

Lenten Vespers

March 3, 2021

Opening Versicles

LSB, p. 229

PSALM (Responsively)

Psalm 41

- ¹ Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;
- ² **the LORD protects him and keeps him alive;
he is called blessed in the land;
you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**
- ³ The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;
in his illness you restore him to full health.
- ⁴ **As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;
heal me, for I have sinned against you!"**
- ⁵ My enemies say of me in malice,
"When will he die, and his name perish?"
- ⁶ **And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words,
while his heart gathers iniquity;
when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**
- ⁷ All who hate me whisper together about me;
they imagine the worst for me.
- ⁸ **They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him;
he will not rise again from where he lies."**
- ⁹ Even my close friend in whom I trusted,
who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- ¹⁰ **But you, O LORD, be gracious to me,
and raise me up, that I may repay them!**
- ¹¹ By this I know that you delight in me:
my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- ¹² **But you have upheld me because of my integrity,
and set me in your presence forever.**
- ¹³ Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!
Amen and Amen.
- 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.**

OFFICE HYMN

"Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow"

LSB 880

OLD TESTAMENT*2 Samuel 15:12; 17:1–4*

¹²And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.

¹Moreover, Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Let me choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. ²I will come upon him while he is weary and discouraged and throw him into a panic, and all the people who are with him will flee. I will strike down only the king, ³and I will bring all the people back to you as a bride comes home to her husband. You seek the life of only one man, and all the people will be at peace." ⁴And the advice seemed right in the eyes of Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE*Acts 3:14–19*

¹⁴"But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL*John 18:1–11*

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to

them, "Whom do you seek?" ⁵They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one." ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) ¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

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SERMON

+ CANTICLE +

Stand

ANTIPHON

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MAGNIFICAT (Responsively)

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C **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;**

I for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.

II For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

I For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;

II and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

II He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

I He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

II 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 **Glorify 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.**

Sit

Offerings placed in plates at entrance.

+ PRAYER +

Kneel/Stand

KYRIE

LSB, p. 233

LORD'S PRAYER

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COLLECTS

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** **And let my cry come to You.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** Faithful God, Your love for us remains constant, even when we falter and fail. Help us to recognize our betrayals and to return to You by the cross of Jesus, where He paid for our sin with His life, so that our lives may be restored; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PEACE

- 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.**

Stand

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

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HYMN

"Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing"

LSB 421

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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