

✠ SERVICE OF VESPERS ✠

THE HAND OF THE LORD WHO HOLDS ALL THINGS

To the faithless, unrepentant world, taken together with the climax of the events of Holy Week, it appears that, after all, Jesus ends up only a disappointment, dead and gone! To the eyes of faith, however, all His deeds, including His suffering and death, describe the most powerful and mighty act of God, by which He redeems and saves the world and us!

The Christian liturgy preserves certain words in their original language to express their full meaning. For instance, we do not end prayers saying, “Yes, yes, it shall be so,” but the original “Amen.” Likewise, every Sunday we sing the Sanctus, “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth.” *Tsebaot* in Hebrew means “hosts” or “armies.” “Lord God of hosts” is a way of saying God is over all—all powerful. So also, Greek art depicts the risen, ascended, and reigning Lord Jesus as *Pantokrator*, “the Almighty!” The church has always claimed that, before and after all, Jesus Christ indeed holds all things. By faith in Jesus, we know that we are forgiven, renewed, redeemed, and destined for eternal glory.

Stand

OPENING VERSES

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips,

Cong.: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

Cong.: make haste to help me, O Lord.

**Cong.: 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, Lamb of our salvation.**

✠ PSALMODY ✠

PSALM

(Psalm 95:1-7a)

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Cong.: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In His hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are His also.

The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.
 Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
 let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
 For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture,
 and the sheep of His hand.

Sit

SERIES HYMN “The Word That Spoke in Darkness”

Lisa M. Clark

Mark Knickelbein



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



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



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



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

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ANTHEM (7:00 PM)
“Ah, Holy Jesus”
Arr. Hal H. Hopson

✠ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE ✠

First Reading (page 311 in the pew Bibles)

Daniel 7:13-14

Elder: A Reading from Daniel, the seventh chapter.

I saw in the night visions,
and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man,
and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.
And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading (page 1028 in the pew Bibles)

Revelation 1:9-20

Elder: A Reading from Revelation, the first chapter.

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and His voice was like the roar of many waters. In His right hand He held seven stars, from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.

As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading (page 888 in the pew Bibles)

John 3:11-18, 22-36

Pastor: A Reading from St. John, the third chapter.

Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized (for John had not yet been put in prison).

Now a discussion arose between some of John’s disciples and a Jew over purification. And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him.” John answered, “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. He must increase, but I must decrease.”

He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.

Sit

RESPONSORY FOR LENT

Pastor: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

Cong.: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

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

Cong.: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Pastor: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

Cong.: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

HYMN “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” [LSB hymn 802]



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life Thou giv - est— to both great and small—
4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,



In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;
In all life Thou liv - est, the true Life of all;
Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree
All laud we would ren - der: O help us to see



Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
Thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
And with - er and per - ish— but naught chang - es Thee.
'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light that hides Thee.

SERMON

“The Hand of the Lord Who Holds All Things”

(Pastor Mark Jasa)

