



A My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for He will pluck my feet out | of the net.

C **One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:***
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire
in His | temple.

For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of | trouble;*
He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;
He will lift me high up- | on a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around
me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*
I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.

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..

A My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for He will pluck my feet out | of the net.

(Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15)

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning;
and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children
and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily
acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits,
and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

Old Testament – Isaiah 42:14–21

For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,

and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.
These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
“You are our gods.”

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the Lord?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Gradual

A O come, let us fix our eyes on | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,
despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

Epistle - Ephesians 5:8–14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.
Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good
and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take
no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

***The numbers on the right refer to the
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¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

Gospel Verse of the Day – (Sung)

☩ Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love

The Holy Gospel – John 9:1-7,13-17,34-39

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .



¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." . . .

³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

Soli Deo Gloria



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

A Biblical, Confessional and Traditional congregation in the Chicago region committed to ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 15, 2026

THE DIVINE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

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A WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME!

As we gather in the Lord's House during this holy season of Lent, we are united with all the saints around the throne of the Lamb who was slain for us. In repentance and faith, we fix our eyes on Christ and His journey to the cross, where He bears our sin and wins our salvation. Here, the Triune God serves us through His Word and Holy Sacraments—the very heart of the Church and the Christian life. In the Divine Service, God takes center stage, delivering His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, culminating in the Lord's Supper, where Christ feeds us with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

Dear Visitors and Friends:

The congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of "Closed Communion." **If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Divine Shepherd, or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.** Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Zimmer about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation. It is the sincere prayer of this congregation that our careful practice of the administration of the Lord's Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **We do invite those who are not a member of the LCMS to come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like a blessing, as you kneel at the altar, please cross your arms so that your right hand is on your left shoulder and left hand is on your right shoulder. God bless you for Your understanding.**