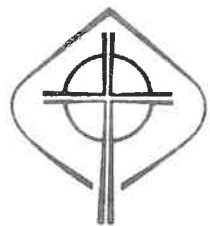


FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



The readings for today tell of the gift of life—life because God heals and binds up the torn and stricken sinner, life because Christ is in us, life because he came to serve.

Introit



Wait for the Lord;*
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is
what I seek: that I may dwell in the
house of the Lord all the days of my life,*
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he will keep me
safe in his dwelling;*
he will hide me in the shelter of his

tabernacle and set me high
upon a rock.
At his tabernacle will I sacrifice
with shouts of joy;*
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

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

Wait for the Lord;*
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.

(Antiphon, Ps. 27:14;
Ps. 27:4-5, 6b)

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, your mercies are new every morning, and though we have in no way deserved your goodness, you still abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us, we pray, your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness toward us, 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.

Gradual

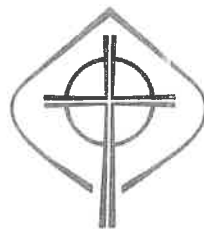
[Oh, come,] let us fix our eyes on Jesus,*
the author and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy set before him endured the cross,
scorning its shame,*
and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb. 12:2)

For Daily Devotions

March 2: Ps. 85; Num. 19–21; 3: Ps. 86; Num. 22–24; 4: Ps. 87; Num. 25–27; 5: Ps. 88; Num. 28–30; 6: Ps. 89; Num. 31–33; 7: Ps. 90; Num. 34–36; 8: Ps. 91; Deut. 1–3.

The chant tone, introit, collect, gradual, and daily lectionary are from *Lutheran Worship*, © 1982 CPH. All Scripture quotations, including those from *Lutheran Worship*, are from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



The Readings for today tell of the gift of life—life because God heals and binds up the torn and stricken sinner, life because Christ is in us, life because He came to serve.

Introit



Wait for the Lord;*
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is
what I seek: that I may dwell in the
house of the Lord all the days of my life,*
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he will keep me
safe in his dwelling;*
he will hide me in the shelter of his

tabernacle and set me high
upon a rock.
At his tabernacle will I sacrifice
with shouts of joy;*
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

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

Wait for the Lord;*
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.

(Antiphon, Ps. 27:14;
Ps. 27:4-5, 6b)

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, your mercies are new every morning, and though we have in no way deserved your goodness, you still abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us, we pray, your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness toward us, 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.

Gradual

[Oh, come,] let us fix our eyes on Jesus,*
the author and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy set before him endured the cross,
scorning its shame,*
and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb. 12:2)

For Daily Devotions

April 3: Ps. 115; Rom. 7–9; 4: Ps. 116; Rom. 10–13; 5: Ps. 117; Rom. 14–16; 6: Ps. 118; 1 Cor. 1–3; 7: Ps. 119:1–8; 1 Cor. 4–6; 8: Ps. 119:9–16; 1 Cor. 7–9; 9: Ps. 119:17–24; 1 Cor. 10–11.

The chant tone, Introit, Collect, Gradual, and daily lectionary are from *Lutheran Worship*, copyright © 1982 CPH. All Scripture quotations, including those from *Lutheran Worship*, are from the Holy Bible, New International Version®. NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

Hosea 5:15–6:2

“Then I will go back to my place
until they admit their guilt.
And they will seek my face;
in their misery they will earnestly
seek me.”

“Come, let us return to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces
but he will heal us;
he has injured us
but he will bind up our wounds.
After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will restore us,
that we may live in his presence.”

Romans 8:1–10

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of

Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.

Matthew 20:17–28

Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!”

Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.

“What is it you want?” he asked.

She said, “Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.”

“You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said to them. “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?”

“We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.”

When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Hosea 5:15–6:2

“Then I will go back to my place
until they admit their guilt.
And they will seek my face;
in their misery they will earnestly
seek me.”

“Come, let us return to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces
but he will heal us;
he has injured us
but he will bind up our wounds.
After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will restore us,
that we may live in his presence.”

Romans 8:1–10

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of

Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.

Matthew 20:17–28

Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!”

Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.

“What is it you want?” he asked.

She said, “Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.”

“You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said to them. “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?”

“We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.”

When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”