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The Third Midweek Service in Lent  
March 26, 2025

## Opening Hymn: “Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing”

LSB 421

- 1 Jesus, grant that balm and healing  
In Your holy wounds I find,  
Ev’ry hour that I am feeling  
Pains of body and of mind.  
Should some evil thought within  
Tempt my treach’rous heart to sin,  
Show the peril, and from sinning  
Keep me from its first beginning.
- 2 Should some lust or sharp temptation  
Fascinate my sinful mind,  
Draw me to Your cross and passion,  
And new courage I shall find.  
Or should Satan press me hard,  
Let me then be on my guard,  
Saying, “Christ for me was  
wounded,”  
That the tempter flee confounded.
- 3 If the world my heart entices  
With the broad and easy road,  
With seductive, sinful vices,  
Let me weigh the awful load  
You were willing to endure.
- 4 Help me flee all thoughts impure  
And to master each temptation,  
Calm in prayer and meditation.  
Ev’ry wound that pains or grieves me  
By Your wounds, Lord, is made  
whole;  
When I’m faint, Your cross revives me,  
Granting new life to my soul.  
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet  
Ev’ry bitter cup I meet;  
For Your all-atoning passion  
Has procured my soul’s salvation.
- 5 O my God, my rock and tower,  
Grant that in Your death I trust,  
Knowing death has lost its power  
Since You crushed it in the dust.  
Savior, let Your agony  
Ever help and comfort me;  
When I die be my protection,  
Light and life and resurrection.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. composite, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Opening Versicles

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;  
**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- L** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
**C** slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.
- L** Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,  
**C** let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
- L** Christ was wounded for our transgressions.  
**C** He was bruised for our iniquities.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.


# Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261


*Refrain*



**■** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and




He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



With joy will you draw wa - ter from the




wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that



day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,



make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -




claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done

glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the  
earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -  
hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the  
Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
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.

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



## Readings From Holy Scripture

### Reading

*Matthew 5:21–32*

**L** A reading from Matthew, the fifth chapter.

<sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Anthem: “A Lenten Love Song”

Introductory Choir

### Responsory

**L** We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**C** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

**L** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**C** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

**L** We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**C** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

## Ten Commandments

- C** You shall have no other gods.  
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Apostles' Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## 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.

## Catechetical Instruction

### Hymn of the Day: "These Are the Holy Ten Commands"

LSB 581

*sts. 1, 6–7, 11–12*

- 1 These are the holy Ten Commands  
God gave to us by Moses' hands  
When high on Sinai's mount he stood,  
Receiving them for our good.  
Have mercy, Lord!

- 6 “You shall not murder, hurt, nor hate;  
Your anger dare not dominate.  
Be kind and patient; help, defend,  
And treat your foe as your friend.”  
Have mercy, Lord!
- 7 “Be faithful to your marriage vow;  
No lust or impure thoughts allow.  
Keep all your conduct free from sin  
By self-controlled discipline.”  
Have mercy, Lord!
- 11 You have this Law to see therein  
That you have not been free from sin  
But also that you clearly see  
How pure toward God life should be.  
Have mercy, Lord!
- 12 Our works cannot salvation gain;  
They merit only endless pain.  
Forgive us, Lord! To Christ we flee,  
Who pleads for us endlessly.  
Have mercy, Lord!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 1): tr. Joseph Herl, 1959; (sts. 6, 12): tr. Christian Worship, 1993, alt.; (sts. 7, 11): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.  
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## Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### Collect of the Day

- L** Most gracious God, we give thanks for the joy and blessings that You grant to husbands and wives. Assist them always by Your grace that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their marriage vows, grow in love toward You and for each other, and come at last to the eternal joys that You have promised; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

### Collect for the Word

- L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### Evening Prayer

- 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.**

### Blessing

- 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 preserve you.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn: “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

LSB 883

- 1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night  
For all the blessings of the light.  
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
Beneath Thine own almighty wings.
- 2 Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son,  
The ill that I this day have done,  
That with the world, myself, and Thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
- 3 Teach me to live that I may dread  
The grave as little as my bed.  
Teach me to die that so I may  
Rise glorious at the awe-full day.
- 4 Oh, may my soul in Thee repose,  
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,  
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make  
To serve my God when I awake!
- 5 When in the night I sleepless lie,  
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;  
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,  
No pow'rs of darkness me molest.

- △ 6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.  
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### Acknowledgments

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