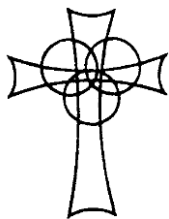


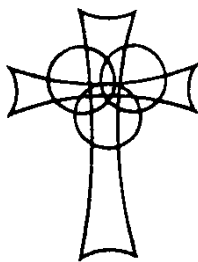
“I am the
resurrection and the
Life.”
John 11:25



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A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod





Lenten Midweek Vespers 2025
Jesus—Savior, Servant, Friend

The Sixth Wednesday of Lent
April 9, 2025



**The Office of Vespers
in the Season of Lent**

Lutheran Service Book Page 229ff

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

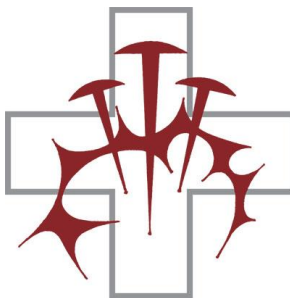


A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Your holy Name; cleanse my heart of any worthless, evil, or distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding; give me wisdom and love necessary to pray with attention, reverence, and devotion. Father, let my prayer be heard in Your presence, for it is offered through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Words of Welcome

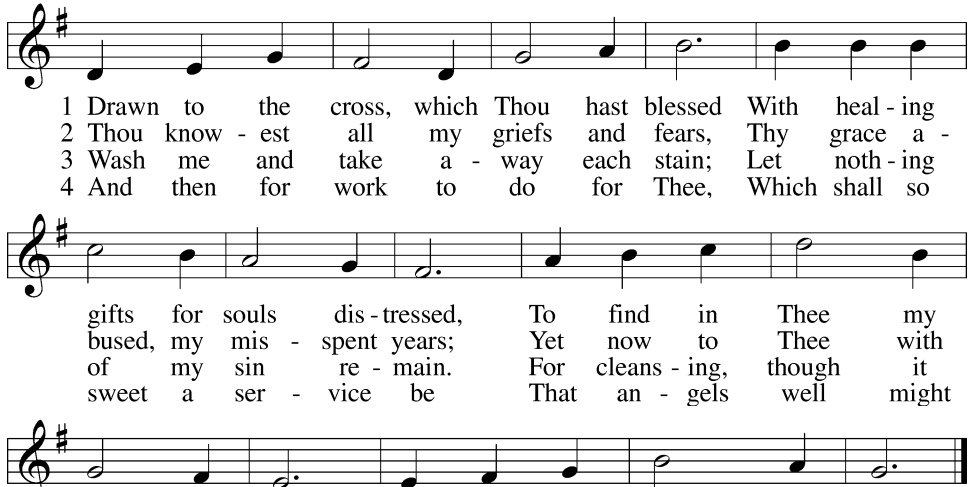
The Congregation rises.



The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 560

“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
 2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
 3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
 4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so

gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
 bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might

life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928

Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96

Text and tune: Public domain

The Opening Versicles and *Gloria Patri*:

P O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
 Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

The Congregation is seated.

✠ The Psalmody ✠

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 23; antiphon: verse 4

- [P]** *Ant* Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
- [C]** ²**He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.**
- [P]** ³He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- [C]** ⁴**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- [P]** ⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- [C]** ⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**
- [C]** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- [P]** *Ant* Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word

- [P]** Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, You give us new birth in the waters of Baptism,
You anoint us with oil, and You nourish us at Your table with heavenly food. In Your
goodness and mercy, dispel the shadows of evil and death, and lead us along safe paths,
that we may rest securely in You and dwell in the house of the Lord now and forever,
for Your Name's sake.
- [C]** **Amen.**

The Office Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 725

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His

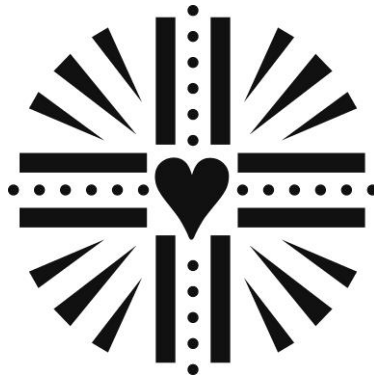
in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text and Tune: Public domain



✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The First Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

P A reading from Isaiah, chapter 51.

¹“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.

