

## MIDWEEK OF LENT 3

MARCH 15, 2023

### LIGHT SHINING IN THE DARKNESS

“Let there be light,” God said (Genesis 1:3). And there was light. Through the promised treasure of His Word, God keeps speaking to us. And because He does, there is light. Light from above! Light never-ending! Light that enlightens our way to life everlasting! Jesus Christ is this “light of the world” (John 8:12), the light no darkness can overcome. By His Word and Spirit, this light breaks through again today, enters our lives, and enables us to shine brightly for Him.

#### 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 27:1–4, 13–14*

- P** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
**C** The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?  
**P** When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

- C** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.
- P** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I  
may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
- C** to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His  
temple.
- P** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land  
of the living!
- C** Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!

**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.**

HYMN

+ READINGS +

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

*The Palace of the High Priest*

READING

*John 8:12–18*

- P** A reading from St. John, the eighth chapter.  
<sup>12</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the  
world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will  
have the light of life.” <sup>13</sup>So the Pharisees said to Him, “You are  
bearing witness about Yourself; Your testimony is not true.”  
<sup>14</sup>Jesus answered, “Even if I do bear witness about Myself, My  
testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am  
going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am  
going. <sup>15</sup>You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. <sup>16</sup>Yet  
even if I do judge, My judgment is true, for it is not I alone who  
judge, but I and the Father who sent Me. <sup>17</sup>In your Law it is  
written that the testimony of two men is true. <sup>18</sup>I am the one who

bears witness about Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness about Me.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

LENT RESPONSORY

*LSB*, p. 231

**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.**

HYMN

“O God of God, O Light of Light” (*LSB* 810)

SERMON

*Light Shining in the Darkness*

+ 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.**

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

*LSB*, p. 233

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

LORD'S PRAYER

*LSB, p. 233*

**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 Christ...

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.

HYMN