

The Late Night  
Conversation  
Between  
the Psalmist,  
the Lord,  
& the Attackers  
Outside  
*(Real or Imagined)*

Psalm 4

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter - April 18, 2021

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**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

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## ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

KELLEY DORNER IN CELEBRATION OF LEXI'S 19TH BIRTHDAY

SUE & MURIEL SCHMIDKE IN THANKFULNESS TO GOD FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS



### GENEROSITY SERVICE

A service celebrating God's generosity to us—especially in His generous salvation offered as a gift to us in Jesus Christ. May that generosity transform us.

#### Opening Hymn

#### With the Lord Begin Your Task

LSB 869 sts. 1-4



1 With the Lord be - gin your task; Je - sus will di - rect it.  
 2 Let each day be - gin with prayer, Praise, and ad - o - ra - tion.  
 3 With your Sav - ior at your side, Foes need not a - larm you;  
 4 If your task be thus be - gun With the Sav - ior's bless - ing,



For His aid and coun - sel ask; Je - sus will per - fect it.  
 On the Lord cast ev - 'ry care; He is your sal - va - tion.  
 In His prom - is - es con - fide, And no ill can harm you.  
 Safe - ly then your course will run, Toward the prom - ise press - ing.



Ev - 'ry morn with Je - sus rise, And when day is end - ed,  
 Morn - ing, eve - ning, and at night Je - sus will be near you,  
 All your trust and hope re - pose In the might - y Mas - ter,  
 Good will fol - low ev - 'ry - where While you here must wan - der;



In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him com - mend - ed.  
 Save you from the tempt - er's might, With His pres - ence cheer you.  
 Who in wis - dom tru - ly knows How to stem dis - as - ter.  
 You at last the joy will share In the man - sions yon - der.

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#### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## **Generosity Praises**

based on 1 Cor. 2:12; 2 Cor. 9:11; Prov. 11:25; Rom. 12:6,8; James 1:17

P: We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God,

**C: that we may understand what God has freely given us.**

P: You will be made rich in every way

**C: so that you can be generous on every occasion.**

P: A generous person will prosper;

**C: The one who refreshes others will also be refreshed.**

P: We have different gifts, according to the grace,  
the gift of God, given to us. If it is encouraging,

**C: let him encourage;**

P: if it is contributing to the needs of others,

**C: let him give generously;**

P: if it is leadership,

**C: let him lead diligently;**

P: if it is showing mercy,

**C: let him do it cheerfully.**

P: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above,

**C: coming down from the Father of lights. Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution (Forgiveness)**

based on Titus 3:3-7

P: Confess—admit your sin before the Lord and before one another.

**C: In our sinful condition, we were foolish, disobedient,  
deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures.  
We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.**

P: But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,

**C: He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done,**

P: but because of his mercy.

**C: He saved us through the washing of rebirth—**

P: Your baptism into the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: He saved us through the renewal by the Holy Spirit—**

P: The Spirit He poured out on you generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

**C: So that, now we are made right in God's eyes,**

P: You are justified by his grace, a free gift to you through God's generosity. You are forgiven, made right, justified in the Name of the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen! Now we inherit all the riches of the kingdom of God as His children.**

P: You inherit the gift of the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Song of Praise**

**Change My Heart, Oh God**

Change my heart, oh God. \_\_\_ Make it ev - er true. \_\_\_

Change my heart, oh God. \_\_\_ May I be like You. \_\_\_

You are \_ the pot - ter. I \_\_\_ am the clay.

Mold me \_ and make \_\_\_ me. This is what I pray. \_\_\_

Change my heart, oh God. \_\_\_ Make it ev - er true. \_\_\_

Change my heart, oh God. \_\_\_ May I be like You. \_\_\_

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**Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** *And also with you.*

**P:** Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** *Amen.*

**Psalm Reading****Psalm 4 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!  
You have given me relief when I was in distress.  
Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

<sup>2</sup>O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?  
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

<sup>3</sup>But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;  
the LORD hears when I call to him.

<sup>4</sup>Be angry, and do not sin;  
ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

<sup>5</sup>Offer right sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?  
Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”

<sup>7</sup>You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle (New Testament Letter)****1 John 3:1–7 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem****More Like You, Lord****Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

More like you, Lord, will I be, if your Spirit dwells in me.  
Fill my soul with peace and love; make me gentle, like a dove.

More like, Lord, this I pray; guide me ev'ry day,  
Teach me, Lord, how I may live, and all my sins, Lord, please forgive.

Rich in faith, Lord, will I be if your presence walks with me.

More like you, Lord, hear my song. My heart and soul to you belong.  
If your spirit dwells in me, more like you, Lord, more like you, Lord,  
More like you, O Lord, will I be. Amen

**Holy Gospel****Luke 24:36–49 (ESV)**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>36</sup>As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" <sup>37</sup>But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate before them.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

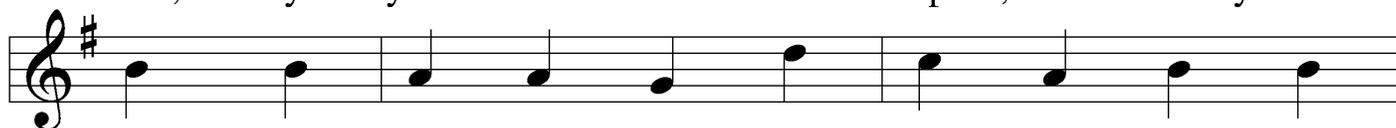
**Hymn of the Day**

**All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night**

LSB 883 sts. 1-4



1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the  
2 For - give me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that  
3 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as  
4 Oh, may my soul in Thee re - pose, And may sweet



bles - ings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,  
I this day have done, That with the world, my -  
lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die that  
sleep mine eye - lids close, Sleep that shall me more



King of kings, Be - neath Thine own al - might - y wings.  
self, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.  
so I may Rise glo - rious at the awe - full day.  
vig - 'rous make To serve my God when I a - wake!

