



SIXTH MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE

March 25, 2026

As We Gather

As Lent moves toward its closure, the Church stands in the last heavy hours before dawn. This message invites God's people to wait with Christ in the night—trusting His promises, resting in His obedience, and holding hope even when relief remains unseen. The darkness has not yet lifted, but the morning is certain.

✠ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✠

Hymn Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain (LSB 435) *sts. 1, 3*

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences *Psalm 103:17; Exodus 16:11, Philippians 4:12–13; John 6:32, 35*

P The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting.
C In the morning you shall be filled with bread.

P I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound.
C I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

P My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.
C I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger.

Psalm

Psalm 103:1–5

P Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless His holy name!
C Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,

P who forgives all your iniquity,

C who heals all your diseases,

P who redeems your life from the pit,

C who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

P who satisfies you with good

C so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm

Psalm 103:15–22

P As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;

C for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

P But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear Him,

C and His righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His
commandments.

P The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,

C and His kingdom rules over all.

**Bless the LORD, O you His angels, you mighty ones
who do His word, obeying the voice of His word!**

Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will!

Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

First Reading

Lamentations 3:22–33

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;

his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul,

“therefore I will hope in him.”

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,

to the soul who seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.
It is good for a man that he bear
the yoke in his youth.
Let him sit alone in silence
when it is laid on him;
let him put his mouth in the dust—
there may yet be hope;
let him give his cheek to the one who strikes,
and let him be filled with insults.
For the Lord will not
cast off forever,
but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve the children of men.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:18–25

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading

Matthew 26:36–46

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken
(LSB 439) *st. 11*

Series: Songs in the Night

The Night Before the Dawn

Psalm 22

Offering

Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake (LSB 688)

sts. 1–2

1 “Come, follow Me,” the Savior spake,
“All in My way abiding;
Deny yourselves, the world forsake,
Obey My call and guiding.
O bear the cross, whate’er betide,
Take My example for your guide.

2 “I am the light, I light the way,
A godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day;
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show
How you must sojourn here below.

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96
Text: Public domain

Prayers

- P** Let us pray for all people who are unsure of God’s hearing their prayers.
- C** **Hear their cries, O Lord, grant them courage as You accompany, and answer them speedily.**

- P** Let us ask God to strengthen the faith of those who only recently have known Him.
- C** **Reveal Yourself gently to them, Lord Jesus, through the caring of Your church.**

- P** Let us pray for those who feel trapped by circumstances beyond their control.
- C** **Assure them that You know their dilemma and that the deliverer has come: Jesus, our Savior and Lord.**

- P** Let us pray for all who fear God’s punishment.
- C** **Show them mercy, O Lord, as You passed over Your Old Testament people. Grant them peace through Your presence.**

- P** Let us pray for all who know no good ways to turn, are unsure of the truth, and await only their deaths.
- C** **Tell them again, Lord Jesus, that You alone are the way, and the truth, and the life.**
- P** Finally, let us pray for all who are tired from opposition in the world around them and from their own conflicts within themselves.
- C** **Awaken in them a sense of Your accompanying them on their journey until that day when they and we join those who have gone before us at Your heavenly banquet hall.**
- P** Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people
- C** **that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.**
- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,
- C** **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;**
- P** 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 LORD'S SUPPER ✠

We follow the liturgy on Pages 194-202 in the hymnal.

Preface

LSB 194

Proper Preface

Sanctus

LSB 195

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

Distribution Hymns

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (LSB 707)

My Song Is Love Unknown (LSB 430)

Sit

Lord's Supper Dismissal

P Now may this eating and drinking, of our Savior's precious body and blood, Strengthen you, preserve you, and keep you in the one true Christian faith that leads you to eternal life. Know in peace, and joy, that your sins are ✠ forgiven you.

C Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing
(LSB 421) *sts. 1, 4*

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