Vespers for the week of Laetare - Lent 4

*The Lutheran Hymnal*, *p.41*

Hymn *TLH #559 – O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day*

*Stand*

Versicles and Responses *p.41 (no Hallelujah after Gloria Patri)*

The Psalmody *Psalm 139*

*The verses are spoken antiphonally between the Pastor and Congregation.*

O LORD, You have searched | me and known me.

**You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my | thought afar off.**

You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted | with all my ways.

**For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it | altogether.**

You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your | hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I can- | not attain it.**

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee | from Your presence?

**If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, be- | hold, You are there.**

If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost | parts of the sea,

**Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right | hand shall hold me.**

If I say, “Surely the darkness shall fall on me,” Even the night shall be | light about me;

**Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both | alike to You.**

For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in | my mother’s womb.

**I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul | knows very well.**

My frame was not hidden from You, When I was | made in secret,

**And skillfully wrought in the lowest | parts of the earth.**

Your eyes saw my substance, be- | ing yet unformed.

**And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there | were none of them.**

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is | the sum of them!

**If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I | am still with You.**

Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you | bloodthirsty men.

**For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take | Your name in vain.**

Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise | up against You?

**I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them | my enemies.**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my | anxieties;

**And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way | everlasting.**

**Glory be to the Father, | and to the Son,**

**and to | the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall be,**

**world with- | out end. Amen.**

*Sit*

First Lesson *1 Corinthians 7:17-24*

*After each Lesson:*

P But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



Second Lesson *Luke 10:1-16*

Hymn *TLH #148 – Lord Jesus Christ My Life My Light*

The Sermon *Biblical Emphases: Vocation*

The Offering

*Stand*

Versicle and Response *p.42*

The Canticle *The Nunc Dimittis, p.43-44*

The Prayers  *The Litany (p. 110, spoken)*

 *The Lord’s Prayer; The Salutation and Collects, p.44-45*

The Benedicamus & Benediction *p.45*

**Augsburg Confession: XXVIII**

The power of the Keys is exercised only by teaching or preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments, according to their calling either to many or to individuals. For thereby are granted, not bodily, but eternal things, as eternal righteousness, the Holy Ghost, eternal life. These things cannot come but by the ministry of the Word and the Sacraments, as Paul says, Rom. 1, 16: The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

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