³For the LORD comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴“Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

*2 Corinthians 1:3-7***P** A reading from 2 Corinthians, chapter 1.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. ⁶If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. ⁷Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.**C** Thanks be to God.

The Third Reading

*John 11:17-27***P** A reading from John, chapter 11.

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." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.**C** Thanks be to God.

The Responsory for Lent:

- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P** In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

The Sermon

Jesus—Savior, Servant, Friend
Jesus, Our Comforter
Text: John 11:17-27

✠ The Canticle ✠

The Congregation rises.

The Canticle at Vespers: *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46b-55; antiphon: 2 Corinthians 6:2c

- P** Behold, now is the favorable time;
C **behold, now is the day of salvation.**
- P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;
C **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.**
- P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
C **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;**
- P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
C **He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**
- P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
C **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.**

P He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Behold, now is the favorable time;

C **behold, now is the day of salvation.**

✠ The Prayers ✠

The *Kyrie Eleison*:

P O Lord,

C **have mercy.**

P O Christ,

C **have mercy.**

P O Lord,

C **have mercy.**

The Lord's Prayer:

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.**

The Salutation and Collects:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

The Collect for the Fifth Week in Lent:

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, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Collect for the Lenten Season:

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Other Prayers and Intercessions may be offered.

The Collect of Intercession:

P Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and be present with all, for Your love's sake.

C Amen.

The Collect for Peace:

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The *Benedicamus* and Blessing:**P** Let us bless the Lord.**C** Thanks be to God.**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**C** Amen.

The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 883

“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”



1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the
 2 For - give me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that
 3 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as
 4 Oh, may my soul in Thee re - pose, And may sweet

bles - ings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,
 I this day have done, That with the world, my -
 lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die that
 sleep mine eye - lids close, Sleep that shall me more

King of kings, Be - neath Thine own al - might - y wings.
 self, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
 so I may Rise glo - rious at the awe - full day.
 vig - rous make To serve my God when I a - wake!

5 When in the night I sleepless lie,
 My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
 Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
 No pow'rs of darkness me molest.

△ 6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Tune: Thomas Tallis, c. 1505–1585

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

✠ ✠

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

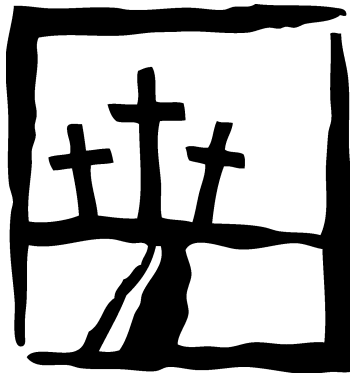
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✠ ✠

A WORD OF THANKS ... Thank you to all those who came and attended our Midweek Lenten Vesper Services this Lent. We pray that these moments of prayer, preaching, and meditation were a blessing for you. A special word of thanks especially goes to Judy Kampia for enriching our worship and song with her piano accompaniment. And much thanks goes to Carole Dingess, The McCoyer Family, and Judy Kampia for providing the meals we were able to share together before worship.





The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
April 13, 2025 – 9:30 AM

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday with the Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem, Solemn Reading of the Passion according to Saint Luke, and the celebration of Holy Communion

Jesus, Our King – Zechariah 9:9

Holy (Maundy) Thursday
April 17, 2025 – 7:00 PM

The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday with Confession and Absolution, the celebration of Holy Communion on the anniversary of its institution, and the Solemn Preparation of the Church for Good Friday

Jesus, Our Servant – John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday
April 18, 2025 – 7:00 PM

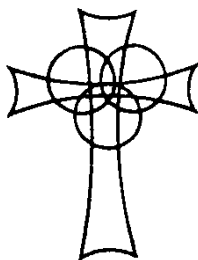
The Liturgy of Good Friday with the Adoration of the Cross, the Solemn Reading of the Passion according to Saint John, and the Solemn Prayers for the Church and the World

Jesus, Our Savior – John 19:30

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day
April 20, 2025 – 9:30 AM

The Festival Divine Service of Easter Day with Hymns, Special Music, the Renewal of Baptismal Vows, and the celebration of Holy Communion

Jesus, Our Redeemer – Job 19:25



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4000 – 30th Street
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Sunday Mornings:
Worship with Holy Communion – 9:30 AM

Worship Services are livestreamed on Facebook Live
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