Vespers for the week of Judica - Lent 5

*The Lutheran Hymnal*, *p.41*

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

*Stand*

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

The Psalmody *Psalm 27*

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

The LORD is my light and my salvation; | Whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall | I be afraid?**

When the wicked came against me To | eat up my flesh,

**My enemies and foes, They | stumbled and fell.**

Though an army may encamp against me, My | heart shall not fear;

**Though war may rise against me, In this I will | be confident.**

One thing I have desired of the LORD, | That will I seek:

**That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the | days of my life,**

To behold the beau- | ty of the LORD,

**And to inquire | in His temple.**

For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in | His pavilion;

**In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high | upon a rock.**

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His | tabernacle;

**I will sing, yes, I will sing prai- | ses to the LORD.**

Hear, O LORD, when I | cry with my voice!

**Have mercy also upon me, | and answer me.**

When You | said, “Seek My face,”

**My heart said to You, “Your face, | LORD, I will seek.”**

Do not hide Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant a- | way in anger;

**You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of | my salvation.**

When my father and my mo- | ther forsake me,

**Then the LORD will | take care of me.**

Teach me | Your way, O LORD,

**And lead me in a smooth path, because of | my enemies.**

Do not deliver me to the will of my | adversaries;

**For false witnesses have risen against me, And such as breathe | out violence.**

I would have lost heart, unless | I had believed

**That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land | of the living.**

Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall | strengthen your heart;

**Wait, I | say, on the LORD!**

*Sit*

First Lesson *1 Corinthians 1:18-31*

*After each Lesson:*

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



Second Lesson *John 12:23-33*

Hymn *TLH #173 – Lord Jesus We Give Thanks to Thee*

The Sermon *Biblical Emphases: The Piety of the Cross*

The Offering

*Stand*

Versicle and Response *p.42*

The Canticle *The Nunc Dimittis (no Gloria Patri)*

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Lord, now | lettest Thou Thy servant | de- | part | in | peace, \*

accord- | ing | to | Thy | word:

For mine | eyes have seen | Thy | sal- | va- | tion, \*

Which Thou hast prepared before the face | of | all | peo- | ple;

A — | Light to light- | en | the | Gen- | tiles, \*

and the Glory of Thy | peo- | ple | Isra- | el.

The Prayers  *TLH #661 – The Litany (chanted)*

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

The Benedicamus and The Benediction *p.45*

**Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Art. VI**

Therefore, troubles are not always punishments or signs of wrath. Indeed, terrified consciences should be taught that there are more important purposes for afflictions, so that they do not think God is rejecting them when they see nothing but God’s punishment and anger in troubles. The other more important purposes are to be considered, that is, that God is doing His strange work so that He may be able to do His own work…Therefore, troubles are not always punishments for certain past deeds, but they are God-works, intended for our benefit, and that God’s power might be made more apparent in our weakness. So Paul says God’s strength “is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9). Because of God’s will, our bodies should be sacrifices, to declare our obedience, and not to pay for eternal death. God has another price for that: the death of His own Son.