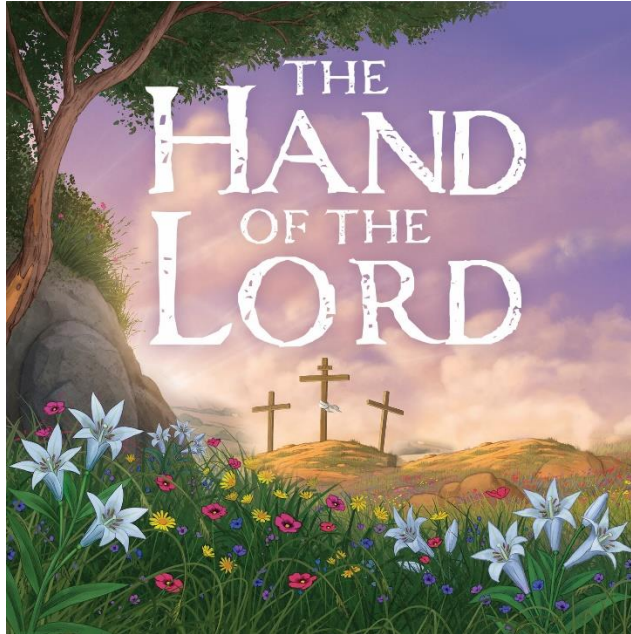


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



Lenten Vespers

Wednesday, March 12, 2025
12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

THE HAND OF THE LORD WHO CREATES AND SAVES

The God who is Creator of all came to save us from sin and death in the incarnate Son of Mary, Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is God. He first revealed Himself to Moses with the holy name “I AM,” saying, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you’” (Exodus 3:14). When Jesus came to His disciples walking on the crashing waves of the sea of Galilee, He said, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid” (Matthew 14:27). “It is I” is the same term for the divine name, “I AM.” As He reached out His hand and grabbed the fearful, doubting, sinking Simon Peter, so does His compassionate hand save you in times of despair and helplessness. His greatest deliverance was when He allowed His hands to be nailed to a cross for your sins. As we are helpless like drowning Peter, our repentant prayer this day is in the words of the hymn, “Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling” (LSB 761:3).

Rev. Eric J. Edwards † Rev. Christopher Beck † Rev. Liwei Sui

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OPENING VERSICLES

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- 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, King who comes to save us.

✠ ✠ ✠ PSALMODY ✠ ✠ ✠

PSALM 8



- C** O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in | all the earth!*
- You have set Your glory above the | heavens.
Out of the mouth of babes and infants,
You have established strength because | of Your foes,*
to still the enemy and the a- | venger.
When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your | fingers,*
the moon and the stars, which You have | set in place,
what is man that You are mind- | ful of him,*
and the son of man that You | care for him?
Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings*
and crowned him with glory and | honor.
You have given him dominion over the works | of Your hands;*
You have put all things under | his feet,
all sheep and | oxen,*
and also the beasts | of the field,
the birds of the heavens, and the fish | of the sea,*
whatever passes along the paths | of the seas.
O | LORD our Lord,*
how majestic is Your name in | all the earth!
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.

SERIES HYMN – The Word That Spoke in Darkness

Lisa M. Clark

KING'S LYNN

English

Coll. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958



1 The Word that spoke in dark - ness And prom - ised com - ing
2 The Sav - ior came to con - quer And meet His mis - sion's
3 The Christ pro - claimed His vic - t'ry With ev - 'ry act of
4 The Prince of Peace con - tin - ued With each new task com -



light Kept guid - ing through the a - ges Un - til the time was
aim: Up - end - ing Sa - tan's ter - ror, Cre - a - tion to re -
grace: The out - cast shown com - pas - sion And God's own ho - ly
plete At cross and tomb and glo - ry Up - on His roy - al



right To take on flesh and fol - low The Fa - ther's good com -
claim By walk - ing on the wa - ters So we by faith may
face As Je - sus looked with fa - vor On all from ev - 'ry
seat, De - liv - er - ance ac - com - plished Ex - act - ly as He



mand And dwell a - mong His peo - ple, The king - dom now at hand.
stand With trust in Him whose res - cue Is of - fered by His hand.
land Who need - ed life and heal - ing From His al - might - y hand.
planned; Our King will raise in wel - come His pierced and ris - en hand.

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✠ ✠ ✠ READINGS ✠ ✠ ✠

FIRST READING – Job 9:1-12

P ¹Then Job answered and said:

²“Truly I know that it is so:

But how can a man be in the right before God?

