

**Advent Midweek 3  
December 16, 2020**

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** **make haste to help me, O Lord.**
- C** **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.  
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.**

**Psalm 16**

- <sup>1</sup>Preserve me, O God,  
**for in you I take refuge.**
- <sup>2</sup>I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;  
**I have no good apart from you.”**
- <sup>3</sup>As for the saints in the land,  
**they are the excellent ones,  
in whom is all my delight.**
- <sup>4</sup>The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;  
**their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out  
or take their names on my lips.**
- <sup>5</sup>The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;  
**you hold my lot.**
- <sup>6</sup>The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
**indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.**
- <sup>7</sup>I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
**in the night also my heart instructs me.**
- <sup>8</sup>I have set the LORD always before me;  
**because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- <sup>9</sup>Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;  
**my flesh also dwells secure.**
- <sup>10</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
**or let your holy one see corruption.**
- <sup>11</sup>You make known to me the path of life;  
**in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

**Reading: Matthew 3:13–17**

- L** A reading from Matthew, chapter 3.

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.  
<sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is

fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

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

**Reading: Romans 6:1–11**

- L** A reading from Romans, chapter 6.

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?  
<sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

**Responsory (Advent)**

*LSB 230*

- L** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- L** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

## Sermon “Jesus, the Life of Jesse’s Tree”

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

### Magnificat

- P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;  
**C** for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.  
**P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.  
**C** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;  
**P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.  
**C** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
**P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.  
**C** He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.  
**P** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.  
**C** 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.

### Prayer

### Kyrie

- C** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

### 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** Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### 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** Amen.

### Benedicamus

- L** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

- 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.

### Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book  
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.