

**DYING
HIS DEATH
LIVING
HIS LIFE**



Lenten Evening Prayer
March 25, 2026

Dying to Judgment, Living in Grace

GATHERED BY THE LONG ARMS OF THE CROSS



Lenten Evening Prayer

March 25, 2026

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM WORSHIP at splcm.org/worship
Video streamed in Sunday School Wing

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

SERVICE OF LIGHT

Stand

VERSICLES OF LIGHT

Procession for Lucernarium – Carl Crosier

A *Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.*

ANTIPHON: C – CONGREGATION

Musical notation for the antiphon. The first staff is labeled "Bells:" and the second staff is labeled "Everyone:". The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. The lyrics are: "Je - sus Christ is the light of the world, the light no dark - ness can o - ver - come."

A *You, O Lord, are my Lamp; my God, You make my darkness bright. For with You is the well of life, and in Your light we see light. (Psalm 18:29; Psalm 36:9)*

C **ANTIPHON**

A *When Your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path. (Psalm 119:130, 105)*

C **ANTIPHON**

A *You wrap Yourself with light as with a cloak and spread out the heavens like a curtain. Send out Your light and Your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling. (Psalm 104:2; Psalm 43:3)*

C **ANTIPHON**

A *The night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to You are both alike. From the rising of the sun to its going down let the Name of the Lord be praised.*
(Psalm 139:11; Psalm 113:3)

C **ANTIPHON**

A *Glory 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.*

C **ANTIPHON**

PHOS HILARON ~ *Hymn of Light (Sung)*

LSB 244

L Joyous light of glory:

C **of the immortal Father;**

heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.

**We have come to the setting of the sun,
and we look to the evening light.**

We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.

O Son of God, O Giver of life:

the universe proclaims Your glory.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT (*Sung*)

LSB 245

L Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe,
who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day
and a pillar 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 merciful, and You love Your whole creation

and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Please extinguish candles and place them in the basket in the narthex as you leave.

PSALMODY



Sit/Kneel

PSALM 141:1–4, 8 (*Sung*)

LSB 245-247

C–ALL; **I**–MEN; **II**–WOMEN

C Let my prayer rise before You
as incense, the lifting up of my hands
as the evening sacrifice.

I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to You.

C Let my prayer rise before You
as incense, the lifting up of my hands
as the evening sacrifice.

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.

C Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

II Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness
with evildoers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God;
in You I take refuge.
Strip me not of my life.

P Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on 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.

C Amen.

(Sung a cappella responsively as indicated by **A**—CANTOR/CHOIR and **C**—CONGREGATION)



A ¹Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us make a joyful noise
to the rock of our sal- | vation!

C ²Let us come into his presence
with thanks- | giving;*
let us make a joyful noise to him
with | songs of praise!

A ³For the LORD is a | great God,*
and a great King a- | bove all gods.

C ⁴In his hand are
the depths | of the earth;*
the heights of the mountains
are his | also.

A ⁵The sea is his, for he | made it,*
and his hands formed the | dry land.

C ⁶Oh come, let us worship
and | bow down;*
let us kneel before the LORD,
our | Maker!

A ⁷For he | is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep | of his hand.

P Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer.

Almighty God, neither let us go astray as did those who murmured in the desert, nor let us be torn apart by discord. With Jesus as our shepherd, bring us to enjoy the unity for which he prays; and to you be the glory and the praise now and forever.

C Amen.

C Today, if you | hear his voice,*
⁸do not harden your hearts,
as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah
in the | wilderness,

A ⁹when your fathers put me | to the test*
and put me to the proof,
though they had | seen my work.

C ¹⁰For forty years
I loathed that generation and said,
“They are a people
who go astray | in their heart,*
and they have
not | known my ways.”

A ¹¹Therefore I swore | in my wrath,*
“They shall not enter | my rest.”

C Glory be to the Father
and | to the † Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

LESSON

FIRST LESSON – Jonah 3

L A reading from Jonah, the 3rd chapter.

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The People of Nineveh Repent

⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

SECOND LESSON – Romans 6:1–11

L A reading from Romans, the 6th chapter.

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

THIRD LESSON – John 8:2–11

L A reading from John, the 8th chapter.

The Woman Caught in Adultery

²Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴they said to him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?” ⁶This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection follows the reading.

After the reading:

P 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.** *Hebrews 1:1-2a*

OFFICE HYMN

Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain – LSB 435

1 Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain,
Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain
Flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide,
Opened when our Savior died.

2 Come in poverty and meanness,
Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness,
From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white;
Ye shall walk with God in light.

3 Come in sorrow and contrition,
Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission,
Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore;
They that drink shall thirst no more.