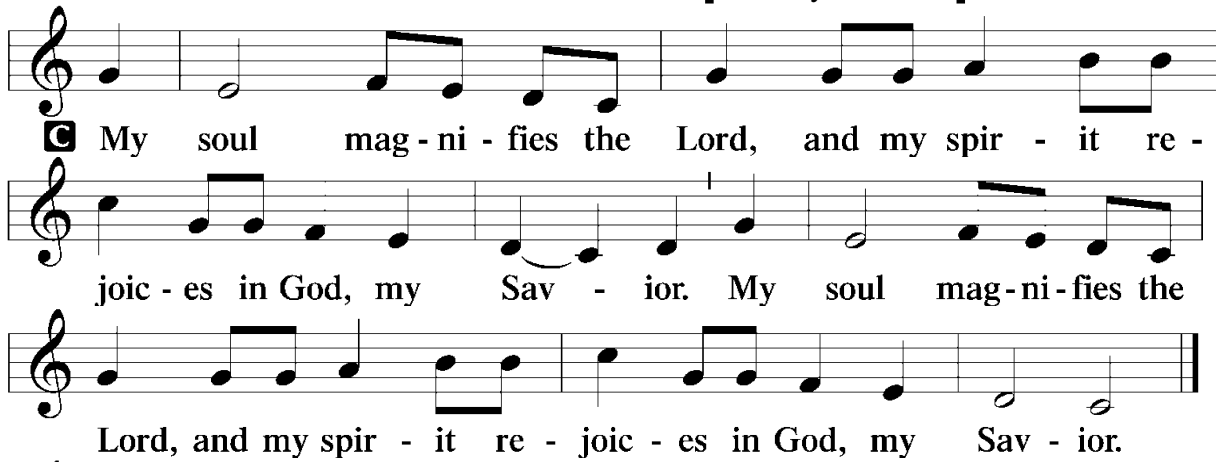
Stand

✠ CANTICLE ✠

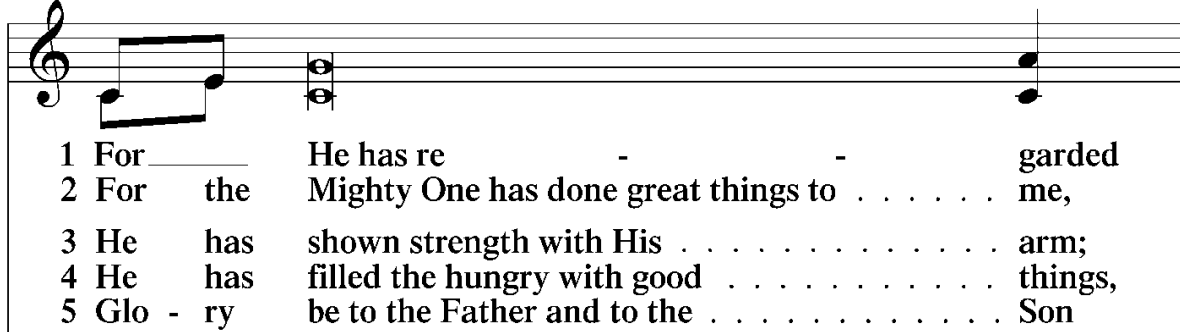
Pastor: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

Cong.: and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

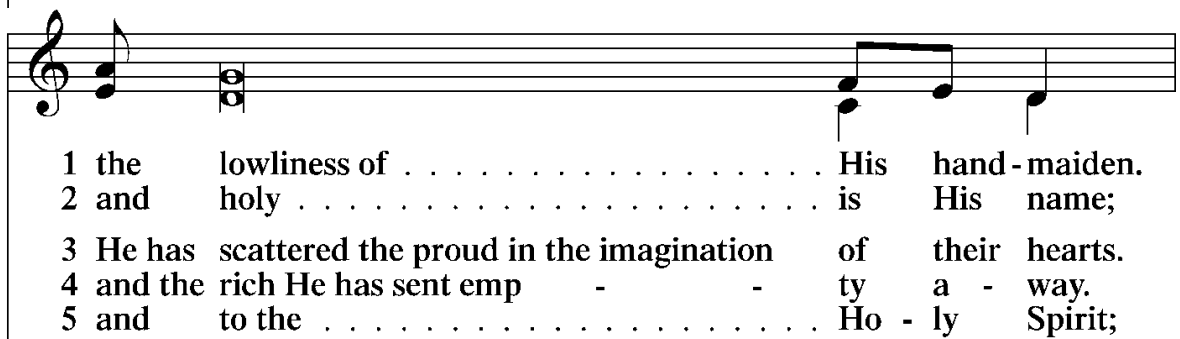
MAGNIFICAT [LSB hymn 248]



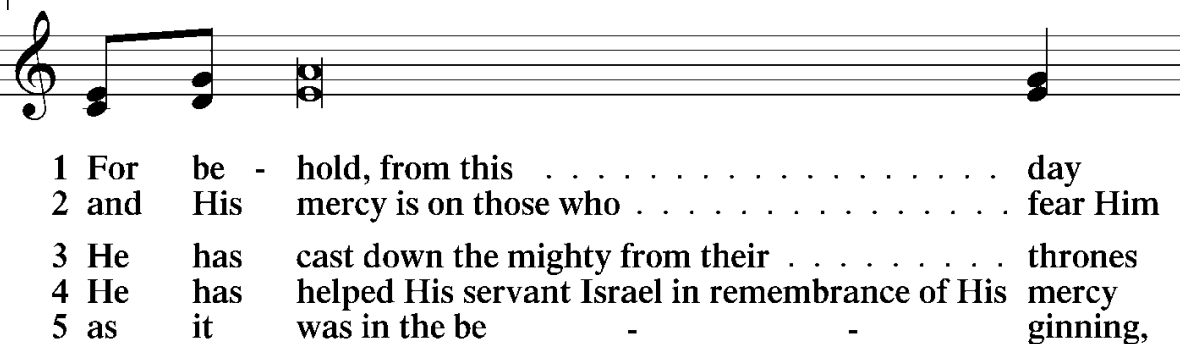
My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
 joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the
 Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



