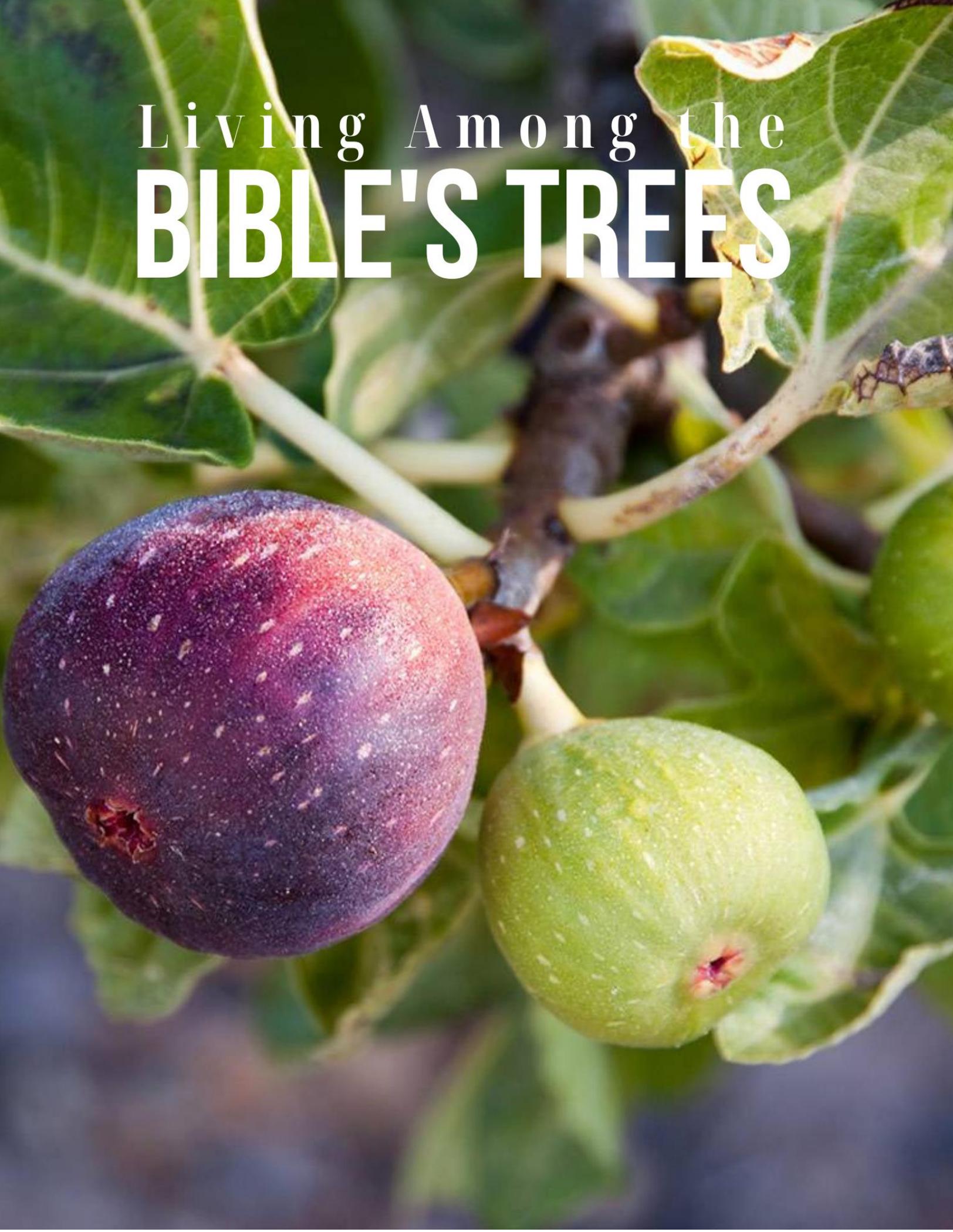
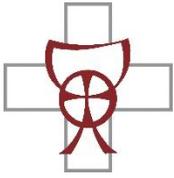


Living Among the
BIBLE'S TREES





DIVINE SERVICE
MAUNDY THURSDAY
FIG TREES

OPENING HYMN

LSB 563 JESUS, THY BLOOD & RIGHTEOUSNESS



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
 3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
 deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
 mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
 on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

5 When from the dust of death I rise
 To claim my mansion in the skies,
 This then shall be my only plea:
 Jesus hath lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
 Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
 For me, and all Thy hands have made,
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Text and tune: Public domain

CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P I will go to the altar of God,

C to God my exceeding joy.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and

the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This Holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God’s wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit, He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.” It is as if He said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat.”

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Again, it is as if He said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink.”

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples’ feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C Amen.

Stand

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy,

innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 105:23-45

Then Israel came to Egypt;
 Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.
And the Lord made his people very fruitful
 and made them stronger than their foes.
He turned their hearts to hate his people,
 to deal craftily with his servants.
He sent Moses, his servant,
 and Aaron, whom he had chosen.
They performed his signs among them
 and miracles in the land of Ham.
He sent darkness, and made the land dark;
 they did not rebel against his words.
He turned their waters into blood
 and caused their fish to die.
Their land swarmed with frogs,
 even in the chambers of their kings.
He spoke, and there came swarms of flies,
 and gnats throughout their country.
He gave them hail for rain,
 and fiery lightning bolts through their land.

He struck down their vines and fig trees,
and shattered the trees of their country.
He spoke, and the locusts came,
young locusts without number,
which devoured all the vegetation in their land
and ate up the fruit of their ground.
He struck down all the firstborn in their land,
the firstfruits of all their strength.
Then he brought out Israel with silver and gold,
and there was none among his tribes who stumbled.
Egypt was glad when they departed,
for dread of them had fallen upon it.
He spread a cloud for a covering,
and fire to give light by night.
They asked, and he brought quail,
and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.
He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
it flowed through the desert like a river.
For he remembered his holy promise,
and Abraham, his servant.
So he brought his people out with joy,
his chosen ones with singing.
And he gave them the lands of the nations,
and they took possession of the fruit of the peoples' toil,
that they might keep his statutes
and observe his laws. Praise the Lord!

