



Fasting

"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

March 10, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer

✠ OPENING ✠

PRELUDE: Chorale Prelude on *Slane*

Steven Wenté

SERVICE OF LIGHT



Behold, now is the accept - ab - le time; now is the day of sal - va - tion.



Turn us again,
O God of our sal - va - tion, that the light
of your face may shine on us.



May your justice shine like the sun; and may the poor be lifted up.



Joy - ous light of glo - ry: of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther;



heav - en - ly, ho - ly, bless - ed Je - sus Christ.



We have come to the set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it: You are wor - thy of



be - ing praised with pure voic - es for - ev - er. O Son of God,



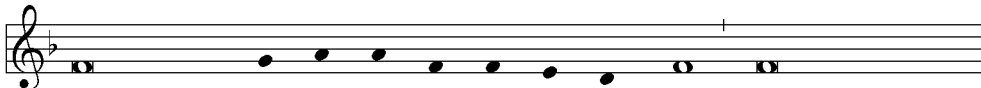
O Giv-er of life: The u - ni-verse pro-claims your glo - ry.



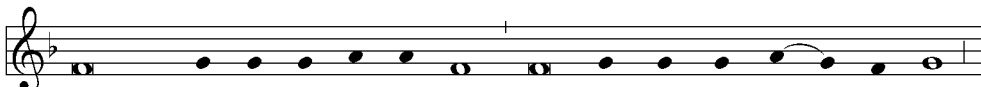
☒ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.



☒ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.



☒ Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people



Israel by a pil - lar of cloud by day and a pil - lar of fire by night:



Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may his Word be a lamp



to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer - ci - ful,



and you love your whole cre - a - tion, and we, your crea - tures, glo - ri - fy you,



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. ☑ A - men

✠ PSALMODY ✠

We sit.

PSALM 141

Women sing parts marked ❶. Men sing parts marked ❷. All sing parts marked ❸.



❸ Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



❶ O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I cry to you.



❷ Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



❶ Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



❷ Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing; let me not be oc - cu -



pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers. ❶ But my eyes are



turned to you, Lord God; in you I take ref- uge. Strip me not of my life.



☐ Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



☐ as it was in the be- gin - ning, is now, and will be for- ev- er. A - men.



☐ Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift- ing up of my hands as the eve- ning sac - ri - fice.

Silence for meditation is observed, then:

PSALM PRAYER

☐ Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

☐ Amen.



PSALM 35:1–14

- L** Fight those who fight | me, O Lord;*
attack those who are at- | tacking me.
- C** **Take up | shield and armor***
and rise | up to help me.
- L** Draw the sword and bar the way against those | who pursue me;*
say to my soul, “I am | your salvation.”
- C** **Let those who seek after my life be | shamed and humbled;***
let those who plot my ruin fall back and | be dismayed.
- L** Let them be like chaff be- | fore the wind,*
and let the angel of the Lord drive | them away.
- C** **Let their way be | dark and slippery,***
and let the angel of the | Lord pursue them.
- L** For they have secretly spread a net for me with- | out a cause;*
without a cause they have dug a pit to take | me alive.
- C** **Let ruin come upon them | unawares;***
let them be caught in the net they hid;
let them fall into the | pit they dug.
- L** Then I will be joyful | in the Lord;*
I will glory | in his victory.
- C** **My very bones will say, “Lord, | who is like you?***
You deliver the poor from those who are too strong for them,
the poor and needy from | those who rob them.”
- L** Malicious witnesses rise | up against me;*
they charge me with matters I know noth- | ing about.
- C** **They pay me evil in ex- | change for good;***
my soul is full | of despair.
- L** But when they were sick I | dressed in sackcloth*
and humbled my- | self by fasting.
- C** **I prayed with my whole heart, as one would for a friend | or a brother;***
I behaved like one who mourns for his mother,
bowed | down and grieving.

Silence for meditation is observed, then:

PSALM PRAYER

☐ Lord God, you rose to the aid of your beloved Son
against those who unjustly sought his life.
Look on your Church as we journey to you,
and rescue the poor from their oppressors,
that they may tell of your righteousness and your praise;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

We stand and sing.