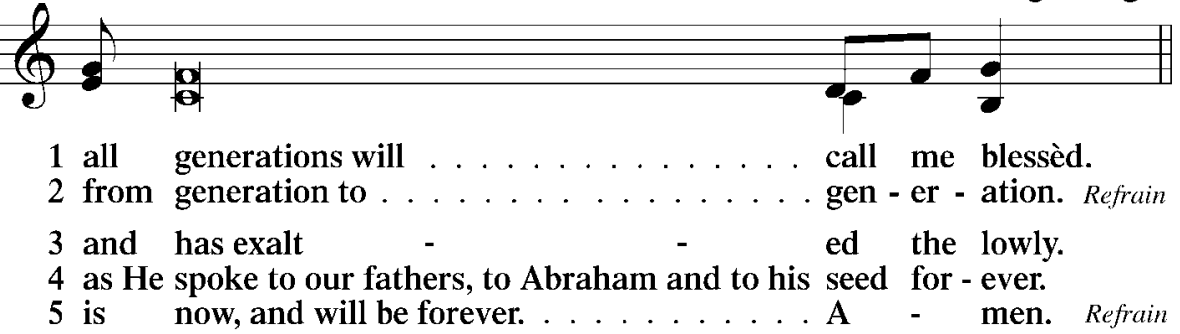
1 For _____ He has re - - - - - garded
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



1 the lowliness of His hand - maiden.
 2 and holy is His name;
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



1 all generations will call me blessèd.
 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - - - - - men. *Refrain*

OFFERINGS

You may place your offering in the plate as you exit the service.

KYRIE



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

LORD'S PRAYER

(Mathew 6: 9-13)

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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

Pastor: O Lord, hear my prayer.

Cong.: And let my cry come to You.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, all things are in Your hands, both creation and our very lives. Turn our eyes to follow the finger of John the Baptist pointing to Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Jesus has received nails into His hands for our sins to bring us forgiveness. When and where You will, use us to point others to Jesus and where He promises to be found in His Word and Sacraments; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Cong.: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Cong.: Amen.

Pastor: 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.

Cong.: Amen.

Cong.: 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.

Pastor: 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.

Cong.: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

Cong.: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Cong.: Amen.

HYMN

“We All Believe in One True God” [LSB hymn 953]



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

Cong.: **Thanks be to God**

POSTLUDE

SERVING OUR LORD AND HIS PEOPLE THIS EVENING

	<i>4:00 pm</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
Acolyte/Elder/Reader	Brian Viers	Manny Flores
Pianist:	Beth Hansen	Beth Hansen
Organist:		Matt Laub
Music:		Mary Jurenka, Bonnie Volkert, Karen Miller Adam Volkert, Rick Ritchie

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

SCRIPTURE ALONE GRACE ALONE FAITH ALONE CHRIST ALONE



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Ernest Jeong, Senior Pastor email prjeong@redeemer-lutheran.net

Tom Miller, Specific Ministry Pastor email tmiller@redeemer-lutheran.net

Church Website: redeemer-lutheran.net

SCHOOL: 714-840-7117 Office Hours: Mon- Fri 7:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Mindy Weiss, Preschool Director email preschool.director@redeemer-lutheran.net

Preschool Website: school.redeemer-lutheran.net

Our mission is to receive God's gifts of Word and Sacrament, worship Him and grow in his grace and to share those Holy gifts, by making disciples for Christ, who reach out joyfully to the world around them.

A CONGREGATION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD



THE HAND OF THE LORD

MIDWEEK LENTEN 4