

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

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✠ THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF LENT ✠

March 8th, 2023 ~ Vespers

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.

Acknowledgments: Vespers from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers, Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House

FLIGHT TO FREEDOM – BIRDS OF THE PASSION THE SPARROW

VESPERS
LSB page 229

OPENING VERSICLES
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PSALMODY

PSALM 84

¹How lovely is your | dwelling place,* O | LORD of hosts!

²My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts | of the LORD;*
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the | living God.

³Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may | lay her young,*

at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.

⁴Blessèd are those who dwell | in your house,* ever sing- | ing your praise!

⁵Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*

in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

⁶As they go through the Valley of Baca

they make it a | place of springs;* the early rain also covers | it with pools.

⁷They go from | strength to strength;* each one appears before God in | Zion.

⁸O LORD God of hosts, | hear my prayer;* give ear, O God of | Jacob!

⁹Behold our shield, | O God;* look on the face of your a- | nointed!

¹⁰For a day in your courts is better than a thousand | elsewhere.*

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God

than dwell in the tents of | wickedness.

¹¹For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and | honor.*

No good thing does he withhold from those who walk up- | rightly.

¹²O | LORD of hosts,*

blessèd is the one who | trusts in you!

▲ **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

Thy Holy Wings

741

1 Thy ho - ly wings O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
 Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy child - ren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
 and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

READINGS

DEUTERONOMY 7:1-11

¹“When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than yourselves, ²and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. ³You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, ⁴for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. ⁵But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire.

⁶“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

¹⁰and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face. ¹¹You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment and the statutes and the rules that I command you today.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

MATTHEW 10:26-33

²⁶“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY FOR LENT, page 231

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB # 392 *God Loves Me Dearly*

SERMON

CANTICLE

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PRAYER

KYRIE, *page 233*

LORD'S PRAYER, *page 233*

COLLECTS, *page 233*

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Your offering may be left in the offering box.