

MIDWEEK



LENT

SERVICE

March 4, 2026
Pastor Warneke

OPENING VERSICLES

253

P: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C: Amen.

P: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

P: to herald Your love in the morning,

C: Your truth at the close of the day.

EXHORTATION + CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 254

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. ...

P: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

C: Amen.

PSALM

Psalm 51

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

P: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

C: Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

P: Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

C: Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

P: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

P: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

P: Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

P: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

C: Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

P: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

C: For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

P: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

C: Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem;

P: then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

All: 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.

FIRST READING

Joel 1:13–20

¹³Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests;
wail, O ministers of the altar.

Go in, pass the night in sackcloth,
O ministers of my God!

Because grain offering and drink offering
are withheld from the house of your God.

¹⁴Consecrate a fast;
call a solemn assembly.

Gather the elders
and all the inhabitants of the land
to the house of the LORD your God,
and cry out to the LORD.

¹⁵Alas for the day!

For the day of the LORD is near,
and as destruction from the Almighty it comes.

¹⁶Is not the food cut off
before our eyes,

joy and gladness
from the house of our God?

¹⁷The seed shrivels under the clods;
the storehouses are desolate;
the granaries are torn down
because the grain has dried up.

¹⁸How the beasts groan!
The herds of cattle are perplexed
because there is no pasture for them;
even the flocks of sheep suffer.

¹⁹To you, O LORD, I call.

For fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness,
and flame has burned
all the trees of the field.

²⁰Even the beasts of the field pant for you
because the water brooks are dried up,
and fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 1:16–32

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

²⁶For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³²Though they know God's decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:1-9

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

²And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

⁶And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

LSB 255

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

C: Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

P: You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

C: Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

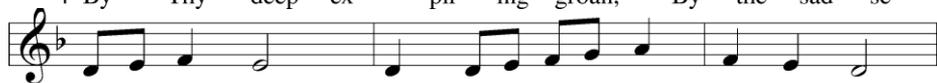
P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

SAVIOR, WHEN IN DUST TO THEE



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -
2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of
3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -
4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies
want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress
ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy
In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -
Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that
Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing
te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O
veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten
heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt. Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841-1903 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Joel 1:13-20

VERSICLES

256

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C: listen to my cry.

P: Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

C: hide me in the shadow of Your wings.

P: In righteousness I shall see You;

C: when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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

P: Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

257

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

NUNC DIMITTIS

258

P: Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

C: Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people: a light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. 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. Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

BENEDICTION

259

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

C: Amen.

TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-78, alt. Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857 Text and tune: Public domain

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Next Week...

March 11 - Pastor Meyer (Joel 2:1-11)

"Blow a trumpet...the day of the LORD is coming!"