

LENTEN VESPERS
March 18, 2026

Stand

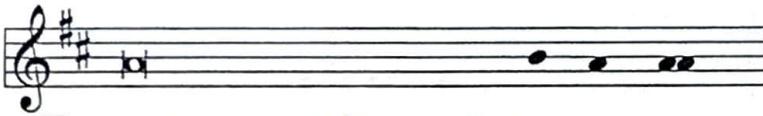
Psalmody



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



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



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they | said to me,*
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”
²Our feet have been | standing*
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!
³Jerusalem—built as a | city*
that is bound firmly to- | gether,
⁴to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for | Israel,*
to give thanks to the name | of the LORD.
⁵There thrones for judg- | ment were set,*
the thrones of the house of | David.
⁶Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*
“May they be secure who | love you!
⁷Peace be with- | in your walls*
and security within your | towers!”
⁸For my brothers and com- | panions’ sake*
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”
⁹For the sake of the house of the | LORD our God,*
I will | seek your good.

Sit

758 The Will of God Is Always Best

Readings

Reading

Lamentations 4

Jeremiah

¹How the gold has grown dim,
how the pure gold is changed!
The holy stones lie scattered
at the head of every street.
²The precious sons of Zion,
worth their weight in fine gold,
how they are regarded as earthen pots,
the work of a potter’s hands!

³Even jackals offer the breast;
they nurse their young,
but the daughter of my people has become cruel,
like the ostriches in the wilderness.

⁴The tongue of the nursing infant sticks
to the roof of its mouth for thirst;
the children beg for food,
but no one gives to them.

⁵Those who once feasted on delicacies
perish in the streets;
those who were brought up in purple
embrace ash heaps.

⁶For the chastisement of the daughter of my people has been greater
than the punishment of Sodom,
which was overthrown in a moment,
and no hands were wrung for her.

⁷Her princes were purer than snow,
whiter than milk;
their bodies were more ruddy than coral,
the beauty of their form was like sapphire.

⁸Now their face is blacker than soot;
they are not recognized in the streets;
their skin has shriveled on their bones;
it has become as dry as wood.

⁹Happier were the victims of the sword
than the victims of hunger,
who wasted away, pierced
by lack of the fruits of the field.

¹⁰The hands of compassionate women
have boiled their own children;
they became their food
during the destruction of the daughter of my people.

¹¹The LORD gave full vent to his wrath;
he poured out his hot anger,
and he kindled a fire in Zion
that consumed its foundations.

¹²The kings of the earth did not believe,
nor any of the inhabitants of the world,
that foe or enemy could enter
the gates of Jerusalem.

¹³This was for the sins of her prophets
and the iniquities of her priests,

who shed in the midst of her
the blood of the righteous.
¹⁴They wandered, blind, through the streets;
they were so defiled with blood
that no one was able to touch
their garments.
¹⁵“Away! Unclean!” people cried at them.
“Away! Away! Do not touch!”
So they became fugitives and wanderers;
people said among the nations,
“They shall stay with us no longer.”
¹⁶The LORD himself has scattered them;
he will regard them no more;
no honor was shown to the priests,
no favor to the elders.

All

¹⁷**Our eyes failed, ever watching
vainly for help;
in our watching we watched
for a nation which could not save.**
¹⁸**They dogged our steps
so that we could not walk in our streets;
our end drew near; our days were numbered,
for our end had come.**
¹⁹**Our pursuers were swifter
than the eagles in the heavens;
they chased us on the mountains;
they lay in wait for us in the wilderness.**
²⁰**The breath of our nostrils, the LORD’s anointed,
was captured in their pits,
of whom we said, “Under his shadow
we shall live among the nations.”**

Jeremiah

²¹Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom,
you who dwell in the land of Uz;
but to you also the cup shall pass;
you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare.
²²The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter of Zion, is accomplished;
he will keep you in exile no longer;
but your iniquity, O daughter of Edom, he will punish;
he will uncover your sins.

- L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Responsory (Lent)



- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.
- 2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- 3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.



- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me
from those who rise a - gainst me.

Sermon "Without a Prayer"

Lamentations 4

448 O Darkest Woe (stanzas 4-6)

Offering

Prayer

Kneel/Stand

Kyrie



- C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Collect for Peace

L 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 A - men.

Stand

Benedicamus



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



G A - men.

752 Be Still, My Soul

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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Sermon: "Without a Prayer" Lamentations 4

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

Okawville, Illinois 62271

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Pastor
Organist
Acolyte

Eric Wood
Sharon Krueger
Devin Hundelt

**March Ushers – Saturday – Jeff Obermeier
Sunday – Gary Streuter and Greg Harre**

LWML Meeting this Thursday 7:00 p.m.

The midweek Lenten offerings are designated to go to Jamielynn (Tinkey) Flores, who is a missionary in Chile.

Extra copies of the March newsletter are available on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself or someone else.

Now Enrolling Students for 2026/2027 School Year at Immanuel Lutheran School, Okawville.

Preschool -8th Grade

March 19th 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Please call 618-243-6142 or stop by the school office with any questions.

Scholastic Book Fair is March 15th – March 19th in the ILS gym. The book fair will be open for everyone Thursday, March 19th 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.