

**VESPERS**  
LSB pg. 229

*Stand*

**Common Versicles**

- P O Lord, open my lips,  
C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.** *Psalm 51:15*
- P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
C **make haste to help me, O Lord.** *Psalm 70:1*
- C **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. Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

**Psalmody**

**Psalm 138:1-8 (antiphon v.1)**

- P Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!  
C **It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!**
- P It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!  
C **For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.**
- P Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

*Sit*

**READINGS**

**Old Testament – 1 Corinthians 1:10-17**

<sup>10</sup>I appeal to you, brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup>Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

- P O Lord, Have mercy on us.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading – Ephesians 4:1-16**

**4** I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. <sup>7</sup>But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>9</sup>(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth?<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds<sup>[c]</sup> and teachers,<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature

manhood,<sup>14</sup> to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,<sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.<sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,<sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

P O Lord, Have mercy on us.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Reading – John 17:20-23

<sup>20</sup>“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,<sup>21</sup> that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.<sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,<sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

P O Lord, Have mercy on us.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORY

#### Common

*Psalm 86:11; 119:105*

P Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.  
C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.  
C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

### Sermon – “Dwelling in Unity” by Rev. David H. Reber, Jr.

#### Canticle

*Stand*

#### Canticle – “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” – LSB #649



1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 When here our path - ways part, We suf - fer bit - ter pain;  
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com - forts and our cares.  
And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a - gain.  
And per - fect love and friend - ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## PRAYER

**Kyrie** ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

*Mark 10:47*

**C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord's Prayer**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**COLLECTS**

**P O Lord, hear my prayer.**

**C And let my cry come to You.**

*Psalms 102:1*

**Collect of the Day**

**P Let us pray.**

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Collect for the Feast Day of Cyprian of Carthage**

**P Almighty God, who gave to your servant Cyprian boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

**C Amen.**

**Collect for Peace**

**P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**C Amen**

**Benedicamus**

**P Let us bless the Lord.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Benediction**

**P The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

**C Amen.**