
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2026
+ THE ORDER OF MATINS +
LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK – PAGES 219-228

Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

RINGING BELL CALLS US TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN *LSB 725 Children of the Heavenly Father*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Page 151

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

C: AMEN.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: BUT IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, GOD, WHO IS FAITHFUL AND JUST, WILL FORGIVE OUR SINS AND CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

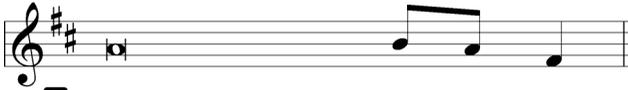
C: MOST MERCIFUL GOD, WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE BY NATURE SINFUL AND UNCLEAN. WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED, BY WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND BY WHAT WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU WITH OUR WHOLE HEART; WE HAVE NOT LOVED OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES. WE JUSTLY DESERVE YOUR PRESENT AND ETERNAL PUNISHMENT. FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON US. FORGIVE US, RENEW US, AND LEAD US, SO THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME. AMEN.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

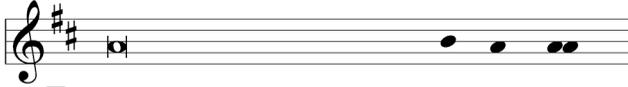
C: **AMEN.**



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Lento: Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

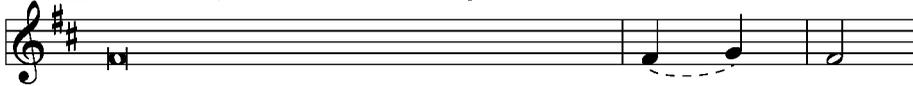
PSALMODY *Venite* *O Come, Let Us Sing*
Antiphon



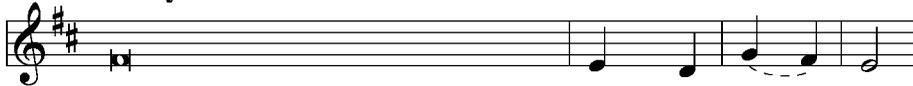
L The Lord has re - deemed His peo - ple.



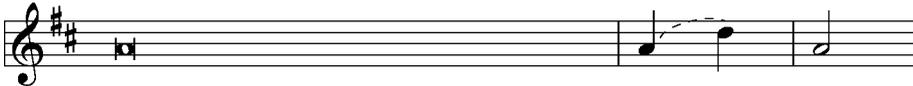
C O come, let us wor - ship Him.



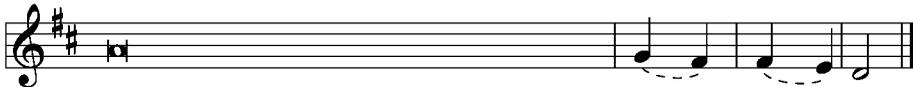
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 2 For the Lord is a great God
 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 3 and His hand formed the dry land.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
 4 For He is our God,
 5 as it was in the be - gin - ing,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
 5 is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men.



L The Lord has re - deemed His peo - ple.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Second Psalm Psalm 130

(Sung responsively by verse)



Out | of the depths*
I cry to You, | O LORD!

O LORD, | HEAR MY VOICE!*

LET YOUR EARS BE ATTENTIVE TO THE VOICE OF MY PLEAS FOR | MERCY!

If You, O LORD, should mark in- | iquities,*
O Lord, | who could stand?

BUT WITH YOU THERE IS FOR- | GIVENESS,*

THAT YOU | MAY BE FEARED.

I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*
and in His | Word I hope;

MY SOUL WAITS FOR THE LORD MORE THAN WATCHMEN FOR THE | MORNING,*

MORE THAN WATCHMEN FOR THE | MORNING.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
and with Him is plentiful re- | demption.

AND HE WILL REDEEM | ISRAEL*

FROM ALL HIS IN- | IQUITIES.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND | TO THE SON*

AND TO THE HOLY | SPIRIT;

AS IT WAS IN THE BE- | GINNING,*

IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. | AMEN.

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know." ⁴Then He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the Word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O My people. ¹⁴And I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If

the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He Who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

VOLUNTARY

Lamb of God, Chorale
arr. F. Melius Christiansen

Adult Choir

GOSPEL VERSE

John 11:25

P: I am the resurrection and the life.

C: WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, THOUGH HE DIE, YET SHALL HE LIVE.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:1-53

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom You love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it He said, "**This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**"

⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was. ⁷Then after this He said to the disciples, "**Let us go to Judea again.**" ⁸The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You, and are You going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "**Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.**" ¹¹After saying these things, He said to them, "**Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken Him.**" ¹²The disciples said to Him, "Lord, if He has fallen asleep, He will recover." ¹³Now Jesus had spoken of His death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "**Lazarus has died, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.**" ¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

¹⁷Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You." ²³Jesus said to her, "**Your brother will rise again.**" ²⁴Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the

resurrection on the last day.”²⁵ Jesus said to her, **“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”**²⁷ She said to Him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, Who is coming into the world.”

