

First Reading

Ezekiel 16:59-63

“For thus says the Lord God: I will deal with you as you have done, you who have despised the oath in breaking the covenant, yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish for you an everlasting covenant. Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed when you take your sisters, both your elder and your younger, and I give them to you as daughters, but not on account of the covenant with you. I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall know that I am the Lord, that you may remember and be confounded, and never open your mouth again because of your shame, when I atone for you for all that you have done, declares the Lord God.”

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today

Pastor: Rev. George Fields

Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Second Reading

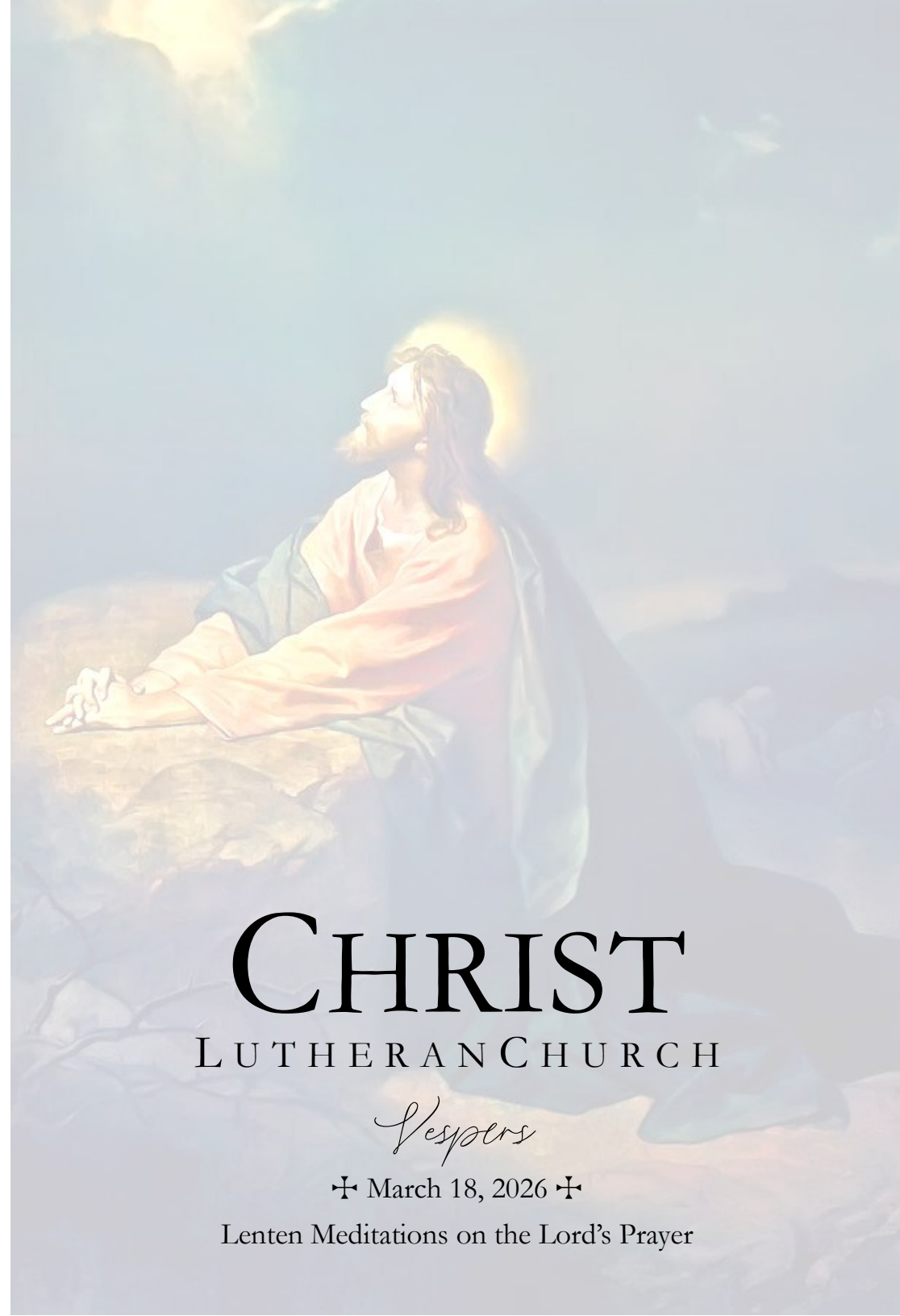
Luke 7:36-48

One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner.” And Jesus answering said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” And he answered, “Say it, Teacher.”

“A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?” Simon answered, “The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt.” And he said to him, “You have judged rightly.” Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.” And he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”



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CHRIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Vespers

✠ March 18, 2026 ✠

Lenten Meditations on the Lord's Prayer

We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,
and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete
the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.*

We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

And forgive us our trespasses as forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

Luther's Small Catechism

“He came that he might forgive the debtors much and little and show mercy upon small and great, that there might be no one whatsoever who did not participate in his goodness. As a pledge and plain example of his grace, he freed the unchaste woman from her many iniquities by saying, ‘Your sins are forgiven you.’ A declaration such as this is truly worthy of God! It is a word joined with supreme authority. Since the law condemned those that were in sin, who, I ask, was able to declare things above the law, except the One who ordained it? He immediately set the woman free and directed the attention of that Pharisee and those who were dining with him to more excellent things. They learned that the Word, being God, was not like one of the prophets, but rather far beyond the measure of humanity, though he became man.”

St. Cyril of Alexandria, *Commentary on Luke*

Psalm: Laudate, pueri

Psalm 113; Ant. Psalm 113:7-8



He raises the poor | from the dust*
and lifts the needy from the | ash heap,
to make them sit with | princes,*
with the princes of his | people.

**Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants | of the LORD,*
praise the name | of the LORD!
Blessèd be the name | of the LORD*
from this time forth and for- | evermore!**

From the rising of the sun to its | setting,*
the name of the LORD is | to be praised!
The LORD is high above all | nations,*
and his glory above the | heavens!

**Who is like the | LORD our God,*
who is seated | on high,
who looks | far down*
on the heavens | and the earth?**

He raises the poor | from the dust*
and lifts the needy from the | ash heap,
to make them sit with | princes,*
with the princes of his | people.

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

He raises the poor | from the dust*
and lifts the needy from the | ash heap,
to make them sit with | princes,*
with the princes of his | people.

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PSALMODY

Psalm Psalm 113

Office Hymn #766, st. 1, 6, 9

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