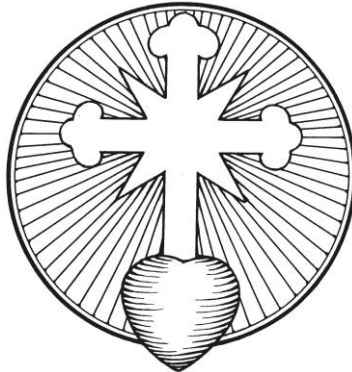


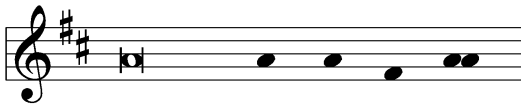
***Christ Lutheran Church  
Boyne City, MI***



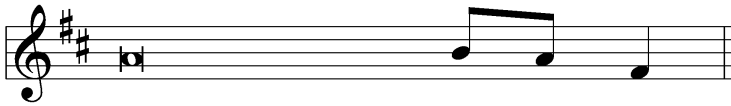
***“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
and rend your hearts and not your garments.”  
Return to the LORD, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;  
and he relents over disaster.  
(Joel 2:12-13)***

***Ash Wednesday  
February 18, 2026***

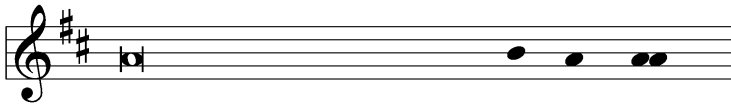
Stand



**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.

## Introit for Ash Wednesday

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.  
Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.  
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin!  
For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**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.**

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

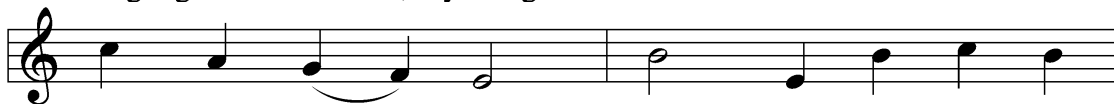
*Sit*

## 607 From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607



1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and  
 2 Thy love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out  
 3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in  
 4 And though it tar - ry through the night And till the  
 5 Though great our sins, yet great - er still Is God's a -



trib - u - la - tion; Bend down Thy gra - cious  
 my trans - gres - sion; The best and ho - liest  
 mine own mer - it; It rests up - on His  
 morn - ing wak - en, My heart shall nev - er  
 bun - dant fa - vor; His hand of mer - cy



ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion.  
 deeds must fail To break sin's dread op - pres - sion.  
 faith - ful Word To them of con - trite spir - it  
 doubt His might Nor count it - self for - sak - en.  
 nev - er will A - ban - don us, nor wa - ver.



If Thou re - mem - b'rest ev - 'ry sin, Who then could heav - en  
 Be - fore Thee none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear Thy  
 That He is mer - ci - ful and just; This is my com - fort  
 O Is - rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir - it  
 Our shep - herd good and true is He, Who will at last His



ev - er win Or stand be - fore Thy pres - ence?  
 strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.  
 and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.  
 and the Word, Now wait for His ap - pear - ing.  
 Is - rael free From all their sin and sor - row.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Text and tune: Public domain

## Reading: Joel 2:12-19

Ⓛ A reading from Joel, chapter 2.

<sup>12</sup>"Yet even now," declares the LORD,  
"return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the LORD, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;  
and he relents over disaster.

<sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
and leave a blessing behind him,  
a grain offering and a drink offering  
for the LORD your God?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
consecrate a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
<sup>16</sup>gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;  
assemble the elders;  
gather the children,  
even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
and the bride her chamber.

<sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar  
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep  
and say, "Spare your people, O LORD,  
and make not your heritage a reproach,  
a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,  
'Where is their God?'"

<sup>18</sup>Then the LORD became jealous for his land  
and had pity on his people.

<sup>19</sup>The LORD answered and said to his people,  
"Behold, I am sending to you  
grain, wine, and oil,  
and you will be satisfied;  
and I will no more make you  
a reproach among the nations."

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Reading: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**L** A reading from Matthew, chapter 6.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. . . .

<sup>16</sup>"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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

### Sermon

### Offering

### Kyrie

*LSB 233*



**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: Ash Wednesday

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Ash Wednesday

- P** Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

*Stand*

*Silence for reflection.*

- P** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,  
**C** **hear us.**
- P** God the Father in heaven,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Holy Spirit,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** **Spare us, good Lord.**
- P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;  
by Your holy nativity;  
by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;  
by Your agony and bloody sweat;  
by Your cross and passion;  
by Your precious death and burial;  
by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;  
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:  
**C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** In all time of our tribulation;  
in all time of our prosperity;  
in the hour of death;  
and in the day of judgment:  
**C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** We poor sinners implore You  
**C** **to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** To prosper the preaching of Your Word;  
to bless our prayer and meditation;

to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;  
and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To draw all to Yourself;  
to bless those who are instructed in the faith;  
to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers;  
to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;  
and to have mercy on us all:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To turn our hearts to You;  
to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers;  
and graciously to hear our prayers:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**C we implore You to hear us.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C have mercy.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C have mercy.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C grant us Your peace.**

**P** O Christ,

**C hear us.**

**P** O Lord,

**C have mercy.**

**P** O Christ,

**C have mercy.**

**P** O Lord,

**C have mercy. Amen.**

**P** O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

## **The Imposition of Ashes**

*Those who wish to receive the mark of ashes upon their forehead may come forward at any time.*

### **Benedicamus**

*LSB 234*

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Benediction**

*LSB 234*

**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C Amen.**

# 418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

LSB 418



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You  
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your  
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And  
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance  
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your  
 fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -  
 all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal



for our sin, And free us from our past.  
 skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.  
 ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.  
 Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930–2024  
 Tune: The Psalmes of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635, Edinburgh  
 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002441  
 Tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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