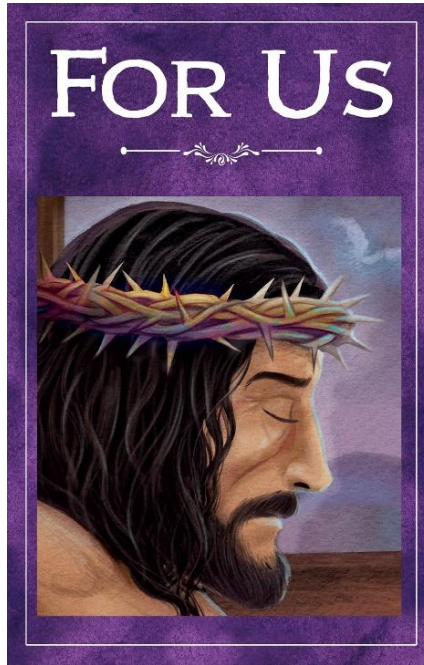


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



Lenten Vespers

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

FOR US BETRAYED

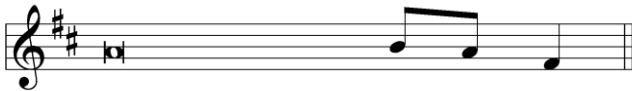
Jesus foretells His own betrayal, death, and resurrection in today's text (Mark 8:31–9:1). This shows us that the way of salvation only comes through the path of suffering (Hebrews 2:10). Jesus' suffering, His Passion, does not simply mean that He sympathizes with us. Rather, it means that He participates in our suffering, and we in His. His betrayal, the crown of thorns, the shameful cross—all of these lead to how Jesus "gave His dying breath," as we sing in the series hymn. In the Passion reading, we will also hear how He dies (Mark 15:33–47) and what that means for us today.

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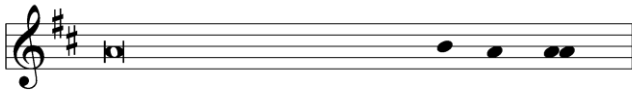
OPENING VERSICLES



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 41

Cantor: ¹Blessèd is the one who consid - | ers the poor!*
In the day of trouble the Lord de - | livers him;



C ²the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessèd | in the land;*
you do not give him up to the will of his | enemies.

Cantor: ³The Lord sustains him on his | sickbed;*
in his illness you restore him to | full health.

C ⁴As for me, I said, “O Lord, be gra- | cious to me;*
heal me, for I have sinned a- | gainst you!”

Cantor: ⁵My enemies say of me in | malice,*
“When will he die and his name | perish?”

C ⁶And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words,
while his heart gathers in- | iquity;*
when he goes out, he tells | it abroad.

Cantor: ⁷All who hate me whisper together a- | bout me;*
they imagine the | worst for me.

C ⁸They say, “A deadly thing is poured | out on him;*
he will not rise again from | where he lies.”

Cantor: ⁹Even my close friend in whom I | trusted,*
who ate my bread, has lifted his heel a- | gainst me.

C ¹⁰But you, O Lord, be gra- | cious to me,*
and raise me up, that I may re- | pay them!

Cantor: ¹¹By this I know that you de- | light in me:*
my enemy will not shout in triumph | over me.

C ¹²But you have upheld me because of my in- | tegrity,*
and set me in your presence for- | ever.

Cantor: ¹³Blessèd be the Lord, the God of | Israel,*
from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and | Amen.

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 424 – O Christ, You Walked the Road



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.
3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.
4 When lures of eas - y gain With prom - ise bright - ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king - dom first; Our wills with Yours a - lign.
Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight our an - cient foe.

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✠ ✠ ✠ READINGS ✠ ✠ ✠

FIRST READING – Hebrews 2:1-12

P A reading from the second chapter of Hebrews.

¹Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ²For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His will.

⁵Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that You are mindful of him,
or the son of man, that You care for him?”

⁷You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
You have crowned him with glory and honor,
⁸“putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, He left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰For it was fitting that He, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹For He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹²saying,

“I will tell of Your name to My brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING – Mark 8:31-9:1

P A reading from the eighth chapter of Mark.

³¹And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²And He said this plainly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. ³³But turning and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

³⁴And He called to Him the crowd with His disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his life? ³⁸For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

^{9:1}And He said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

PASSION READING – Mark 15:33-47

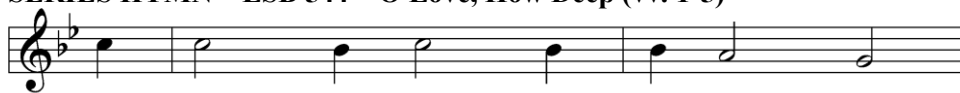
P The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark, the fifteenth chapter.

³³And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” ³⁵And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, He is calling Elijah.” ³⁶And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down.” ³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed His last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood facing Him, saw that in this way He breathed His last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹When He was in Galilee, they followed Him and ministered to Him, and there were also many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.

SERIES HYMN – LSB 544 – O Love, How Deep (vv. 1-5)



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
 2 He sent no an - gel to our race,
 3 For us bap - tized, for us He bore
 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;
 5 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,
 Of high - er or of low - er place,
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;
 For us His dai - ly works He wrought,
 For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,



That God, the Son of God, should take
 But wore the robe of hu - man frame,
 For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;
 By words and signs and ac - tions thus
 He bore the shame - ful cross and death;



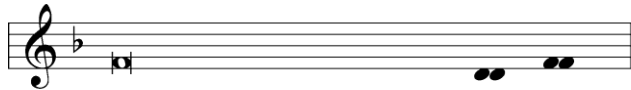
Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 And to this world Him - self He came.
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.
 For us He gave His dy - ing breath.

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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

✠ ✠ ✠ PRAYER ✠ ✠ ✠

KYRIE

 Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

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.

COLLECTS

- P** O Lord, hear my prayer. **C** And let my cry come to You.
- P** Lord Jesus, You loved us with all You had. We give thanks that You became one of us, no matter the pain, so that You might redeem each of us as Your own. Hear us, Jesus Christ, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.
- 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.
- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.
- 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.

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 878 – Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;

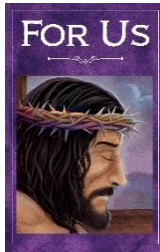


Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

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SILENT PRAYER/ANNOUNCEMENTS



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**

Acknowledgments

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