

## **Fourth Wednesday of Lent**

**March 18, 2020**

**7:00 p.m.**

*Evening Prayer*

## WELCOME

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word. We worship online in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and encourage you to follow along in this document as you also watch or listen to the live stream of our service. May the Lord bless our worship this day.

## ✠ OPENING ✠

### SERVICE OF LIGHT



**℣** Behold, now is the accept - ab - le time; **℟** now is the day of sal - va - tion.



**℣** Turn us again,  
O God of our sal - va - tion, **℟** that the light  
of your face may shine on us.



**℣** May your justice shine like the sun; **℟** and may the poor be lifted up.



**℣** Joy - ous light of glo - ry: **℟** 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.

☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

☐ Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people

Israel by a pil - lar of cloud by day and a pil - lar 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,

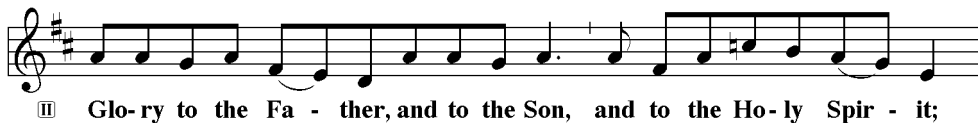
and you love your whole cre - a - tion, and we, your crea - tures, glo - ri - fy you,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. ☑ A - men

# ✠ PSALMODY ✠

## PSALM 141





*Silence for meditation is observed, then:*

## PSALM PRAYER

**L** Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord,  
and let your lovingkindness descend upon 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 and ever.

**C** Amen.



## PSALM 31:1–8

- L** In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;\*  
deliver me | in your righteousness.
- C** **Incline your | ear to me;\***  
**make haste to de- | liver me.**
- L** Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag | and my stronghold;\*  
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.
- C** **Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,\***  
**for you are my tow- | er of strength.**
- L** Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,\*  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O | God of truth.
- C** **I hate those who cling to | worthless idols,\***  
**and I put my trust | in the LORD.**
- L** I will rejoice and be glad because | of your mercy;\*  
for you have seen my affliction; you know | my distress.
- C** **You have not shut me up in the power | of the enemy,\***  
**you have set my feet in an | open place.**

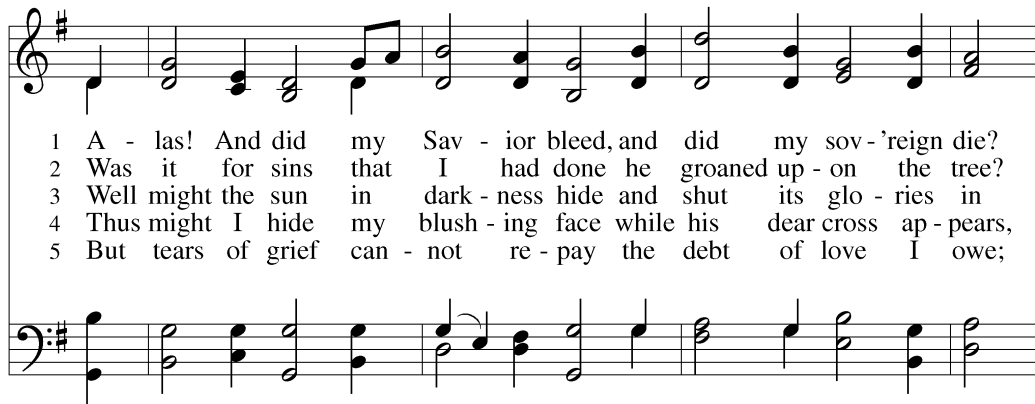
*Silence for meditation is observed, then:*

## PSALM PRAYER

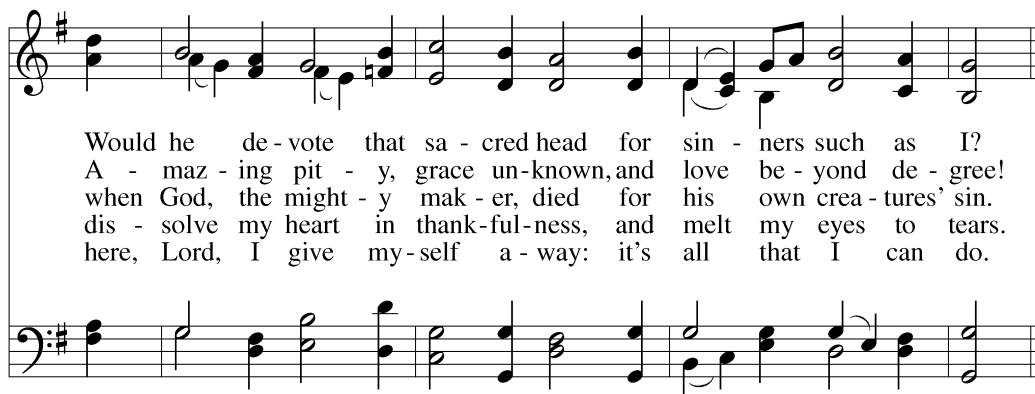
- L** God of kindness and truth,  
you saved your chosen one, Jesus Christ, and you give your martyrs strength.  
Watch over your people who come to you now,  
and strengthen the hearts of those who hope in you,  
that they may proclaim your saving acts of kindness in the eternal city;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

# HYMN: Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

(green) **LBW #98**



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov - 'reign die?  
2 Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?  
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in  
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while his dear cross ap - pears,  
5 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;



Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un-known, and love be - yond de - gree!  
when God, the might - y mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.  
dis - solve my heart in thank-ful-ness, and melt my eyes to tears.  
here, Lord, I give my-self a - way: it's all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

# ✝ WORD ✝

## READING: Matthew 26:20–29

<sup>20</sup>When it was evening, [Jesus] took his place with the twelve; <sup>21</sup>and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” <sup>22</sup>And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” <sup>23</sup>He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup>The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.” <sup>25</sup>Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

<sup>26</sup>While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” <sup>27</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

## HOMILY

Deacon E. Louise Williams

*Silence is observed, then:*

☐ In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

☑ But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

## MAGNIFICAT



☑ My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir- it re- joic- es in



God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa- vor on his low- ly ser- vant.