4 They that drink shall live forever;
'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never
Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died,
Sealed when He was glorified.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
Text: Public domain

HOMILY

Dying to Judgment, Living in Grace

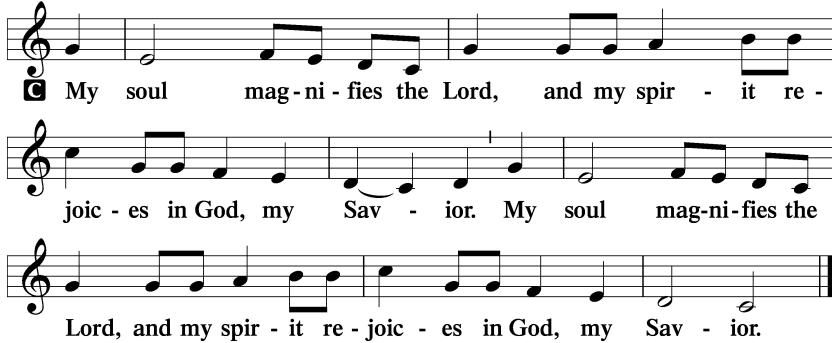
CANTICLE

Stand

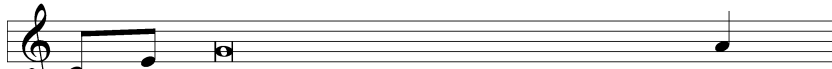
MAGNIFICAT ~ Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55)

LSB 248-249

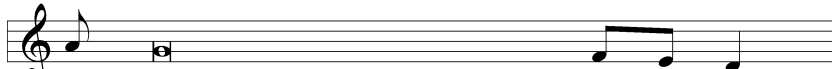
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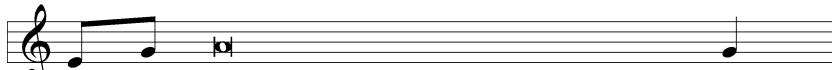
My soul mag-ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



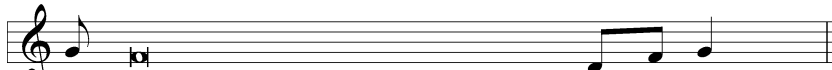
1 For _____ He has re - - - - - garded
2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
3 He has shown strength with His arm;
4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



1 the lowliness of His hand-maiden.
2 and holy is His name;
3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.
5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this day
2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



1 all generations will call me blessed.
2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

PRAYER

Kneel/Sit

LITANY *(Sung)*

LSB 249

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.

After each petition the following versicle is sung:

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

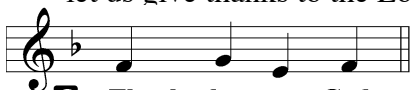


C Lord, have mer - cy.



The prayers then continue:

L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

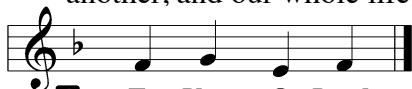


C Thanks be to God.

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

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

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.

COLLECT FOR PEACE *(Sung)*

LSB 251

P Let us pray. 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.

LORD'S PRAYER – *Matthew 6:9-13*

LSB 251

☐ Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

☑ **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.**

Stand

BENEDICAMUS (*Sung*) – [*Psalm 103:1*]

LSB 252

☐ Let us bless the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

COLLECT (*Spoken*)

LSB 311

☐ Let us pray for guidance in our calling.

☑ **Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

As you are comfortable, please come forward and gather by the cross around the altar.

EVENING HYMN

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night – LSB 883 △

Note: Verses 4 & 5 will be sung in canon.

The **Sunday School Side** will begin with the *PASTOR* leading them.

The **Fellowship Hall Side** will follow after 4 beats (as indicated by the asterisk *)
with the *CANTOR* leading them.

**1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
Beneath Thine own almighty wings.**

**2 Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son,
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and Thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.**

**3 Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die that so I may
Rise glorious at the awe-full day.**

SUNG IN CANON

**4 Oh, may my soul *in Thee repose,
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
To serve my God when I awake!**

SUNG IN CANON

**5 When in the night *I sleepless lie,
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No pow'rs of darkness me molest.**

**△6 Praise God, from whom
all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Text: Public domain

BENEDICTION (*Sung*)

LSB 252

Ⓟ The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son,
and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Ⓒ Amen.

The Offerings are received in the Narthex.

✠ Glory to God Alone ✠

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- **LITURGY:** Sung portions of the liturgy from the **Lutheran Service Book: Evening Prayer – pp. 243ff.** Copyright © 2006. Concordia Publishing House.
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- **THOSE WHO SERVE:** Fred Niedner, author of *Dying His Death, Living His Life*

