

THE FIRST WEDNESDAY IN LENT
MARCH 12, 2025
7:00PM

AS WE GATHER

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).

LENT EVENING PRAYER PROPERS INSERT

(continue from page 8 of worship book)

PSALM *Psalm 8*



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!

Psalm Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
Heavenly Father, we thank You that Jesus has acted by the finger of God to overthrow Satan and his tyranny. In times of temptation, grant us the strength to resist the devil and entrust ourselves in Your protection, which was won for us at the cross of Calvary; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

FIRST READING *Job 9:1–12*

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 This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *Ephesians 2:1–10*

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 This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THIRD READING *Matthew 14:22–33*

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 This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LENT RESPONSORY *LSB, p. 231*

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.**

All who are able, stand.

Hymn: Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me Along Life's Way



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860

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MEDITATION

All who are able, stand.

The Liturgy continues on page 8 of the worship booklet with the ANNUNCIATION and MAGNIFICAT.

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