

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

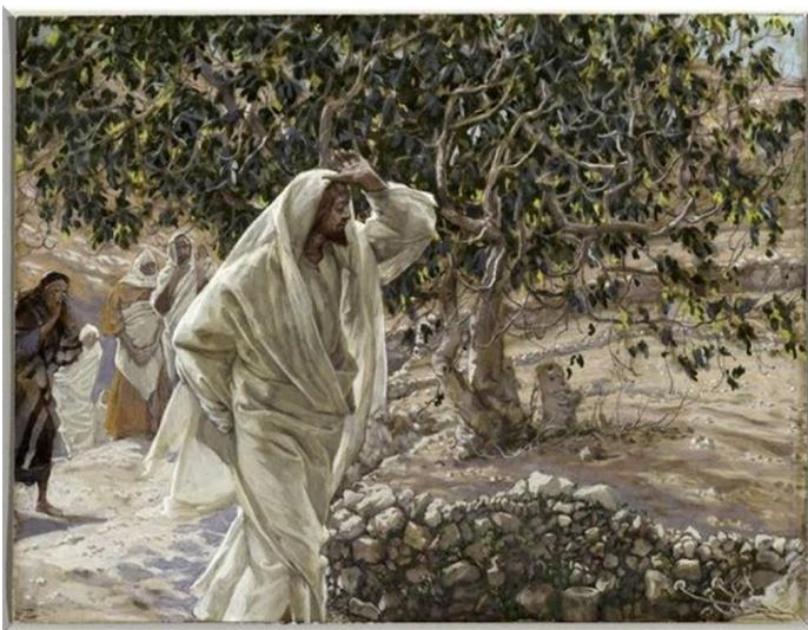
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✠ WEDNESDAY OF LENT, WEEK IV ✠

17 March 2021, 7:00 PM ~ Evening Prayer

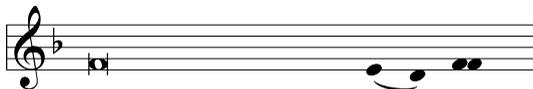
*Please turn off all cell phones and pagers before entering the nave.
If you need to leave the service please do so during the hymns.*

*The altar represents God's presence. It is fitting to act and speak
Reverently when we enter the sanctuary / worship space.*

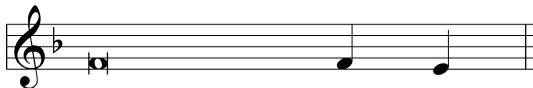
Service of Light

Stand

Versicles (Lent)



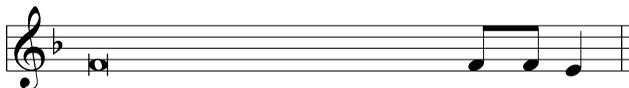
L Now is the time of God's fa - - vor;



C now is the day of sal - va - - tion.



L Turn us again, O God of our sal - va - - tion,



C that the light of Your face may shine on us.



L May Your justice shine like the sun;



C and may the poor be lift - ed up.

Phos Hilaron



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the

set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:

You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -

ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:

the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,

who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of

fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;

may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;



for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion



and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.



C A - men.

Sit

Psalmody

Psalm 141



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.



Strip me not of my life. C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



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



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Additional Psalms

Psalm 6

¹O LORD, rebuke me not in your | anger,*
nor discipline me | in your wrath.

²Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | languishing;*
heal me, O LORD, for my bones are | troubled.

³My soul also is greatly | troubled.*
But you, O LORD— | how long?

⁴Turn, O LORD, deliv- | er my life,*
save me for the sake of your | steadfast love.

⁵For in death there is no remem- | brance of you;*
in Sheol who will | give you praise?

⁶I am weary with my moaning;
every night I flood my | bed with tears;*
I drench my couch with my | weeping.

⁷My eye wastes away be- | cause of grief;*
it grows weak because of | all my foes.

⁸Depart from me, all you workers of | evil,*
for the LORD has heard the sound of my | weeping.

⁹The LORD has | heard my plea,*
the LORD ac- | cepts my prayer.

¹⁰All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly | troubled,*
they shall turn back and be put to shame in a | moment.

