



**Evening Prayer for Lent
Week # 3: At the Name of Jesus**

Opening

Consider lighting a candle as you begin.

Behold, now is the acceptable time; **now is the day of salvation.**
Turn us again, O God of our salvation, **that the light of your face may shine on us.**
May your justice shine like the sun; **and may the poor be lifted up.**

Gathering Hymn

At the Name of Jesus

Listen and sing along [here](#).

Thanksgiving for Light

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being,
and you set light in the sky to govern night and day.
In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom.
Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ: may your Word be a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation,
and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: 1 Kings 18:30-40

Read the complete text [here](#).

Psalm 22:25-31

Read the complete text [here](#).

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Silence.

Reflection on the Readings

As yet another day goes by and we watch, listen, or read the news surrounding COVID-19 (Coronavirus), perhaps you feel overcome with doom and gloom feelings. The weather certainly is not helping with my own personal feelings of despair as yet again we look to the sky for the sun and all we have are clouds and rain. Sigh.

Yet we do not worship a God of doom and gloom but a God of hope! In times of trouble and despair we have a sure tower to run to for shelter from the storms of life and the worry of illnesses. We are invited into the temple of God to dance and be in full relationship with God this day and forevermore. God is with us even as we feel isolated and afraid. Do not let our hearts be troubled, but seek the Lord in all things!

Our Lenten reading of Philipians 2:5-11 is one of praise and hope that at the sound of Jesus' name every knee shall bend and we bow down in worship. I am thankful and worship God who is there even as chaos might infect my mind and my body. God is there to bring us out of our despair and into the glorious presence where there is no fear. Take heart and be of good courage, friends!

Prayers

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Other petitions may be added.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

To you, O Lord.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

There's Something About that Name
Listen and sing along [here](#).

Acknowledgements:

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This week's meditation was written by Pastor Sam Mailleue.