From this day all gen- er - a - tions will call me bless - ed.



The Al-might-y has done great things for me, and ho-ly is his name.



He has mer-cy on those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the



proud in their con-ceit. He has cast down the might-y from their thrones,



and has lift-ed up the low-ly. He has filled the



hun-gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a-way emp-ty.



He has come to the help of his ser-vant Is-ra-el,



for he has re-mem-bered his prom-ise of mer-cy, the prom-ise he



made to our fa-thers, to A-bra-ham and his chil-dren for-ev-er.

Glo-ry 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

## ✠ PRAYERS ✠

### LITANY

☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☑ Lord, have mer - cy.

*After each petition:*

☐ ...let us pray to the Lord.

☑ Lord, have mer - cy.

*The litany concludes:*

☐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence is kept, then:*

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

☑ To you, O Lord.

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works:  
Give to us, your servants, the 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 the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**C** Amen.

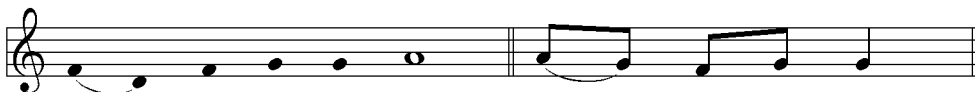
**L** Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are yours,  
and to you the darkness is no threat.  
Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night,  
especially those who watch and work on behalf of others.  
Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service,  
courage in danger, and competence in emergencies.  
Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**L** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

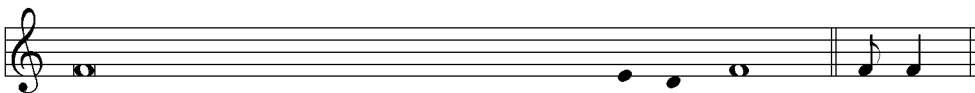
**C** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS DOMINO & BENEDICTION



**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

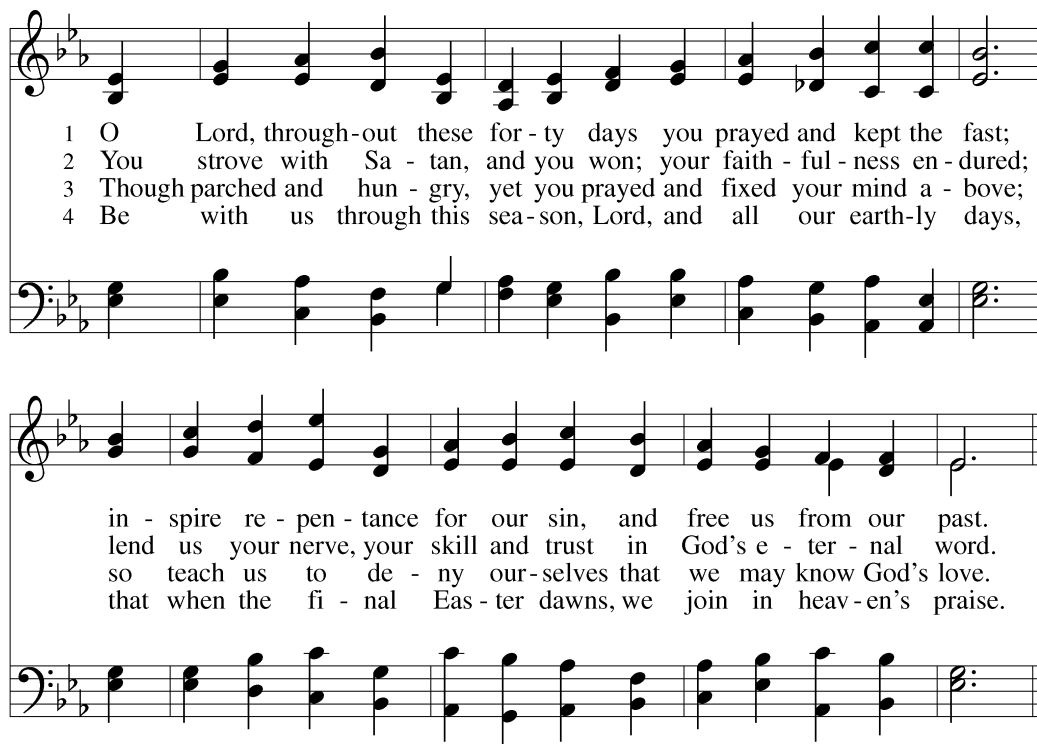


**P** The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve you.

**C** A-men

## HYMN: O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

(green) **LBW #99**



1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days,

in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.  
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930

Music: CAITHNESS. *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1635

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. David R. Lyle, leader

Deacon E. Louise Williams, preaching minister

The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor

Justin Martin, soloist

### Copyright Acknowledgments

Portions of this liturgy reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship*, copyright © 1978 by Augsburg Fortress. Graphics reprinted from *Sundaysandseasons.com*. All rights reserved. All of the above used by permission of Augsburg Fortress liturgies license #38423.

Readings come from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Image on front cover from istock photo ID 172483294 by Lalocracio of Krka National Park (Croatia).