

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Fareham

Lenten Vespers

St. Francis, Funtley

15 March 2012

7.30 pm

PSALM 136:1–16 (antiphon: v. 26)



- L** Give thanks to the God of | heaven,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- C** Give thanks to the | God of gods,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.
- L** Give thanks to the | Lord of lords,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** to him who alone does great | wonders,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- L** to him who by understanding made
the | heavens,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** to him who spread out the earth above
the | waters,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- L** to him who made the | great lights,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** the sun to rule o- | ver the day,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- L** the moon and stars to rule o- | ver the night,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** to him who struck down the firstborn
of | Egypt,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- L** and brought Israel out from a- | mong them,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** with a strong hand and an | outstretched
arm,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- L** to him who divided the Red | Sea in two,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** and made Israel pass through the | midst of
it,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- L** but overthrew Pharaoh and his host in
the | Red Sea,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- C** to him who led his people through
the | wilderness,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now and will be forever. | Amen.
- L** Give thanks to the God of | heaven,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.

OFFICE HYMN: O Blessed Light, O Trinity



1. O bless-ed Light, O Trin-i - ty, O
2. To You our morn-ing song of praise, to
3. All glo - ry be to God a - bove and



ev - er - last-ing U - ni - ty: as
You our even-ing prayer we raise; we
to the Son, the Prince of love, and



now the fi - ery sun de-parts, send
praise Your light in ev-ery age, the
to the Spir-it, One in Three! We



forth Your light in - to our hearts.
glo - ry of our pil-grim - age.
praise You, bless-ed Trin - i - ty.

St. Ambrose (340–397)

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 26:1–15

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the Lord: ²“Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD’s house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. ³It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds. ⁴You shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set before you, ⁵and to listen to the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you have not listened, ⁶then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.’”

⁷The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. ⁸And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?’” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, "This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears." ¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears."

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:1–9

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

COLLECT

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**CLOSING HYMN: On What has Has Now Been
Sown**

1. On what has now been sown
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise,
And Thine alone shall be the praise!
2. To Thee our wants are known,
From Thee are all our powers;
Accept what is Thine own,
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to Thy Word a blessing give.
3. Oh, grant that each of us,
Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear,
And follow Thee to heaven, our home.
E'en so, amen! Lord Jesus, come!

John Newton (1725–1807)