



# OUR SAVIOUR'S

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Bringing Christ to the people and the people to Christ.*

### VESPERS FOR MIDWEEK OF LENT 3

**March 26, 2025**

Welcome to our mid-week Lenten Worship Service. Our Lenten Journey continues each Wednesday evening with a meal starting at 5:30 pm and Vespers Service at 6:30 pm.

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Please Stand (in body or in spirit)

#### OPENING HYMN

“ALL PRAISE TO THEE, MY GOD, THIS NIGHT” (LBW #278)

All praise to thee, my God, this night,  
For all the blessings of the light.  
Keep me, Oh keep me, King of kings,  
Beneath thine own almighty wings.

Teach me to live, that I may dread  
The grave as little as my bed.  
Teach me to die, that so I may  
Rise glorious at the awe someday.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
The ill that I this day have done.  
That with the world, myself, and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Oh, may my soul in thee repose,  
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,  
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make  
To serve my God when I awake!

P: Then spoke Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12

P: Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. Psalm 141:2

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

P: Almighty and most merciful Father,

**C: We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from thy grace, there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name.**  
**Amen.**

P: Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## THE INVITATORY

*All stand.*

P: O Lord, open thou our lips;

**C: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

P: O God, make speed to save us;

**C: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**C: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen.**

P: Praise ye the Lord.

**C: The Lord's Name be praised.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 4:1, 5-10

R: A reading from Deuteronomy

<sup>1</sup>And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

<sup>5</sup>See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>6</sup>Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight

of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' <sup>7</sup>For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? <sup>8</sup>And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

<sup>9</sup>"Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children — <sup>10</sup>how on the day that you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, the Lord said to me, 'Gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children so.'

R: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

FROM PSALM 147

**C: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem!**

R: Glorify the LORD, O Jerusalem;

Praise your God, O Zion!

For he strengthens the bars of your gates;

he has blessed your children within you.

**C. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

R: He sends forth his command to the earth;

swiftly runs his word!

He spreads snow like wool;

frost he strews like ashes.

**C: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

R: He has proclaimed his word to Jacob,

his statutes and his ordinances to Israel.

He has not done thus for any other nation;

his ordinances he has not made known to them.

**C: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

Please Stand

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

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

MATTHEW 5:17-20

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

Please be Seated

**MESSAGE FROM GOD’S WORD**

Blaine Davis

**THE HABITS OF LENT**

Please Stand

**HYMN: “LORD JESUS THINK ON ME” (LBW #309)**

Lord Jesus, think on me  
And purge away my sin;  
From selfish passions set me free  
And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity  
Point out your chosen way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
By anxious thoughts oppressed;  
Let me your loving servant be  
And taste your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
That, when the flood is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see  
And share your joy at last.

## MAGNIFICAT: THE SONG OF MARY

P: My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

**C: For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.**

P: For behold, from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.

**C: For he that is mighty hath magnified me; \*  
and holy is his Name.**

**And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.**

P: He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

**C: He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.**

P: He hath filled the hungry with good things; \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

**C: He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; \* as he promised to  
our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, forever.**

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

P: Let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I BELIEVE in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the  
power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third  
day, He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS**  
(The people kneel or stand)

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with thy spirit**

P: Let us pray.

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P: Lord, have mercy upon 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**

P: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**C: And grant us thy salvation.**

P: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

**C: And lead us in the way of justice and truth.**

P: Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

**C: And make thy chosen people joyful.**

P: O Lord, save thy people;

**C: And bless thine inheritance.**

P: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

**C: And evermore mightily defend us.**

P: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**C: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

P: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

**C: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

**A COLLECT FOR PROTECTION**

P: O God, who art the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank thee for the timely blessings of the day and humbly beseech thy merciful protection all the night. Bring us, we pray thee, in safety to the morning hours; through him who died for us and rose again, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**C:** Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful: and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

**HYMN:** "TO YOU, BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THE DAY" (LBW #277)

To you, before the close of day,  
Creator of the world, we pray!  
Your grace and peace to us allow  
And be our guard and keeper now.

O Father, this we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,  
Who with the Holy Ghost and you  
Shall live and reign all ages through.  
Amen

From evil dreams defend our sight,  
From all the terrors of the night,  
From all deluding thoughts that creep  
On heedless minds disarmed by sleep.

## A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

**P:** Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us bless the Lord. Go in Peace

**C: Thanks be to God.**

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night LBW 279

Text: Thomas Ken 137-1711 Tune: Thomas Tallis c.1505-1585

Lord Jesus, Think on Me *LBW 309*

Text: Synesius of Cyrene c.375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt

Tune: Daman, Psalms, 1579

To You, before the Close of Day LBW 277

Text: compline office hymn, c. 8<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. John M Neale, 1818-1866, adapt.

Tune: Benedictine plainsong, mode VI

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