

Our thanks to our Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) for donating our two new Easter banners displayed this evening!



March 31

Easter Sunday Children's Program

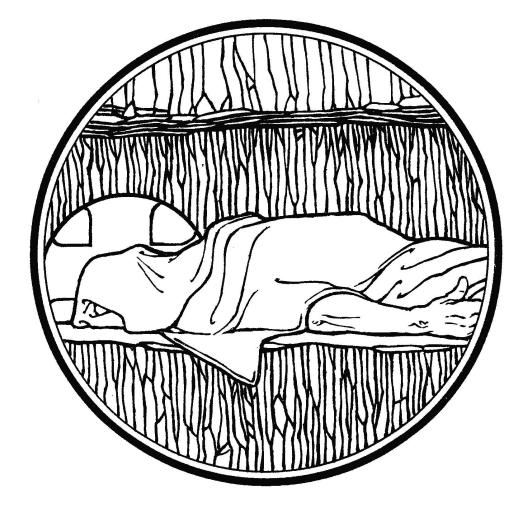
7:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall Easter Breakfast following Children's Program

Easter Divine Service-Lord's Supper ~ 9:00 AM

Easter Sunday School and Bible Class ~ 10:30-11:30 AM



Thursday, May 9 ~ Ascension Day **Divine Service w/ Holy Communion** ~ 6:30 PM



Holy Saturday March 30, 2024

St. Mark Lutheran Church

2000 Clay Avenue Waco, Texas 76706

Rev. Peter C. Kolb, Pastor pastor@stmarkwaco.com

254-754-0644 www.stmarkwaco.com

f Find us on Facebook office@stmarkwaco.com

Our Mission Statement: Learning, Living and Sharing Christ's Love

We believe, as Scripture teaches, that the Body and Blood of our Lord are truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament and those who eat and drink unworthily, that is, not believing these truths, do so to their great harm. Also, Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is professed at this altar. Therefore, if you are not yet instructed, in doubt, or hold to a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the

A LOVING WORD TO THOSE GUESTS WHO WISH TO COMMUNE

Sacrament, you are requested to refrain from the table and speak to the Pastor or Elder to see how you can prepare in the future to also receive this gift of grace.

Prayer before communing:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord Jesus, in Your Holy Supper You give us Your true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. May partakers of this sacred banquet do so in a worthy manner. Grant faith and discernment in accordance with the Holy Scriptures. Let all recipients of this gift be united in the confession and faith as they receive Your gifts at Your altar and leave confessing Your name until You come again. Amen.

Thanksqiving after receiving the Sacrament:

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the lifegiving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

SERVING US TODAY

Rev. Peter Kolb, Pastor

Phil Mott, Organist

Gary Kruger, Elder

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LSB 461

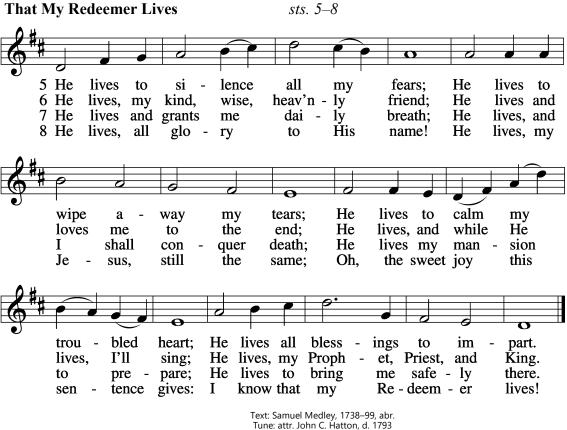
C Amen.

BLESSING

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

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **C** Amen.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three 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 © 2024 Concordia Publishing House

Text and tune: Public domain

15

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



6 You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

5

- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!
- $\wedge 8$ Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th-10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt. Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice Text and tune: Public domain

Contradiction How should Christians understand Scripture passages that seem to contradict reality? For example, King David said in Psalm 37:25, "I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread," contrary to the experiences of numerous starving Christians throughout history and the world. David says elsewhere, prophesying the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, "By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me" (Psalm 41:11). The events of Good Friday seem to tell a different story, however. Did not our Lord's enemies triumph over Him? For that matter, doesn't the devil continue to persecute His Body, the Church? Undeniably! But the cross and the empty tomb are the contradiction that answers all other contradictions. Rejoice in God's contradiction! For death is swallowed up by death; the Author of life has died and now is raised to restore all things!

The congregation gathers in a convenient place outside the nave of the church. Where permissible, candles are given to all, later to be lighted from the paschal candle.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

С Amen.

INVITATION

P Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

С Amen.

BLESSING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

P Christ Jesus, the same vesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending,

P the Alpha and the Omega.

P His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever.

P By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.

Then, lighting the candle from the newly kindled fire, he says:

P May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

COLLECT

P

- Let us pray. Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- С Amen.

