

VESPERS

for Lent



LENT VERSICLES

LSB 229

PSALMODY

PSALM

*Mar 12:Ps 25; Mar 19:Ps 127; Mar 26:Ps 31;
Apr 02:Ps 103; Apr 09:Ps 30*

OFFICE HYMN

*Mar 12:599; Mar 19:863; Mar 26:585;
Apr 02:421; Apr 09:666*

READINGS

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*Mar 12: 1 Kg 19:3-8; Mt 12:38-50
Mar 19: 2 Sam 7:4-16; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Mar 26: Ex 20:12-24a; Mt 15:1-20
Apr 02: Ezk 36:23-28; Jn 9:1-38
Apr 09: Lev 19:11-18; Jn 10:22-38*

RESPONSORY (LENT)

LSB 231

HYMN:

*Mar 12:435; Mar 19:427; Mar 26:707
Apr 02:882; Apr 09:698*

CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION

*Mar 12:Lord's Prayer Introduction; Mar 19:1st Petition;
Mar 26:2nd Petition; Apr 02:3rd Petition; Apr 09:4th Petition*

THE INTRODUCTION

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean?

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

THE FIRST PETITION

Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean?

God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy?

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

THE SECOND PETITION

Thy kingdom come.

What does this mean?

The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

How does God's kingdom come?

God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

THE THIRD PETITION

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean?

The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done?

God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

THE FOURTH PETITION

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean?

God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?

Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

SERMON

CANTICLE

MAGNIFICAT

LSB 231

PRAYER

COLLECT FOR 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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

CLOSING HYMN

*Mar 12:610; Mar 19:750; Mar 26:437;
Apr 02:606; Apr 09:425*



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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