

**Lenten Midweek Worship**  
**February 24, 2021**  
**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

*Opening*

Behold, now is the acceptable time;  
**now is the day of salvation.**  
Turn us again, O God of our salvation,  
**that the light of your face may shine on us.**  
May your justice shine like the sun;  
**and may the poor be lifted up.**

*Psalm 77*

<sup>1</sup>I will cry aloud to God;  
I will cry aloud, and God will hear me.  
<sup>2</sup>In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord;  
my hand was stretched out by night and did not tire; I refused to be comforted.  
<sup>3</sup>I think of God, I am restless,  
I ponder, and my spirit faints.  
<sup>4</sup>You will not let my eyelids close;  
I am troubled and I cannot speak.  
<sup>5</sup>I consider the days of old;  
I remember the years long past;  
<sup>6</sup>I commune with my heart in the night;  
I ponder and search my mind:  
<sup>7</sup>“Will the Lord cast me off forever  
and never again show me favor?”  
<sup>8</sup>Has God’s steadfast love come to an end forever?  
Has the Lord’s promise failed for all time?  
<sup>9</sup>Has God forgotten to be gracious,  
and in anger withheld compassion?  
<sup>10</sup>And I said, “My grief is this:  
The right hand of the Most High has changed.”  
<sup>11</sup>I will remember the works of the LORD,  
and call to mind your wonders of old.  
<sup>12</sup>I will meditate on all your acts  
and ponder your mighty deeds.  
<sup>13</sup>Your way, O God, is holy;

who is so great a god as our God?  
<sup>14</sup>You are the God who works wonders  
and have declared your power among the peoples.  
<sup>15</sup>By your strength you have redeemed your people,  
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.  
<sup>16</sup>The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and trembled;  
the very depths were shaken.  
<sup>17</sup>The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered;  
your lightning bolts flashed to and fro;  
<sup>18</sup>the sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the world;  
the earth trembled and shook.  
<sup>19</sup>Your way was in the sea, and your paths in the great waters,  
yet your footsteps were not seen.  
<sup>20</sup>You led your people like a flock  
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

**Reading** + Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

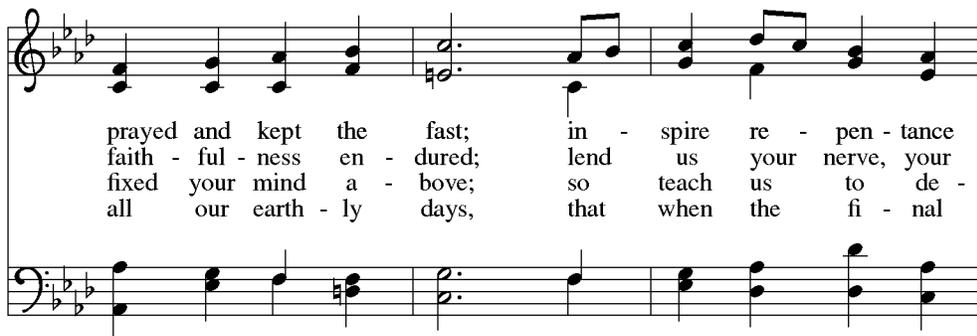
**Reflection**

**Hymn:** ELW #319, "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days"

## O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930  
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003  
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## *Prayers*

With the prophet Joel we lament the devastation of this plague:  
The priests mourn; joy and gladness are cut off before our eyes.  
Disease kills countless; fear afflicts millions.

O God, can we, can our society, survive this pandemic?  
All grieve at this global loss and weep at widespread adversity.

*Sung Trisagion by the Choir*

Hear us, O God.

**Hear us, O God.**

Uphold us with your strength.

**Uphold us with your strength.**

Give us your life.

**Give us your life.**

*A time of silence is kept.*

Here these words, and receive their power:  
God the Father holds the universe in arms of mercy.  
God the Son brought healing to the sick and suffering.  
God the Spirit grants us peace within our pain.

Thanks be to God.

**Thanks be to God.**

(This Coronavirus Lament is from RELC member, Gail Ramshaw, written in the pattern of other laments from Gail in *Prayer, Praise, Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* (Augsburg Fortress, 2017), 22-27.)

### *Lord's Prayer*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### *Blessing*

You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved,  
freed to serve your neighbor.  
God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.  
**Amen.**