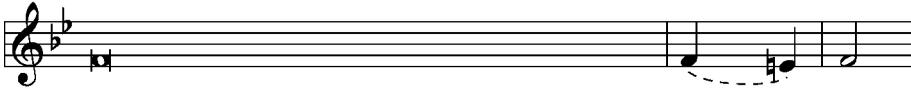
²⁸When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him.³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him.³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in His spirit and greatly troubled.³⁴ And He said, **“Where have you laid him?”** They said to Him, “Lord, come and see.”³⁵ Jesus wept.³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how He loved him!”³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not He Who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.³⁹ Jesus said, **“Take away the stone.”** Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.”⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, **“Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”**⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, **“Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴²I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent Me.”**⁴³ When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, **“Lazarus, come out.”**⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, **“Unbind him, and let him go.”**

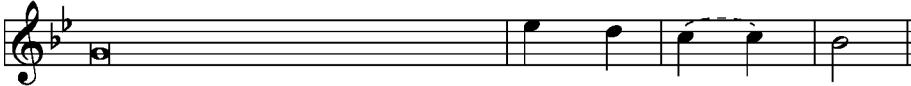
⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what He did, believed in Him,⁴⁶ but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.⁴⁷ So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs.⁴⁸ If we let Him go on like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all.⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.”⁵¹ He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation,⁵² and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.⁵³ So from that day on they made plans to put Him to death.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

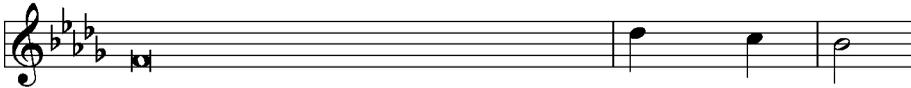
C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.



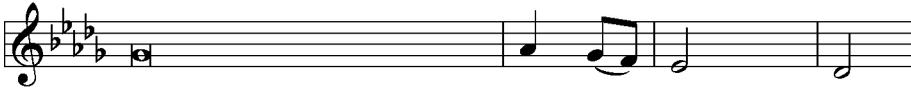
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise— You.
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
 4 You are the king of glory, O— Christ;



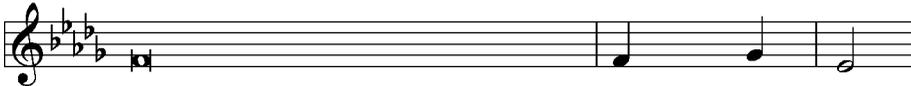
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph - ets praise— You.
 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
 6 You sit at the right hand of God



- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
 6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
 6 We believe that You will come



- 5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
 6 to be— our— judge.

COLLECTS

P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

P: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.



C A - men.

Collect for Matins

P: Almighty God, heavenly Father, Your mercies are new to us every morning, and You abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us we humbly pray, Your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and cheerfully serve You.



C A - men.

For Guidance in Our Calling

LSB p. 311

P: Lord 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.



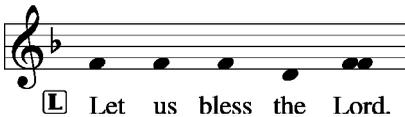
C A - men.

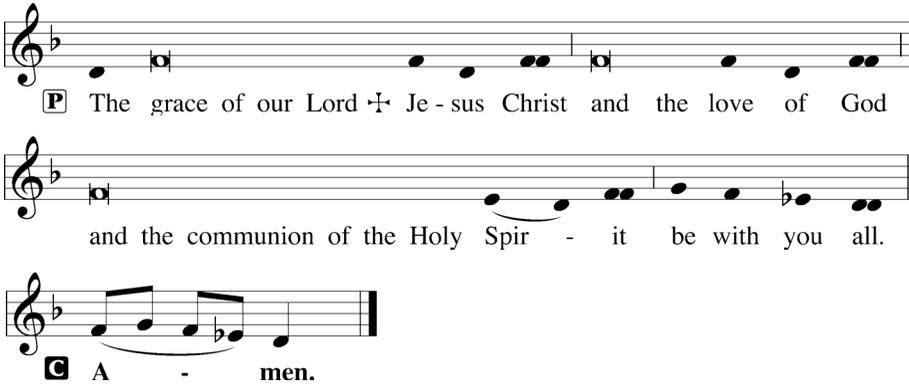
For Responsible Citizenship*LSB p.313*

P: Lord, keep this nation under Your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Grant that we may choose trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve You faithfully in our generation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Collect for Grace***LSB p.228*

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**BENEDICAMUS***LSB p. 227*

BENEDICTION


P The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.
C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN *LSB 752 Be Still, My Soul***POSTLUDE***Silent Prayer*

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.



Pastor: The Rev. Barry Long

Elder: Dr. Joel Eckert

Organist: Carol Wessler

Choir Director: Mr. Ethan Yoder

Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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