+ Service of Light +

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and in prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His

Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even

All light their candles from the paschal candle and then follow the candle bearer in procession into the darkened church. At the entrance of the nave, the bearer of the paschal candle stops and chants:

LUX CHRISTI

A The light of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

When the candle bearer reaches the middle of the nave, he chants for the second time:

LUX CHRISTI

A The light of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

When the candle bearer arrives at the candle stand, he turns to face the congregation. After all have reached their places, the candle bearer lifts the candle high and chants the third time.

LUX CHRISTI

A The light of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

EXSULTET

A Rejoice now, all you heav'nly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.

PREFACE DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty everlasting God, and Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For He is the very Paschal Lamb who offered Himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of His precious blood. This is the night when You brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is Your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave You gave Your Son. How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those down cast. How blessed is the night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true light and morning star, shine in our hearts, He who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

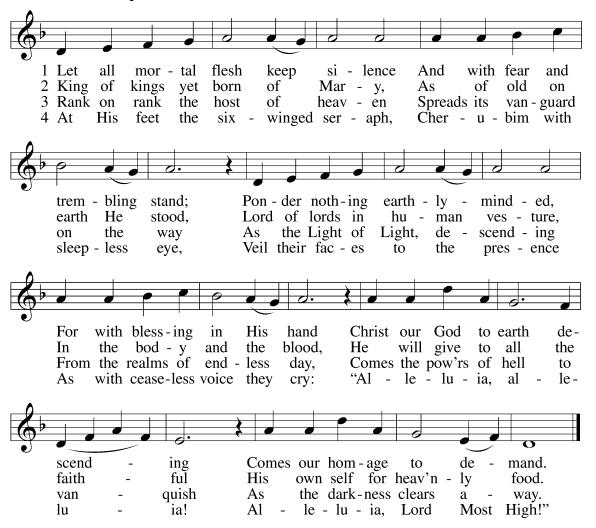
All may extinguish their candles at this time. The paschal candle remains lighted throughout the service. A few lights in the nave may be turned on.

Eat This Bread





Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-85, alt. Tune: French, 17th cent. Text and tune: Public domain



LSB 621

INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

P shadow of death.

THE CREATION

A A reading from Genesis, the first and second chapters.

Reading

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

THE FLOOD

A A reading from Genesis, the seventh, eighth, and ninth chapters.

Reading

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark. Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ's Body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

A A reading from Exodus, the fourteenth and fifteenth chapters.

Reading

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

P Let us pray.

O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+ Service of Readings +

In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the

Genesis 1:1–2:3

Genesis 7:1–5. 11–18: 8:6–18: 9:8–13

Exodus 14:10–15:1

P Let us pray.

O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

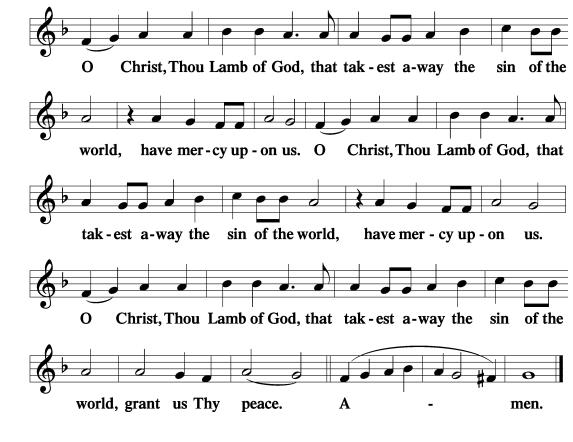
LSB **666 O** Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe Who mad - ly 10 lit - tle flock, fear not the foe 2 Be of good cheer; your cause be - longs То Him who 3 As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor 4 A - men, Lord Je - sus, grant our prayer; Great Cap-tain, your o - ver - throw; Dread not his rage and pow'r. seeks to Him, our Lord. a - venge your wrongs; Leave it can hell's sa - tan - ic crew A - gainst us shall pre-vail. now Thine arm make bare, Fight for us once a - gain! And though your cour age some-times faints, His seem - ing Though hid - den yet His Gid - eon from mor - tal eyes, Their might? A joke, God is with a mere fa - cade! So shall Thy saints and mar - tyrs raise A might - y umph o'er God's saints Lasts but a lit - tle hour. tri you and His Word. shall for you a - rise, Up - hold and we with God— Our vic - t'ry can - not fail. us cho to Thy praise For - ev - er-more. A - men. - rus Text: Jacob Fabricius, 1593-1654; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Tune: German, 1534, Nürnberg Text and tune: Public domain

+ Service of Prayer +

LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION

A O Lord,
C have mercy.
A O Christ,
C have mercy.
A O Lord,
C have mercy.

