

The Order of Vespers

for the Festival of St. Matthias (Feb. 24)
Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Rev. Paul Rydecki, Pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, NM
member of the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA)

The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 41

Hymn

TLH #313 – O Lord, We Praise Thee

Stand

Versicles and Responses

p.41

The Psalmody

Psalm 25

The verses are spoken antiphonally between the Pastor and Congregation.

P *(Antiphon)* The LORD is good and upright; therefore he will teach sinners in the way.

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, I trust in you. Let me not be ashamed.

Let not my enemies triumph over me.

Yes, no one who waits for you will ever be ashamed.

But those who act faithlessly to no avail—

they will be ashamed.

Show me your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all the day long.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and your mercy,

for they are from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions.

Remember me according to your mercy, for your goodness' sake, O LORD.

The LORD is good and upright;

therefore he will teach sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in justice;

he teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

For your name's sake, O LORD,

forgive my iniquity, for it is great.

Who is the man who fears the LORD?

Him will he teach in the way he should choose.

His soul will dwell in prosperity;

and his seed will inherit the earth.

The LORD reveals his secrets to those who fear him;

and he makes his covenant known to them.

My eyes are ever toward the LORD;

for he will deliver my feet from the net.

Turn yourself to me, and be gracious to me;

for I am lonely and afflicted.

The troubles of my heart have multiplied.

Deliver me out of my distresses!

Look upon my affliction and my pain;

and forgive all my sins.

Look upon my enemies, for they are many;

and they hate me with violent hatred.

Keep my soul, and deliver me!

Let me not be ashamed, for I take refuge in you.

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me;

for I wait for you.

Redeem Israel, O God,

out of all his troubles.

Glory | be to the Father, and to | the Son, *

and to the Holy | Ghost;

as it | was in the beginning, is now, and ever | shall be, *

world without end. A- | men.

P (*Antiphon*) The LORD is good and upright; therefore he will teach sinners in the way.

Sit

First Lesson

Acts 1:15-26

After each Lesson:

P But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



R Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

Second Lesson

Matthew 11:25-30

Hymn

TLH #311 – Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

The Sermon

Stand

Versicle and Response

p.42

The Canticle

The Magnificat, p.43

The Prayers

p.44

The Kyrie

The Lord's Prayer

The Salutation & Collects

p. 45

The Benedicamus and The Benediction

p. 45

The Sacrament of the Altar

Who receives this Sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation is certainly a fine outward discipline, but he is truly worthy and well-prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you, for the forgiveness of sins." But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared. For the words "for you" require nothing but believing hearts.

St. Matthias is only mentioned once in Holy Scripture, and yet he was a disciple of Jesus from the beginning, unmentioned and unnamed, standing in the background of Jesus' earthly ministry. After the Lord Jesus ascended into heaven and before the Day of Pentecost, His apostles concluded that they were meant to fill the vacancy among the Twelve left by Judas Iscariot when he betrayed the Lord and then hanged himself. In order for such a man to be a true eyewitness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, he had to have accompanied the apostles from the beginning, "from the baptism of John to that day when Jesus was taken up from us" (Acts 1:22). Barsabas and Matthias were the two qualified men who were nominated, and Matthias was the one chosen by lot to be added to the number of the Eleven, after which little is known for certain about his life and ministry.