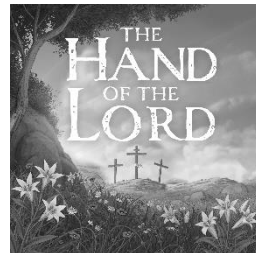
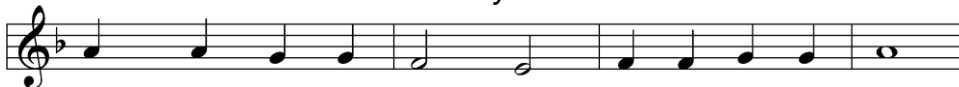


Lent Midweek II, March 12, 2025
The Hand of the Lord
“The Hand of the Lord Who Creates and Saves”

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).



THE OPENING HYMN #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!

(please stand)

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE OPENING SENTENCES Joel 2:13; Isaiah 55:6–7

P: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents of disaster.

P: Seek the Lord while He may be found;

C: call upon Him while He is near.

P: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

**C: let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.**

THE PSALM Psalm 6 (ESV)

P: O LORD, rebuke me not in Your anger,

C: nor discipline me in Your wrath.

P: Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;

C: heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.

P: My soul also is greatly troubled. But You, O LORD—how long?

C: Turn, O LORD, deliver my life; save me for the sake of Your steadfast love.

P: For in death there is no remembrance of You;

C: in the grave who will give You praise?

P: I am weary with my moaning;

C: every night I flood my bed with tears; I drench my couch with my weeping.

P: My eye wastes away because of grief; it grows weak because of all my foes.

**C: Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the LORD has heard
the sound of my weeping.**

P: The LORD has heard my plea; the LORD accepts my prayer.

**C: All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled;
they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

(please be seated)

THE READING OF THE PASSION HISTORY

THE LENT RESPONSORY

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.

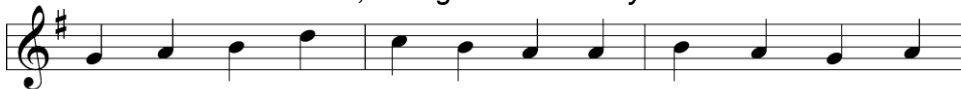
P: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

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.

THE HYMN #423 *“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”*



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

THE SERMON *“The Hand of the Lord Who Creates and Saves”*

Text: Matthew 14:22-23 Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” And Peter answered Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, “Truly You are the Son of God.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

(please stand)

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS *(pages 192-193 in the hymnal)*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

The Kyrie



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

The Lord's Prayer

The Collects

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: Lord God, the strength of the weak and the consolation of those who suffer, mercifully hear our prayers, and grant them the help of Your power, that their sickness may be turned to health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father for all Your benefits. Bless us, and all the gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, including the food by which You give us our daily bread, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your Holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever; 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.

THE BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

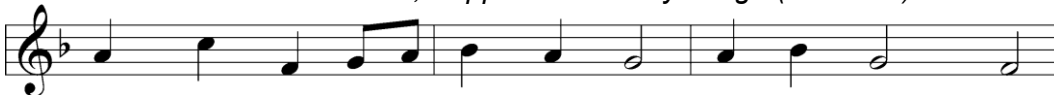
THE BENEDICTION

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.

(please be seated)

THE CLOSING HYMN “Lord, Support Us All Day Long” (LSB #884)



1 Lord, sup - port us all day long, Guide and strength - en.
2 Be our light in dark - ness, Lord, Our de - fend - er;
3 With Your pres - ence, Lord, draw near Those who la - bor
4 Gra - cious Lord, we give You thanks, Praise and bless You,



Eve - ning comes, the world is hushed, Shad - ows length - en,
In Your pres - ence per - ils all Must sur - ren - der.
Through the night - time on be - half Of their neigh - bor.
As the giv - er of all good We con - fess You.



Work is done, life's fe - vered pace Now has end - ed;
Drive all dark sa - tan - ic snares From each dwell - ing;
Grant them cour - age for each fear, Faith - ful car - ing:
This past day we now com - mit To Your keep - ing



Christ, to You, our fi - nal rest Is com - mend - ed.
Then, at peace, our hearts Your praise Will be tell - ing.
Your com - pas - sion and Your love Tru - ly shar - ing.
And en - trust to You the hours Of our sleep - ing.

Acknowledgments

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