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.” He said to him, “I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest.” He said to the bystanders, “Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.” (And they said to him, “Lord, he has ten pounds!”) “I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and slaughter them in my presence.” ’

L: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Prayers – Screen

L: We pray that you will hear us, O Lord; and will grant your grace to all.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will be with the leaders of the nations, that their decisions will sustain the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will sustain those who face long or terminal illness, bearing them up as on eagle's wings.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will abide with all who are lonely or despondent, having no one to comfort them.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will restore all who are in mental darkness to soundness of mind and cheerfulness of heart.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will grant us life eternal so we may live in your hope that doesn't disappoint.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will give your wisdom in ample measure to doctors, nurses, and medical workers of all kind, so that with knowledge, skill, patience, they may minister to the sick.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

L: That you will give us grateful hearts for your healing power already at work all around us.

C: Hear us, and make us whole.

Lord's Prayer – Screen

L: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Savior taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.

Closing Prayer – Screen

L: Jesus Lamb of God, bearer of our sins, redeemer of the world.

C: Have mercy on us and give us your peace. Amen.

Benediction – Screen

L: May the Lord fill us with the light and truth and love of the Spirit, overflowing so that we share it with others in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.