Contemplative Prayer
February 28, 2024
Theme: Young Jesus

Como Park Lutheran Church
www.comoparklutheran.org
1376 Hoyt Avenue West
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108
651-646-7127
We welcome you to Contemplative Prayer. As our prayers continue this evening, we encourage those who are able to join in the sung responses as they’re printed in our bulletins, to feel free to move to the tables for the candle-lighting during that portion of the service, and to observe the periods of silence in silent prayer and meditation. These silences may continue for up to several minutes at a time.

The small basket in the narthex is provided for your offerings.

We pray for the world because the world needs our prayers . . . and we need to pray.

- stand as able

Reaching out in Christ to a changing world.
Word of God, Come Down on Earth

1. Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from hea'n descending; touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending. Word almighty,
we revere you.

2. Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation, Word that came from hea'n to die,
crucified for our salvation, saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring.

3. Word that speaks God's tender love, one with God before all telling, Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling, Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.
**OPENING PRAYER**

God of wonder, you bless us with human community and call us into blessed relationships. Grant that we might live so that we see your holy presence indwelling all people. Teach us to lift up, comfort and accompany those who are distraught. And lead us at last to sing of your glory in songs of ceaseless praise. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

~Silence for reflection.~

**PSALM REFRAIN x 2**

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Return to God with all your heart, the source of grace and mercy: come} \\
\text{seek the tender faithfulness of God.}
\end{align*}
\]
Psalm 24:1-6

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it,
2 for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.
3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false and do not swear deceitfully.
5 They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from the God of their salvation.
6 Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Refrain x 2
Luke 2:27-32
27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,
29 “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word,
30 for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32 a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

~Silence, followed by bell toll.~

Luke 2:36-38
36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but
worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

~Silence, followed by bell toll.~

Luke 2:44-49

Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day’s journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you.” He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

~Silence, followed by bell toll.~
MEDITATION
Mary Martin Ericson

~Silence, followed by bell toll.~

* COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Choral Response

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and listen to me.
First Petition,
Blessed God, we give you thanks, for those with whom we live, and work and go to school. Let the light of your love flow forth through all who believe, that your grace might be known by all. Lord in your mercy
   Hear our prayer.         Choral Response

Congregate Petitions
Closing Petitions
God of hope, we give you thanks for the blessings of community. Help us to open our hearts and minds to those around us, and to reach out to those in need. Lord in your mercy
   Hear our prayer.         Choral Response

God of hope, when we are threatened by despair and your love feels far off, surround us with a community of faith that will carry us in prayer, until we can pray on our own once more. Lord in your mercy
   Hear our prayer.         Choral Response
God of hope, you enliven every heart. Fill us with gratitude for all of life’s blessings, and teach us to sing your praise as part of that great assembly in worship of your forever and ever. Lord in your mercy 

Hear our prayer. Choral Response

Into your hands O Lord we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Savior. 

Amen. Choral Response

~Silence for reflection.~
~The extended silence may last for three or more minutes.~
~Silence will be followed by bell toll.~
* LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, hear our cry and teach us to pray:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your
    kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
    now and forever. Amen.
O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

1. O Lord, now let your servant depart in heav’n-ly peace,
for I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace:
a light to lead the nations unto your holy hill,
the glory of your people, your chosen Is-ra-el.

2. Then grant that I may follow your gleam, O glorious Light,
till earth-ly shad-ows scatter, and faith is changed to sight;
till rapt-ured saints shall gather upon that shin-ing shore,
where Christ, the bless-ed day-star, shall light them ev-er-more.
Blessing

May the God of hope bless you with holy communities of love and support for all of your days.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Dismissal

We go in peace.

~Offerings may be placed in the basket in the narthex.~

(Lenten offerings are shared amongst Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Seminary and Lyngblomsten)
ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Pastor: Martin Ericson
Director of Music Ministry: Thomas Ferry

Thanks to our Volunteers for serving this evening:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>February 28, 2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reader</td>
<td>Jonathan Nye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usher</td>
<td>Team 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video Tech</td>
<td>Ken Purdham</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

USHER TEAM
Team 2: Sandra Hirsch, Kevin Johnson, Mark Bly

Worship Times at Como Park Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am

COMO PARK LUTHERAN
Reaching out in Christ to a changing world.
Lenten Services 2024
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Feb 21  The Holy Family  Holden Evening Prayer
Feb 28  Young Jesus  Contemplative Prayer
March 6  Early Ministry  Holden Evening Prayer
March 13  Reversing Conventional Wisdom  Cont. Prayer
March 20  Death and Resurrection  Holden Evening Prayer

Credits:
Word of God, Come Down on Earth Text: James Quinn, SJ © James Quinn SJ admin Selah Publishing
LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER Music: Johann R. Ahle, public domain
Return to God music: Marty Haugen © 1990 Gia Publications
O Lord, Now let Your Servant Text: Ernest E. Rydan © 1925 Augsburg Fortress
Kourtane Music: Finnish folk tune, arr. hymnal version © 2006 Augsburg Fortress
Please visit the Welcome Desk in the narthex if you have any questions about our facility or upcoming events.

**Adult Forums, Membership Classes, Visitations, & General Ministries**
Pastor Martin Ericson - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2202
ericson@comoparklutheran.org

**Hunger Ministries, Kitchen, & Events Coordinator**
Sue Brogger - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2203
sue@comoparklutheran.org

**Youth Director**
David Osterhouse - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2204
osterhouse@comoparklutheran.org

**Finance Comptroller & Trust Fund Donations**
David Laden - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2211
laden@comoparklutheran.org

**Director of Music Ministries**
Tom Ferry - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2209
ferry@comoparklutheran.org

**Como Connects/Block Nurse Program**
Lisa Kane - 651-642-1127
director@comobnp.org
Stephanie Bugner - 651-642-1127
coordinator@comobnp.org
Heidi Schultz - 651-642-1127
office@comobnp.org

**Sunday School Superintendent**
Sadie Fischer - 651-208-9283 (c)
sadiemeissnerfischer@gmail.com

**Living At Home, Inc.**
Kristin Rigg - 651-649-0315
kristin@lahnetwork.org

**Groundskeeper, Senior Ministry & Volunteers Engagement Coordinator**
Jonathan Nye - 612-839-2527 (c)
jonathan@comoparklutheran.org

**Social Ministries**
Sue Brogger - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2203
sue@comoparklutheran.org
Ruth Pechauer - 651-641-1654 (c)
ruthpechauer@gmail.com

**Custodians**
Doug Block - 651-646-7127 (Monday-Friday)
custodian@comoparklutheran.org
Doug Weber - 651-646-7127 (Sunday)

**Prayer Chain**
Mary Ann Schmidt - 720-357-3558
schmidt.m795@gmail.com
prayerrequest@comoparklutheran.org

**CHURCH OFFICE:**
General Information
Office, Communications, & Parish Secretary
Malia Lor - 651-646-7127 Ext. 2200
office@comoparklutheran.org