

## APRIL 9, 2025 - LENT 5 MIDWEEK SERVICE

**Prelude** - "Glory In The Cross" by James Southbridge.

*Stand*

### 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er

saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -

'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord

Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall

sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Public domain  
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois; Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Opening Versicles

- P** Comfort, comfort my people  
**C** Says your God.

*Isaiah 40:1*

- P** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
**C** I will fear no evil

- P** For you are with me  
**C** Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

*Psalms 23:4*

**P** This is my comfort in my affliction,

**C** That your promise gives me life.

*Psalm 119:50*

**P** Let your steadfast love comfort me

**C** According to your promise to your servant.

*Psalm 119:76*

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Almighty and everlasting God, as we venture deeper into this Lenten season, draw us into an ever-deeper friendship with You. Give us Your Holy Spirit so that we can hear Your Word, trust in Your promises, fix our eyes on the cross, and be comforted by Your loving-kindness. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 51:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD:

look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

<sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
that I might bless him and multiply him.

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD comforts Zion;  
he comforts all her waste places  
and makes her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>“Give attention to me, my people,  
and give ear to me, my nation;  
for a law will go out from me,  
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>My righteousness draws near,  
my salvation has gone out,  
and my arms will judge the peoples;  
the coastlands hope for me,  
and for my arm they wait.

<sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

2 Corinthians 1:3–7

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup>who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. <sup>5</sup>For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. <sup>6</sup>If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. <sup>7</sup>Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

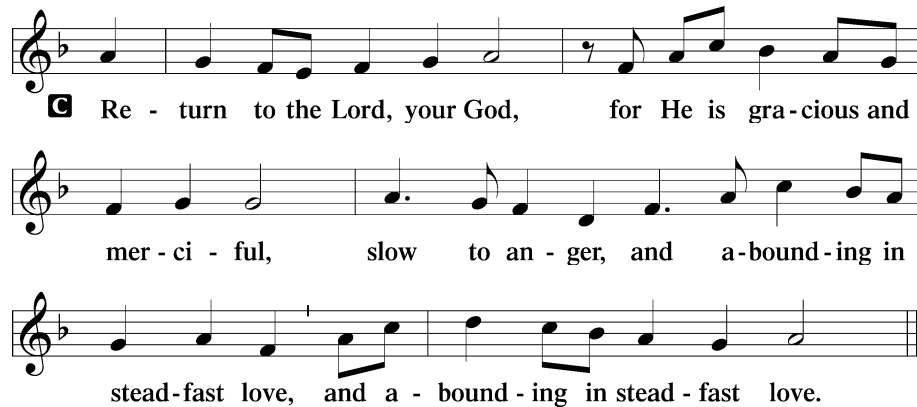
**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Verse for Lent

LSB 157



**C** Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in  
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## Holy Gospel

John 11:17–27

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## 744 Amazing Grace

sts. 1–5

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright  
 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to  
 now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond; Public domain  
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati; Public domain

## Sermon

**Anthem** - “Beneath The Cross Of Jesus” tune *St. Christopher*, setting by Peterson.

*Kneel*

## Prayers

- P** Lord Jesus, Your power and promises bring profound comfort to us in our hardships and struggles. Hear us now as we lift our prayers and raise our petitions to You.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer.
- P** Lord Jesus, bring comfort to every corner of Your creation, and assure us with Your promise to one day wipe away every tear from our eyes.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer.
- P** Comfort our deepest hurts and sorrows, and remind us that nothing is too far broken for Your hope and healing.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer.
- P** Comfort the vulnerable and lonely, the weak and powerless, the grieving and impoverished—all the while using us as instruments of Your comforting friendship.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer.
- P** Comfort those who are near the point of death and being called to Your nearer presence.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer.
- P** Comfort Your church around the world, especially the faithful gathered in places that are hostile toward the Christian faith.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer.
- P** Comfort us when we are afflicted by sin and assure us of Your forgiveness—yet, bring discomfort to the parts of our lives that are far too comfortable in sin and waywardness.
- C** Lord, hear our prayer, and comfort us as only you can. Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**P** 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.

## Benediction

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

Stand

## 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise  
 2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;  
 3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
 4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,  
 With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
 With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.  
 Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.  
 Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;  
 Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,  
 Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
 From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;  
 Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,  
 Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.  
 That in this house have called up - on Thy name.  
 For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.  
 Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-93; Public domain  
 Tune: Edward J. Hopkins, 1818-1901; Public domain

Postlude - "Commemoration" by B. Luciotti.

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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