HYMN: When We Are Tested

ACS #922



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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✠ WORD ✠

READING: Ezra 8:15–23

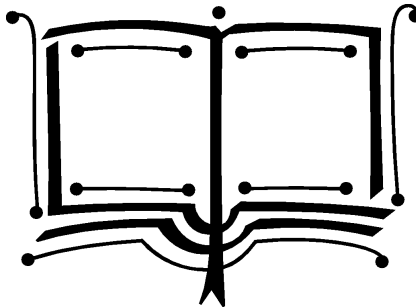
¹⁵I gathered them by the river that runs to Ahava, and there we camped three days. As I reviewed the people and the priests, I found there none of the descendants of Levi. ¹⁶Then I sent for Eliezer, Ariel, Shemaiah, Elnathan, Jarib, Elnathan, Nathan, Zechariah, and Meshullam, who were leaders, and for Joiarib and Elnathan, who were wise, ¹⁷and sent them to Iddo, the leader at the place called Casiphia, telling them what to say to Iddo and his colleagues the temple servants at Casiphia, namely, to send us ministers for the house of our God. ¹⁸Since the gracious hand of our God was upon us, they brought us a man of discretion, of the descendants of Mahli son of Levi son of Israel, namely Sherebiah, with his sons and kin, eighteen; ¹⁹also Hashabiah and with him Jeshaiiah of the descendants of Merari, with his kin and their sons, twenty; ²⁰besides two hundred twenty of the temple servants, whom David and his officials had set apart to attend the Levites. These were all mentioned by name.

²¹Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might deny ourselves before our God, to seek from him a safe journey for ourselves, our children, and all our possessions. ²²For I was ashamed to ask the king for a band of soldiers and cavalry to protect us against the enemy on our way, since we had told the king that the hand of our God is gracious to all who seek him, but his power and his wrath are against all who forsake him. ²³So we fasted and petitioned our God for this, and he listened to our entreaty.

- 📖 The Word of the Lord.
- 🙏 Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

Pastor Dave Lyle



Silence is observed, then:

L In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

We stand and sing,

MAGNIFICAT



C My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir- it re- joic- es in



God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa- vor on his low- ly ser- vant.



From this day all gen- er - a - tions will call me bless- ed.



The Al- might- y has done great things for me, and ho- ly is his name.



He has mer- cy on those who fear him in ev- 'ry gen- er - a - tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat- tered the



proud in their con- ceit. He has cast down the might- y from their thrones,

and has lift - ed up the low - ly. He has filled the

hun - gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty.

He has come to the help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el,

for he has re - mem - bered his prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise he

made to our fa - thers, to A - bra - ham and his chil - dren for - ev - er.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men



We sit.

OFFERING/ANTHEM: A Contrite Heart

Ludwig van Beethoven
arr. K. Lee Scott

Giving is one of the ways we participate in all that God is doing through Grace.

[Click here](#) to give online, or visit GraceRiverForest.org.

To thee, O Lord, to thee I cry for mercy;
Thy loving kindness now impart;
Oh, hear my call in pity I implore thee,
Come cleanse my contrite, waiting heart.

Create in me a pure and upright spirit
That I may follow all thy ways.
Restore to me the joy of thy salvation,
And I will sing thy love and praise.

My song shall ever tell thy loving kindness;
My heart will sing thy righteousness;
Thou wilt receive the broken spirit;
A contrite heart, Lord, thou wilt bless.

Adapted from Psalm 51 by K. Lee Scott

✠ PRAYERS ✠

We stand.

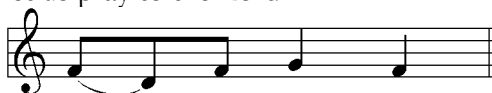
LITANY



☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☑ **Lord, have mer - cy.**

After each petition:

☐ ...let us pray to the Lord.



