

Introduction: The Disciplines of Lent: Faithfulness

- L** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**
- L** Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**
- L** Let Your light scatter the darkness
C **and illumine Your Church.**

Phos Hilaron

LSB 244

- L** Joyous light of glory:
C **of the immortal Father;
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.
We have come to the setting of the sun,
and we look to the evening light.
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised
with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O Giver of life:
the universe proclaims Your glory.**

Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

- L** Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar 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 merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Psalms 141

LSB 245

- C** **Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**
- I** O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to You.
- C** **Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**
- II** Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.
- I** Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.
- II** But my eyes are turned to You, O God;
in You I take refuge.
Strip me not of my life.
- 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.
Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**
- L** Let us pray.
Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on 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.
- C** **Amen.**

Psalms

Psalm 127

Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.
It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,

eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.
Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.
Blessèd is the man
who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

sts. 1–3

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul He doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

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Reading

John 10:22–38

At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?" The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God." Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father."

Reading Response

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
- C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon "The Disciplines of Lent: Faithfulness"

Magnificat

LSB 248

- C My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.
My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessèd.

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 generation.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

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.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.
My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

Offering

Litany (Lent)

LSB 249

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For *[names of synodical and district presidents]*, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For *[name of president or monarch]*, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, 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.

The prayers then continue:

- L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
C Thanks be to God.
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

- L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
C To You, O Lord.

Collect For Peace

- L** 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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

LSB 252

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 252

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

sts. 4–5

4 My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

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Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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