**▲ 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**

Office Hymn

LSB # 429 *We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died*



1 We sing the praise of Him who died, Of Him who
2 In - scribed up - on the cross we see In shin - ing
3 The cross! It takes our guilt a - way; It holds the
4 It makes the cow - ard spir - it brave And nerves the



died up - on the cross. The sin - ner's hope let
 let - ters, "God is love." He bears our sins up -
 faint - ing spir - it up; It cheers with hope the
 fee - ble arm for fight; It takes the ter - ror



all de - ride; For this we count the world but loss.
 on the tree; He brings us mer - cy from a - bove.
 gloom - y day And sweet - ens ev - 'ry bit - ter cup.
 from the grave And gilds the bed of death with light;

5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,
 The measure and the pledge of love,
 The sinner's refuge here below,
 The angels' theme in heav'n above.

6 To Christ, who won for sinners grace
 By bitter grief and anguish sore,
 Be praise from all the ransomed race
 Forever and forevermore.

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Reading From Holy Scripture

St. Matthew 7:17-20; 21:18-22

¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

¹⁸In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. ¹⁹And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.

²⁰When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?"

²¹And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen. ²²And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Hymn of the Day

LSB # 691 *Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing*



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

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Reading/Sermon: *The Barren Fig Tree*

Stand/Magnificat



C My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the



Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

1 For — He has re - - - - - garded
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son

1 the lowliness of His hand-maiden.
 2 and holy is His name;
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;

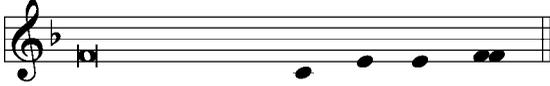
1 For be - hold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,

1 all generations will call me blessed.
 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

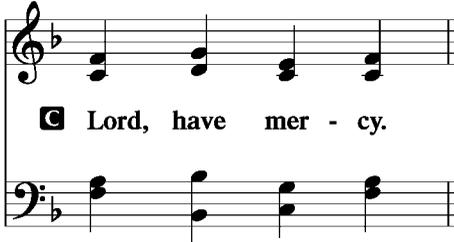
Stand

Litany

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.



L In peace let us pray to the Lord:



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.

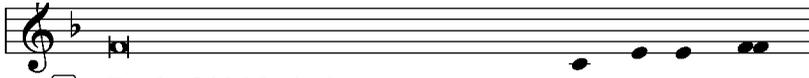
L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

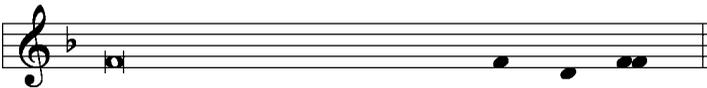
C Lord, have mercy.

The prayers then continue:



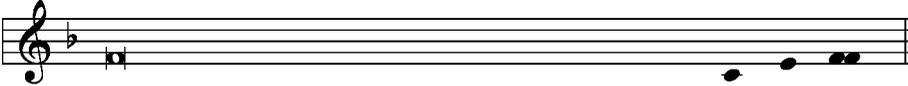
L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

Common: **C** Al - le - lu - ia.
Lent: **C** Thanks be to God.



L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.



L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C To You, O Lord.

Collect For Peace

L 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.

Lord's Prayer

L Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

Stand

Benedicamus



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



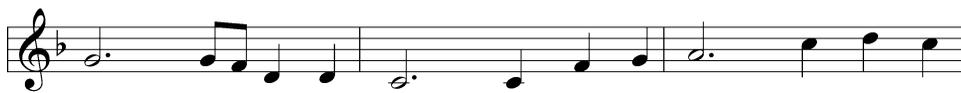
C A - men.

Closing Hymn

LSB # 561 *The Tree of Life*



1	The tree of life	with ev - 'ry good	In E - den's
2	The still - ness of	that sa - cred grove	Was bro - ken,
3	What mer - cy God	showed to our race,	A plan of
4	Now from that tree	of Je - sus' shame	Flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and
 as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
 res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's
 ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this
 guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of
 seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they
 sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and
 tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would
 fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
 eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

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Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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