AGNUS DEI



Sit

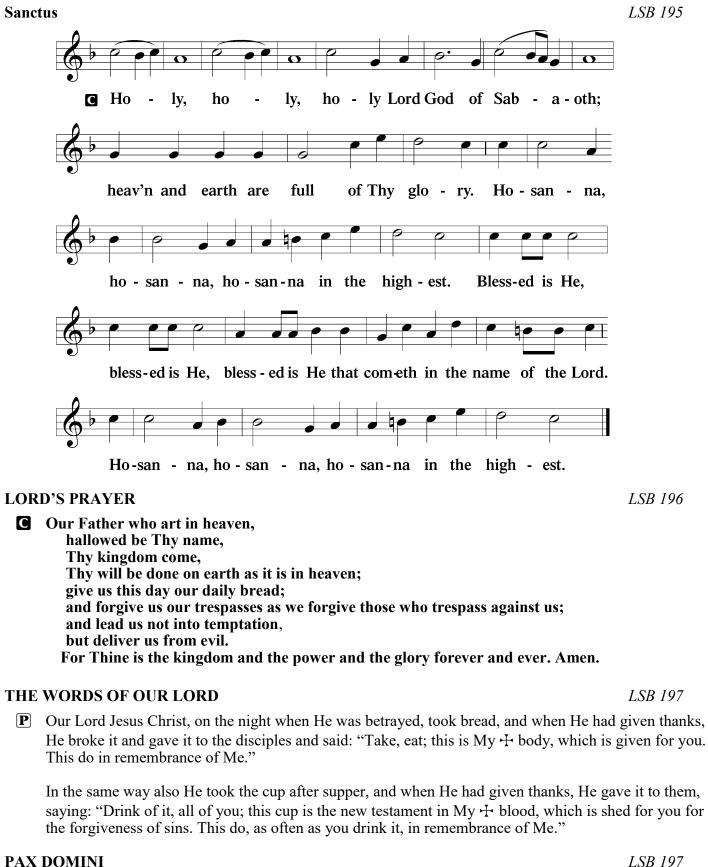
DISTRIBUTION



LSB 198

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.



PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

10

A Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
C hear us.
A Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has ta
C have mercy on us.
A Who was crucified for our transgressions and rai
C have mercy on us.
A Who foretold Your passion, saying, "The Son of
C have mercy on us.
A Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to
C have mercy on us.
A Whose resurrection was first announced by an an
C have mercy on us.
A Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was wors
C have mercy on us.
A Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,
C have mercy on us.
A Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on the
C have mercy on us.A Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the showed Your wounded hands and showed Your wounded hands and side to the showed Your wounded hands and side to the showed Your wounded hands and show the showed Your wounded hands and showed Your wounded hands and show the showed Your wounded hands and showed Your wounded hands a
C have mercy on us.
A Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of T
C have mercy on us.
A Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over
and to Paul on the Damascus road,
C have mercy on us.
A Who commissioned Your Church to make discip
C have mercy on us.
A By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,
C good Lord, deliver us.
A By Your victory over sin and death,
C good Lord, deliver us.
A By the majesty of Your risen body,
G good Lord, deliver us.
A We poor sinners implore You
C to hear us, Lord Jesus.
A That we may daily die and rise with You in our l
C grant us, good Lord.
A That we may set our minds on things above and served by You,
C grant us, good Lord.
A That we may dwell with You forever in the new
with all the saints,
C grant us, good Lord. A Christ the Lamb of God, who takes away the sir
A Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sirC have mercy on us.
A Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sir
C have mercy on us.

aken away the sin of the world,

ised for our justification,

Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"

life again brought life and immortality to light,

ngel to the women,

shiped by her,

he Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the

em Your peace and Your Spirit,

he apostle Thomas that he too might believe,

Fiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,

er five hundred disciples, to James and to all the apostles,

ples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,

Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness, not on earthly things, serving others as we have been creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together n of the world,

n of the world,

A Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

A O Lord,

C have mercy.

A O Christ,

C have mercy.

A O Lord.

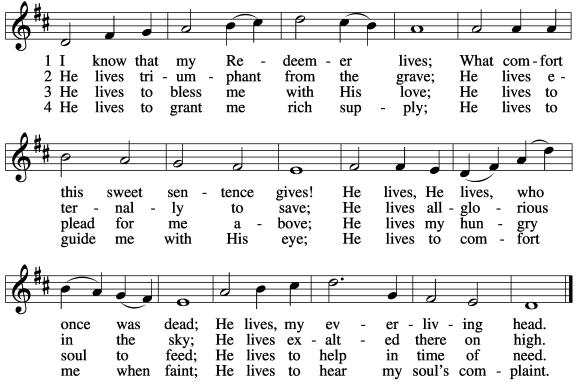
C have mercy. Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN OF PRAISE I Know That My Redeemer Lives sts. 1–4



Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793 Text and tune: Public domain

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

PSALM

- **P** Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
- **C** In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him;
- **P** the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;
- **C** You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.
- **P** The Lord sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.
- P My enemies say of me in malice, "When will he die and his name perish?"
- out, he tells it abroad.
- P All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.
- **C** They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."
- **P** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- **C** But You, O Lord, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!
- **P** By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- **C** But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

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.

HOLY GOSPEL

LSB 461

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter. **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee. There you will see Him, just as He told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Contradiction

PREFACE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

As for me, I said, "O Lord, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!" **C** And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes

Mark 16:1-8

Psalm 41:11

+ Service of the Sacrament +

LSB 194