³If one wished to contend with Him,

one could not answer Him once in a thousand times.

⁴He is wise in heart and mighty in strength

—who has hardened himself against Him, and succeeded?—

⁵He who removes mountains, and they know it not,

when He overturns them in His anger,

⁶who shakes the earth out of its place,

and its pillars tremble;

⁷who commands the sun, and it does not rise;

who seals up the stars;

⁸who alone stretched out the heavens

and trampled the waves of the sea;

⁹who made the Bear and Orion,

the Pleiades and the chambers of the south;

¹⁰who does great things beyond searching out,

and marvelous things beyond number.

¹¹Behold, He passes by me, and I see Him not;

He moves on, but I do not perceive Him.

¹²Behold, He snatches away; who can turn Him back?

Who will say to Him, ‘What are You doing?’”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING – Ephesians 2:1-10

P ¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

THIRD READING – Matthew 14:22-33

P ²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. ²³And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

²⁸And Peter answered Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, “Truly You are the Son of God.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY FOR LENT

- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.
P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

HYMN – LSB 754 – Entrust Your Days and Burdens



1 En - trust your days and bur - dens To God's most lov - ing
2 Re - ly on God your Sav - ior And find your life se -
3 Take heart, have hope, my spir - it, And do not be dis -
4 Leave all to His di - rec - tion; His wis - dom rules for



hand; He cares for you while rul - ing The
cure. Make His work your foun - da - tion That
mayed; God helps in ev - 'ry tri - al And
you In ways to rouse your won - der At



sky, the sea, the land. For He who guides the
your work may en - dure. No anx - ious thought, no
makes you un - a - fraid. A - wait His time with
all His love can do. Soon He, His prom - ise



tem - pests A - long their thun - d'rous ways Will
wor - ry, No self - tor - ment - ing care Can
pa - tience Through dark - est hours of night Un -
keep - ing, With won - der - work - ing pow'rs Will



find for you a path - way And guide you all your days.
win your Fa - ther's fa - vor; His heart is moved by prayer.
til the sun you hoped for De - lights your ea - ger sight.
ban - ish from your spir - it What gave you trou - bled hours.

5 O blessèd heir of heaven,
 You'll hear the song resound
 Of endless jubilation
 When you with life are crowned.
 In your right hand your maker
 Will place the victor's palm,
 And you will thank Him gladly
 With heaven's joyful psalm.

6 Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen;
 With joy our spirits bless
 Until we see the ending
 Of all our life's distress.
 And so throughout our lifetime
 Keep us within Your care
 And at our end then bring us
 To heav'n to praise You there.

SERMON

✠ ✠ ✠ CANTICLE ✠ ✠ ✠

ANTIPHON

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

MAGNIFICAT – LSB 934



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
 those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
 leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
 tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
 el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

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OFFERING

✠ ✠ ✠ PRAYER ✠ ✠ ✠

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Creator and Redeemer, "Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy Law's demands." Therefore "nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling." Increase our faith and trust in You that we may walk confidently amid the troubles and reverses of life, knowing that Your gracious hands are evermore leading us, guiding us, and saving us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

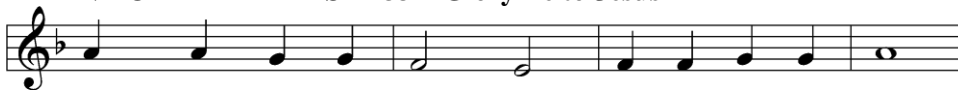
BENEDICTION

L 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.



HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 433 – Glory Be to Jesus



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

- 5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!

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SILENT PRAYER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Lent 2025

Wednesdays through April 9

Midweek Lenten Fellowship & Worship:

Noon **Worship** † 12:30pm **Meal**

5:45pm **Meal** † 7pm **Worship**

† **Personal confession/absolution** in the office †
30 mins before & immediately after each service



Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday – April 13

8 & 10:30 am **Procession with Palms**

Divine Service *with Holy Communion*

11:30 am **Easter Egg Hunt**

5 pm **Divine Service** *with Holy Communion*

Maundy Thursday – April 17

Noon & 7 pm **Worship** *with Holy Communion*

Good Friday – April 18

Noon **Stations of the Cross**

8 pm **Tenebrae** (*Service of Darkness*)



The Resurrection of our Lord

Easter Vigil – April 19

8 pm **at Faith**

Easter Sunday – April 20

8 & 10:30 am **Festival Worship** (*Holy Comm. & special music*)

9:15 am **Easter Breakfast**

5 pm **Worship** *with Holy Communion*