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The Fourth Midweek Service in Lent
April 2, 2025

Opening Hymn: “Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”

LSB 428

- 1 Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,
Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect man on thee did suffer,
Perfect God on thee has bled!
- 2 Here the King of all the ages,
Throned in light ere worlds could be,
Robed in mortal flesh is dying,
Crucified by sin for me.
- 3 O mysterious condescending!
O abandonment sublime!
Very God Himself is bearing
All the sufferings of time!
- 4 Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,
Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect man on thee did suffer,
Perfect God on thee has bled!

Text: William J. Sparrow Simpson, 1860–1952
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

Ephesians 4:25–32

L A reading from Ephesians, the fourth chapter.

²⁵Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³²Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

James 3:3–12

³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

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, 8–9, 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!
- 8 “You shall not steal or take away
What others worked for night and day,
But open wide a gen’rous hand
And help the poor in the land.”
Have mercy, Lord!
- 9 “Bear no false witness nor defame
Your neighbor nor destroy his name,
But view him in the kindest way;
Speak truth in all that you say.”
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; (st. 11): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (sts. 8–9, 12): tr. Christian Worship, 1993, 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** We pray You, O Lord, to keep our tongues from evil and our lips from speaking deceit, that as Your holy angels continuously sing praises to You in heaven, so may we at all times glorify You on earth; 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: “O Blessed Light, O Trinity”

LSB 890

- 1 O blessèd Light, O Trinity,
O everlasting Unity:
As now the fiery sun departs,
Send forth Your light into our hearts.
- 2 To You our morning song of praise,
To You our evening prayer we raise;
We praise Your light in ev’ry age,
The glory of our pilgrimage.
- △ 3 All glory be to God above
And to the Son, the Prince of love,
And to the Spirit, One in Three!
We praise You, blessèd Trinity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; (st. 1): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 2–3): tr. Gracia Grindal, 1943
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Serving Today:

Liturgist and Preacher.....	Rev. John H. Koopman
Pianist	Suzie Gangi
Special Music	[1:30] Concordia Classical Academy 7 th & 8 th graders
Elder of the Day	[6:30] Mike Anderson