**Sermon**

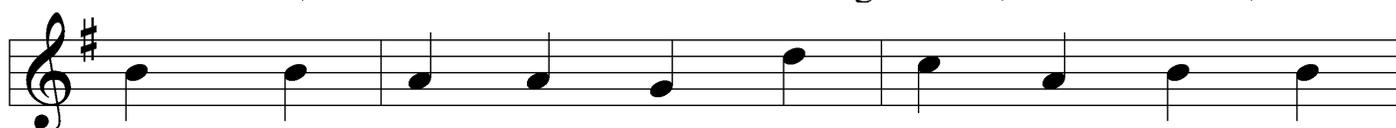
**Psalm 4**

**Hymn of Response All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night**

LSB 883 sts. 5-6, alt.



5 When in the night I sleep - less lie, My soul with  
△ 6 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



heav'n - ly thoughts sup - ply; Let no ill dreams dis -  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



turb my rest, No pow'rs of dark - ness bring dis - tress.  
heav'n-ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## **Confession of Faith**

## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.—I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Prayers**

### **The Lord's Supper: What We Believe**

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed  
are invited to receive Communion with us  
if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ,  
and the wine is the blood of Christ,  
truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe,  
we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite  
those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing  
from the Lord.

### **Preparation for the Lord's Supper & Lord's Prayer**

LSB 290, 203, & others

P: I will go to the altar of God,

**C: to God, my exceeding joy.**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: Since we are gathered to receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in  
the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and that we  
cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us  
take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, and in His  
incredible generosity shown to us in the death of His only Son, Jesus Christ,  
our Lord. In perfect love for us Jesus Christ our God and Lord became  
incarnate, died, and rose for our sake. He bestows the benefits of His  
redeeming work on us as He places His body and blood into our mouths in the  
Sacrament of the Altar. As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we  
proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: We pray: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**All: 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.**

### **Words of Institution**

#### **Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

### **(11AM) Distribution**

#### **(11AM) Common Dismissal**

P: Now may this true body and blood. . .and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

#### **Generosity Praises**

*based on Psalm 106:1-5,47-48*

P: Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: **his love endures forever.**

P: Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?

C: **Remember us, O Lord, when you show favor to your people,  
come to our aid when you save them,**

P: that we may enjoy the prosperity of your chosen ones,  
that we may share in the joy of your nation

C: **So we may join your inheritance in giving praise.**

P: Save us, O Lord our God,

C: **and gather us from the nations,**

P: So that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.

C: **Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.**

P: Let all the people say, “Amen! Praise the Lord.”

C: **Amen! Praise the Lord.**

## **Benediction**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

## **Closing Hymn**

## **Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain**

LSB 487 sts. 2, 5



2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry To our King im - mor - tal,



And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;  
Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark por - tal.



All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing  
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness!

## **Announcements**

### **Acknowledgements**

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.

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Cover photo: "You Made Me Question If I Dwell in Safety (Psalm 4)", Stanley Hotel, Estes Park, CO. © 2020 BiCS Pics.



# UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE



**For all in-person worship a reservation will be required.  
At this time, a link to reserve in-person seats will be  
emailed at least one week prior to that week's service.**

## Sunday, April 18

Livestream Worship - 9AM

In-Person Worship\*(In Gym w/Communion) – 9AM

Indoor Communion\*(In Gym) end of service until 11AM

In-Person Worship\*(In Gym w/Communion) – 11AM

## Sunday, April 25

Livestream Worship - 9AM

In-Person Worship\* (In Gym) – 9AM

In-Person Worship\* (In Gym) – 11AM

Voters Meeting (Fellowship Hall & Zoom) - Noon

## Sunday, May 2

Livestream Worship - 9AM

In-Person Worship\*(In Gym w/Communion) – 9AM

Indoor Communion\*(In Gym) end of service until 11AM

In-Person Worship\* for Confirmands/Families (In Gym w/Communion) – 11AM

## Sunday, May 9

Livestream Worship - 9AM

In-Person Worship\* (In Gym) – 9AM

In-Person Worship\* (In Gym) – 11AM

Contact the office if you have any questions about the schedule. Ushers, Readers, and various other volunteers are always needed for in-person worship and communion. If you are interested in volunteering for one of those roles, please contact the office at [office@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:office@bethelgurnee.org).

\*For in-person worship and/or communion in the gym, seating and/or communion will be physically distanced with masks required. For in-person worship there will be Live liturgy, readings, sermon, and prayers along with recorded hymns & music.

# Quarterly Voters Meeting

## April 25<sup>th</sup> at Noon!

Mark your calendar for our quarterly Voters Meeting on Sunday, April 25th at noon! **You can join in-person (wearing a mask) in the Fellowship Hall or on Zoom.** The Council, Elders and leaders will share updates with the congregation. If you have any questions or topics to add to our agenda, please email Bethel President, Elizabeth Blasko at [president@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:president@bethelgurnee.org) prior to the Voters Meeting. We will send out additional information, along with the Zoom link, in our weekly emails. We look forward to seeing you there!