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry. And seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. And he said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.

And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. And he was teaching them and saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers." And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. And when evening came they went out of the city.

As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. And Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB 823 MAY GOD BESTOW ON US HIS GRACE



1 May God be-stow on us His grace, With bless-ings rich pro-
2 Thine o-ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev-'ry
△ 3 O let the peo-ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in-



vide us; And may the bright-ness of His face
na-tion; And all the world with joy shall raise
creas-ing; The land shall plen-teous fruit bring forth,



To life e-ter-nal guide us, That we His
The voice of ex-ul-ta-tion. For Thou shalt
Thy Word is rich in bless-ing. May God the



sav-ing health may know, His gra-cious will and plea-sure,
judge the earth, O Lord, Nor suf-fer sin to flour-ish;
Fa-ther, God the Son, And God the Spir-it bless us!



And al-so to the na-tions show Christ's rich-es with-out
Thy peo-ple's pas-ture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and
Let all the world praise Him a-lone, Let sol-emn awe pos-



mea-sure And un-to God con-vert them.
nour-ish, In righ-teous paths to keep them.
sess us. Now let our hearts say, "A-men!"

Tune and text: Public domain

SERMON

Stand

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,

LSB 158

very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** On this night, Jesus gave His Church a new commandment to love one another as He has loved us, and then He washed His disciples' feet before He offered Himself on the cross in perfect love. Therefore, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Holy Lord, as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim Your Son's death until He comes. Grant us boldness and joy, then, to proclaim Your Son's death, for His death gives life to this dying world. Be with all pastors and missionaries who proclaim Christ crucified in this and every land. Where there is despair, bring hope; where there is guilt, bring forgiveness; where there is pain, bring help; and where there is persecution, bring joy. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Holy Lord, Peter would have had no share with Your Son unless Your Son washed his feet. Help us to treasure our Baptism each and every day for Your Son has washed more than our feet but has washed both body and soul of all our sins so that we now abide in Him and He in us. Keep us in our Baptism until it is completed in the resurrection of our bodies when we will live in the light of His glory forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Holy Lord, You hold the world in Your hands so give all nations good and honest leaders who govern according to Your commands. Bestow peace in every land so that Your Gospel has free course. Grant wisdom and integrity to our president, governor, congress, and all who make, administer, and judge our laws so that they promote justice, defend the weak, reward virtue, and punish evil. Guard and protect all who serve in the armed forces and bless their families with Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Holy Lord, Your Son touched those who were ill and healed them. Be merciful to those who are sick, shut-in, addicted, suffering, or near death, and grant them healing according to Your good and gracious will.

Help them to bear their affliction with patience knowing that You will fully restore them in both body and soul when You make all things new on the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Holy Lord, Your Son instituted the Lord's Supper to serve us the very forgiveness, life, and salvation that He won by giving Himself in perfect love for us on the cross. Prepare our hearts and minds to receive this perfect love as we eat the bread which is His body and drink the wine which is His blood. As we enjoy this feast of love that joins heaven and earth, unite us with each other and with all who have gone before us in faith and strengthen us to love one another as Christ has loved us so that all people would know that we are His disciples. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P All these things and whatever else You see that we need, grant us dear Father; through Christ Jesus, 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 162

P 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.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.

PSALM 22

C ¹My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*

Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?

²O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,*

and by night, but I find no rest.

³Yet You are holy,*

enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In You our fathers trusted;*

they trusted, and You delivered them.

⁵To You they cried and were rescued;*

in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man,*

scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷All who see Me mock Me;*

they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;

⁸"He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver Him;*

let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!"

⁹Yet You are He who took Me from the womb;*
You made Me trust You at My mother's breasts.
¹⁰On You was I cast from My birth,*
and from My mother's womb You have been My God.
¹¹Be not far from Me,
for trouble is near,*
and there is none to help.

¹²Many bulls encompass Me;*
strong bulls of Bashan surround Me;
¹³they open wide their mouths at Me,*
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all My bones are out of joint;*
My heart is like wax;
it is melted within My breast;
¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and My tongue sticks to My jaws;*
You lay Me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs encompass Me;*
a company of evildoers encircles Me;
they have pierced My hands and feet—
¹⁷I can count all My bones—*
they stare and gloat over Me;
¹⁸they divide my garments among them,*
and for My clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But You, O LORD, do not be far off!*
O You My help, come quickly to My aid!
²⁰Deliver My soul from the sword,*
My precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹Save Me from the mouth of the lion!*
You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild oxen!
²²I will tell of Your name to My brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will praise You:
²³You who fear the LORD, praise Him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him,*
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴For He has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and He has not hidden His face from Him,*
but has heard, when He cried to Him.

²⁵From You comes my praise in the great congregation;*
My vows I will perform before those who fear Him.
²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek Him shall praise the LORD!*

May your hearts live forever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before You.
²⁸For kingship belongs to the LORD,*
and He rules over the nations.

²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship,*
before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.
³⁰Posterity shall serve Him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
³¹they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,*
that He has done it.

All leave the church in silence.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

Please join us for the rest of this teaching series.

Good Friday

April 10th, 7:00 PM - "Tree of the Cross"

Readings: Psalm 74; Deuteronomy 21:22–23; Galatians 3:1–14

SERVING IN OUR SERVICE TODAY

Pastor

Pastor Mankin



Messiah
LUTHERAN CHURCH