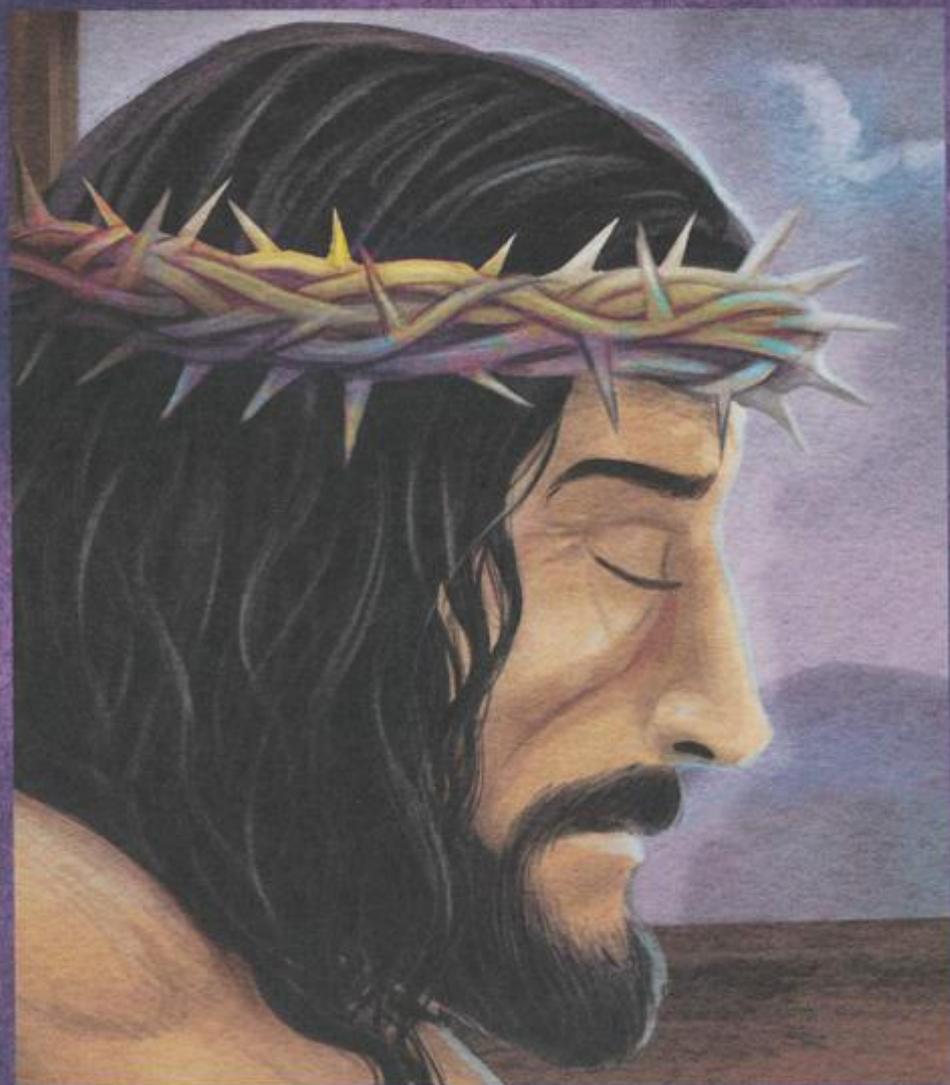


FOR US



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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LENT MID-WEEK TWO 1:00 p.m. March 4, 2026

MIDWEEK OF LENT 2 DONE FOR US

God's character, His nature, is self-giving love. Everything Jesus does, He does "for us." This phrase will be introduced this week in the series hymn. *Pro nobis*, or "for us," appears again and again in the series hymn. Jesus is baptized, fasts, is tempted, overcomes temptation, and, in doing so, begins His work of undoing the power of the devil (Mark 1:9–13). It is especially worth noting that because Jesus suffered when tempted, He can "help those who are being tempted" (Hebrews 2:18). He not only helps us in our weakness, but His love for us extends all the way into the grave.

OPENING SENTENCES

LSB, p. 229

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- 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.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

+ PSALMODY +

PSALM

Psalm 62:1–6

- P** For God alone my soul waits in silence; from Him comes my salvation.
C He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.
- P** How long will all of you attack a man to batter him, like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?
C They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.

P They take pleasure in falsehood.

C They bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse.

P For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from Him.

C He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

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.

420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

sts. 1, 6-7



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion And hast borne it
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
pa - tient - ly, E - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,
Ful - ly to a - tone for me; Thou didst choose to
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
be tor - ment - ed That my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis

Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain

+ READINGS +

READING

Hebrews 2:11–18

P A reading from the second chapter of Hebrews.

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.”

¹³And again,

“I will put My trust in Him.”

And again,

“Behold, I and the children God has given Me.”

¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham.

¹⁷Therefore He had to be made like His brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

Mark 1:9–13

P A reading from the first chapter of Mark.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when He came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.”

¹²The Spirit immediately drove Him out into the wilderness. ¹³And He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And He was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to Him.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

PASSION READING

Mark 14:32–52

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

³²They went to a place called Gethsemane. And He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” ³³And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. ³⁴And He said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.” ³⁵And going a little farther, He fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. ³⁶And He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Remove this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what You will.” ³⁷And He came and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ³⁹And again He went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer Him. ⁴¹And He came the third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Rise, let us be going; see, My betrayer is at hand.”

⁴³And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. ⁴⁴Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man. Seize Him and lead Him away under guard.” ⁴⁵And when He came, he went up to Him at once and said, “Rabbi!” And he kissed Him. ⁴⁶And they laid hands on Him and seized Him. ⁴⁷But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁴⁸And Jesus said to them, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture Me? ⁴⁹Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled.” ⁵⁰And they all left Him and fled.

⁵¹And a young man followed Him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, ⁵²but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

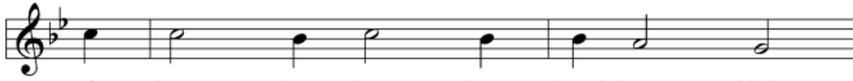
P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P** In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

544 O Love, How Deep

sts. 1-3



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



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,
 Of high - er or of low - er place,
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;



That God, the Son of God, should take
 But wore the robe of hu - man frame,
 For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 And to this world Him - self He came.
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380-1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819-85, alt.
 Tune: English, 15th cent.
 Text: Public domain

SERMON

+ CANTICLE +

ANTIPHON

LSB, p. 231

- P** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

MAGNIFICAT

LSB, p. 231

- C** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;
P for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
C For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
P For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
C and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
P He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
C He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
P He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.
C He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
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.

OFFERING

+ PRAYER +

C Lord, have mercy;
 Christ, have mercy;
 Lord, have mercy.

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 did not visit this created world to show Your power over it. Rather, it was done for us fallen creatures, along with everything You endured and all that You experienced. Grant us such an overwhelming sense of gratitude that we think, speak, and live each day as Your true brothers and sisters. Hear us, Jesus Christ, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the 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

LSB, p. 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

P 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.

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
 4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your right - eous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553

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Tune: Public domain

THE DEATH OF JESUS



Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

• • •

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

—Matthew 27:45–54, 57–61

Scripture: ESV®.

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