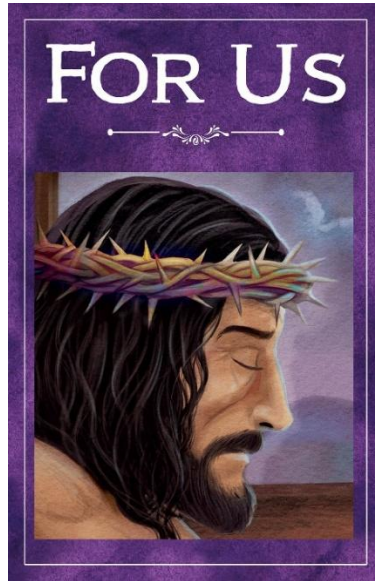


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



Lenten Vespers

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

FOR US HE SEEKS

Jesus talks all about seeking us in our texts this week. He does not wait passively until we get up the gumption to ask Him for help. Nor does He act out of selfish gain, like our health-care system seems to do so often today.

Praying, teaching, working.

In all these things, Jesus seeks us out and looks for ways to help us. This work is often overlooked because it is so ordinary.

Water, bread and wine, the folly of preaching.

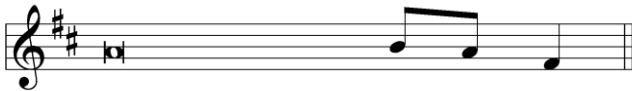
In all these ordinary works, Jesus continues His ministry among us. This ministry of forgiveness means that Jesus continues to strengthen and help us.

[Rev. Eric J. Edwards](#) † [Rev. Liwei Sui](#) † [Dr. Priscilla Gabriel](#), Director of Parish Music
2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN † 812-332-1668 † office@faithbtown.org

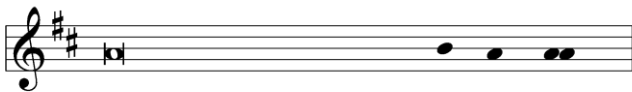
OPENING VERSICLES



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.



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

✠ ✠ ✠ PSALMODY ✠ ✠ ✠

PSALM 80:1-7

Cantor: ¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

C ²Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Ma- | nasseh,*
stir up your might and come to | save us!

Cantor: ³Restore us, | O God;*
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!



C ⁴O Lord | God of hosts,*
how long will you be angry with your | people's prayers?

Cantor: ⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears*
and given them tears to drink in full | measure.

C ⁶You make us an object of contention for our | neighbors,*
and our enemies laugh a- | mong themselves.

Cantor: ⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;*
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

C 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.

HYMN – LSB 423 – Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ ✠ ✠ READINGS ✠ ✠ ✠

FIRST READING – Romans 8:8-17

P A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING – Mark 1:35-39

P A reading from the first chapter of Mark.

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, He departed and went out to a desolate place, and there He prayed. ³⁶And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him, ³⁷and they found Him and said to Him, “Everyone is looking for You.” ³⁸And He said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” ³⁹And He went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

PASSION READING – Mark 14:53-15:5

P The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark, the fourteenth and fifteenth chapters.

⁵³And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴And Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷And some stood up and bore false witness against Him, saying, ⁵⁸“We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have You no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against You?” ⁶¹But He remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” ⁶²And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴You have heard His blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned Him as deserving death. ⁶⁵And some began to spit on Him and to cover His face and to strike Him, saying to Him, “Prophesy!” And the guards received Him with blows.

⁶⁶And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, ⁶⁷and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.” ⁶⁸But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you mean.” And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. ⁶⁹And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” ⁷⁰But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” ⁷¹But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak.” ⁷²And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

^{15:1}And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole Council. And they bound Jesus and led Him away and delivered Him over to Pilate. ²And Pilate asked Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” And He answered him, “You have said so.” ³And the chief priests accused Him of many things. ⁴And Pilate again asked Him, “Have You no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against You.” ⁵But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

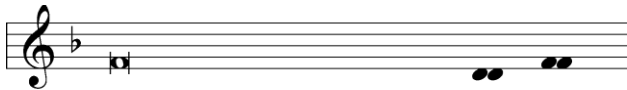
P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

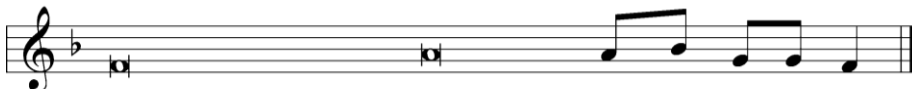
SERMON

✠ ✠ ✠ CANTICLE ✠ ✠ ✠

ANTIPHON



L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

MAGNIFICAT – LSB 231

The congregation sings all.



C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the
 imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the
 might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.
 He has filled the hun - gry with good things,
 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.
 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy
 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.
 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.

OFFERING – *O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken* (arr. Matthew Compton)
 First Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir & Friends
 Dr. Brian McNulty, Director

✠ ✠ ✠ PRAYER ✠ ✠ ✠

KYRIE



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.

BENEDICAMUS

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

L 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.

HYMN – LSB 433 – Glory Be to Jesus



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!
Text and tune: Public domain

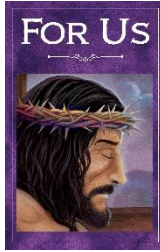
SILENT PRAYER/ANNOUNCEMENTS



Acknowledgments

Vespers from *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



Lent - Easter 2026

Wednesdays through March 25

Midweek Lenten Fellowship & Worship:

Noon **Worship** † 12:30pm **Meal**

5:45pm **Meal** † 7pm **Worship**

† **Personal confession/absolution** †

see the pastors before or after any service



Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday – March 29

8 & 10:30am **Procession with Palms**

Divine Service *with Holy Communion*

11:30am **Easter Egg Hunt**

5pm **Divine Service** *with Holy Communion*

Maundy Thursday – April 2

Noon & 7pm **Worship** *with Holy Communion*

Good Friday – April 3

Noon **Stations of the Cross**

8pm **Tenebrae** (*Service of Darkness*)



The Resurrection of our Lord

Easter Vigil – April 4

8pm **at University Lutheran**

Easter Sunday – April 5

8 & 10:30am **Festival Worship** (*Holy Comm. & special music*)

9:15am **Easter Breakfast**