

Suffrages

Midweek Lent 4, Apr 2 I (LSB Responsive Prayer 2)

Hymn: 891 O Light Whose Splendor

see hymnal

Opening Versicles

Psalm 51:15; 70:1

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.

**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.**

L Remember what we confess in the Catechism about the Sacrament of the Altar?

C It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

L Where is this written?

C The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

L Who receives this Sacrament worthily?

C Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Reading

1 Corinthians 13:8–12

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

John 15:1–11

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Homily

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Confessor (c. 1225-1274)

Collect: Almighty God, who enriched your Church with the singular learning and holiness of your servant Thomas: Grant us to hold fast and conform our lives to the true doctrine of your Son our Savior Jesus. Christ, to the glory of your great Name and the benefit of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: 630 Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

by St. Thomas Aquinas

- 1 Now, my tongue, the myst’ry telling Of the glorious body sing,
And the blood, all price excelling, Which the Gentiles’ Lord and King,
Once on earth among us dwelling, Shed for this world’s ransoming.
- 2 Giv’n for us, and condescending To be born for us below,
He with us in converse blending Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow,
Till He closed with wondrous ending His most patient life of woe.
- 3 That last night at supper lying Mid the Twelve, His chosen band,
Jesus, with the Law complying, Keeps the feast its rites demand;
Then, more precious food supplying, Gives Himself with His own hand.

4 Word made flesh, the bread He taketh, By His word His flesh to be;
Wine His sacred blood He maketh, Though the senses fail to see;
Faith alone the true heart waketh To behold the mystery.

△ 5 Glory let us give and blessing To the Father and the Son,
Honor, thanks, and praise addressing, While eternal ages run;
Ever too His love confessing Who from both with both is One.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225–1274; tr. The Hymnal 1940. Text: © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110020024

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

L O Lord, **C** have mercy.
L O Christ, **C** have mercy.
L O Lord, **C** 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.



Versicles

Pss. 102:1; 86:7; 51:9–12; 63:3, 7; 86:11–12; 70:4; 28:9; 86:6

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C let my cry come to You.
L In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
C for You answer me.
L Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
C my lips will praise You.
L For You have been my help,
C and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.
L Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
C unite my heart to fear Your name.
L I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

- C** and I will glorify Your name forever.
- L** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
- C** May those who love Your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”
- L** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
- C** Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
- L** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
- C** listen to my plea for grace.

Collect of the Day/Week (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

- L** Let us pray.
O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Evening Prayer (Luther’s)

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.
Amen.

Benedicamus

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

Blessing

- L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
- C** Amen.

Hymn: 708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart (see hymnal)

Acknowledgments

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