

FOR US



Midweek Lenten Service

Wednesday, March 11th, 2026

Midweek Lent 3

Theme of the Day

Jesus talks all about seeking us in our texts this week. He does not wait passively until we get up the gumption to ask Him for help. Nor does He act out of selfish gain, like our health-care system seems to do so often today. Praying, teaching, working. In all these things, Jesus seeks us out and looks for ways to help us. This work is often overlooked because it is so ordinary. Water, bread and wine, the folly of preaching. In all these ordinary works, Jesus continues His ministry among us. This ministry of forgiveness means that Jesus continues to strengthen and help us.

423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB 423



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences

Joel 2:13; Matthew 16:24; Isaiah 53:5

P: Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C: **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster.**

P: Jesus said, "If anyone would come after Me,

C: **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me."**

P: Christ was wounded for our transgressions;

C: **He was crushed for our iniquities.**

Lenten Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7

P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!

C: **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

P: Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up Your might and come to save us!

C: **Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

P: O LORD God of hosts,

C: **how long will You be angry with Your people's prayers?**

P: You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

C: **You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.**

P: Restore us, O God of hosts;

C: **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

*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.*

P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

C: **You who lead Joseph like a flock! Amen.**

Hymn of Praise*

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text and tune: Public domain

**Normally no hymn of praise is sung during Advent and Lent. This practice accentuates the solemn and penitential nature of these seasons.*

(Timothy H. Maschke, *Gathered Guests*)

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, You did not remain apart from Your creation. You sought us when we were not seeking You and did for us what we could not do for ourselves. For all this we give You thanks and praise; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

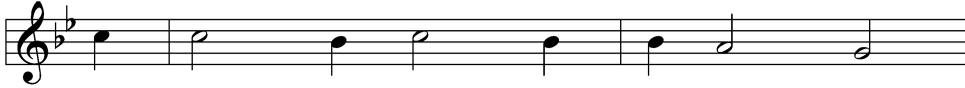
Reading

Romans 10:8–17

Mark 1:35–39

544 O Love, How Deep

LSB 544 sts. 1-4



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
4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;



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



That God, the Son of God, should take
But wore the robe of hu - man frame,
For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;
By words and signs and ac - tions thus



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
And to this world Him - self He came.
For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

For Us He Seeks

Offering

Litany

P: Let us pray to our Father in heaven in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting
death:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross
and Passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the
Comforter:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the
day of judgment:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: We poor sinners implore You

C: to hear us, O Lord.

P: To rule and govern Your Holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your
church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to
sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who
have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to
accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the
weakhearted and the distressed:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to
give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates
and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: Oh Lord,

C: have mercy.

P: O Christ,

C: have mercy.

P: Oh Lord,

C: have mercy. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Luther's Evening Prayer

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.

Benediction

P: The blessing of our heavenly Father, the strong love of His ✠ Son and our Brother, Jesus Christ, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

887 Now the Light Has Gone Away

LSB 887



1 Now the light has gone a - way; Fa - ther, lis - ten while I pray,
2 Je - sus, Sav - ior, wash a - way All that has been wrong to - day;
3 Let my near and dear ones be Al - ways near and dear to Thee;
4 Now my eve - ning praise I give; Thou didst die that I might live.
5 Thou, my best and kind - est Friend, Thou wilt love me to the end.



Ask - ing Thee to watch and keep And to send me qui - et sleep.
Help me ev - 'ry day to be Good and gen - tle, more like Thee.
O bring me and all I love To Thy hap - py home a - bove.
All my bless - ings come from Thee; Oh, how good Thou art to me!
Let me love Thee more and more, Al - ways bet - ter than be - fore.

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