☑ **Lord, have mer - cy.**

The litany concludes:

☑ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence is kept, then:

- L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



C To you, O Lord.

- L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, the 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 the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

C Amen.

- L** 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.

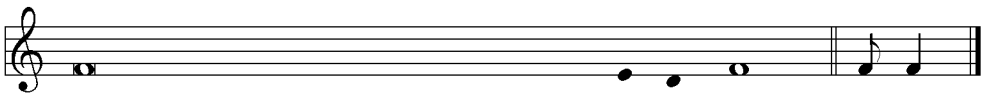
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS DOMINO & BENEDICTION



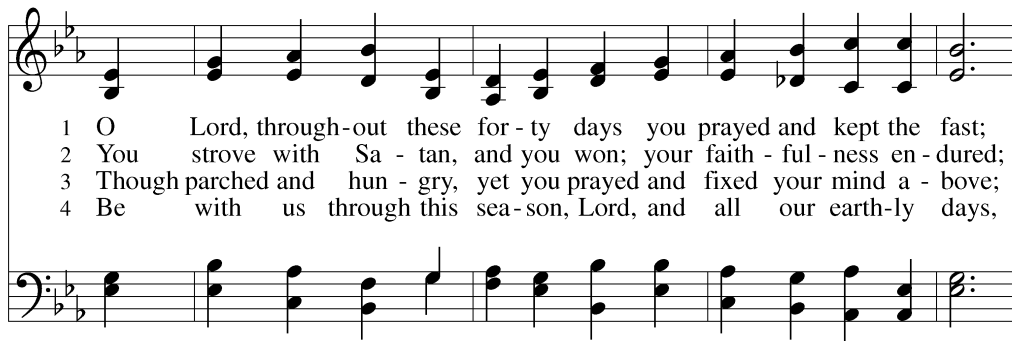
L Let us bless the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.



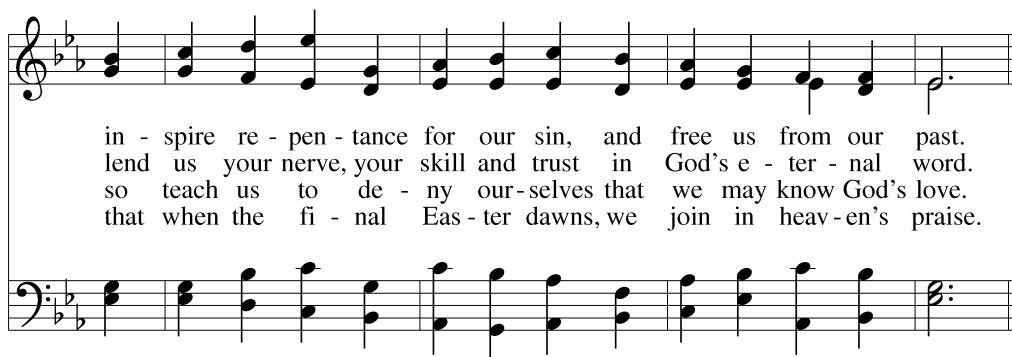
P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, † the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve you. **C** A-men

HYMN: O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

(green) LBW #99



1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days,



in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930
Music: CAITHNESS, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1635

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

The ministers depart in silence.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. David R. Lyle, leader
Julie Hinz, lector
The Rev. Michael D. Costello, organist
Colin Krueger, soloist
Al Swanson, videographer
Justin Martin, sound board operator

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Habits of Grace, Lent 2021



Confession

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Tree of Knowledge



Repentance

Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. Matthew 26:75

Rooster



Prayer

I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me; give ear to my voice when I call to you. Psalm 141:1-5

Cross and crown



Fasting

"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

Four gospels



Almsgiving

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share. 1 Timothy 6:18

Six-pointed star, symbol of the gifts of God's creation



Acts of mercy

Little children let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. 1 John 3:18

Ship, symbol of the Church

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

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7300 Division Street
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Fax: (708) 366-0966
www.graceriverforest.org
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Makayla Dahleen, Youth Ministry Associate
Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator
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