

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE 3, 2025

THE HAND OF THE LORD WHO CASTS OUT DEMONS

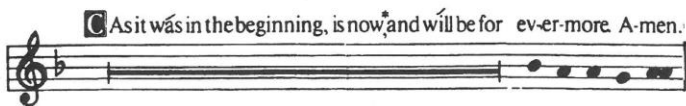
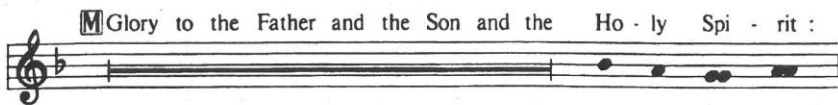
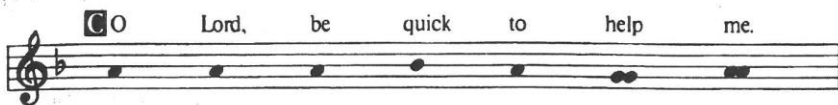
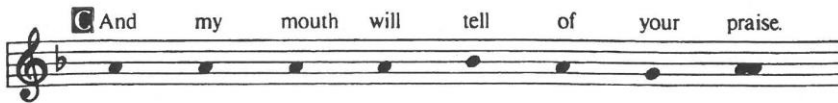
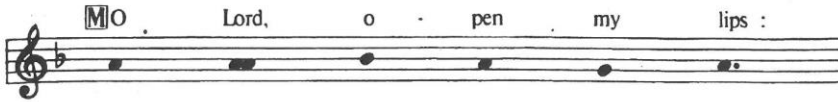
In repentance we are compelled to take sin seriously. All people have inherited sin; it is the cause of our fallen condition. Human nature was created perfect, sinless, and at one with our Creator. “I’m only human” does not explain or excuse sin. When we seek where this deadly infection originated, we are directed by God’s Word to the reality of the fallen angel Satan and his minions. Satan is real. Temptation is real. Demonic activity is rampant and powerful. True repentance and faith require us first to admit that we are powerless on our own to defeat the devil. His grasp is too much for us. Faith then looks to our Lord, who took sin and Satan seriously for us. By the bloody battle He waged on the cross, He has defeated the old evil foe for us. With His victory at hand, given to us by the hand of His ministers in Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and Holy Communion, our hands are empowered now to wield the instrument of prayer. In that victory, we have the sure deliverance and salvation of the Crucified One, now risen and ascended and ruling for us from the right hand of the Father.

May the Lord bless our worship tonight



As the minister approaches the altar the congregation stands

Organ



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.**

The congregation sits

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.

The congregation stands

PSALM

Psalms 143

- P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
- C **In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**
- P Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.
- C **For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.**
- P Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.
- C **I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**
- P Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails!
- C **Hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.**
- P Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust.
- C **Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.**
- P Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for refuge.
- C **Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**
- P For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!
- C **And in your steadfast love you will cut off my enemies, and you will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am your servant.**
- 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.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.

C 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, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation sits

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 3:1-24

P The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, the third chapter.

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;

on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
He shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise His heel.”

¹⁶To the woman He said,
“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam He said,
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’

cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

²²Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—” ²³therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.

²⁴He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden He placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL (spoken together)

Hebrews 12:2

**O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,
despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

THE PASSION NARRATIVE

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ Drawn from All Four Gospels

Portions selected from Matthew 26:15-27:66, Mark 14:12-15:47, Luke 22:7-23:56, and John 13:1-19:42, arranged chronologically to tell the story of the arrest, trials, suffering, crucifixion, death, and burial of our Lord Jesus.

Events occur on Thursday and Friday, 13-14 Nissan (April 2-3), 33AD, in and around Jerusalem.

Teaching on the Way to the Garden of Gethsemane (continued)

JOHN^{16:1} “I have spoken these things to you that you may not fall away. ² People will put you out of the synagogues. Yes, the time is coming when anyone who murders you will think that he is offering a service to God. ³ They will do these things because they have not known the Father or Me. ⁴ However, I have told you these things so that, when their time comes, you may remember them, because I have told you about them. I did not tell you these things at first, because I was with you. ⁵ However, now I am going away to Him who has sent Me, and none of you is asking Me, ‘Where are You going?’ ⁶ However, because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth, it is good for you that I am going away. For, if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you. However, if I go, I shall send Him to you. ⁸ When He comes, He will convict the world about sin, righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in Me, ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you do not see Me any longer, ¹¹ about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

¹² “I still have many things to tell you, but you cannot endure them now.

¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will lead you into the whole truth. For He will not speak on His own authority but will speak whatever He hears and will tell you what is coming. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, because He will

take from what is Mine and will tell it to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. That is why I have said, ‘He takes from what is Mine and will tell it to you.’

¹⁶ “A little while and you do not see Me any longer and, again, a little while, and you will see Me.”

¹⁷ Therefore, some of His disciples asked one another, “What does this mean that He is telling us, ‘A little while and you do not see Me and, again, a little while, and you will see Me’ and ‘Because I am going to the Father’?”

¹⁸ Therefore, they kept asking, “What does this mean that He is saying, ‘A little while’? We do not understand what He is saying.”

¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask Him. He said to them, “Are you trying to find out among yourselves about this thing that I said, ‘A little while and you do not see Me and, again, a little while and you will see Me’?” ²⁰ Truly, truly, I tell you that you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned to joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come. However, when she has given birth to her child, she does not remember her anguish any longer, because of her joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² Therefore, you also have sorrow now, but I shall see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. ²³ In that day you will not ask Me any questions. Truly, truly, I tell you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in My name. Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be complete! ²⁵ I have been telling you these things in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I shall no longer speak to you in figures of speech but shall report to you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall ask the Father on your behalf. ²⁷ For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and because you have believed that I have come forth from God. ²⁸ I have come forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.”

²⁹ His disciples said, “Look! Now You are speaking plainly and are not speaking any dark saying. ³⁰ Now we know that You know all things and do not need to have anyone ask You questions. By this we believe that You have come forth from God.”

³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Look! The hour is coming and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and you will leave Me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. ³³ I have spoken these things to you that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have distress. Nevertheless, have courage! I have overcome the world.”

JOHN 17:1 Jesus spoke these Words, looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son may glorify You! ² For You have given Him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom You have given Him. ³ This is eternal life, to know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. ⁴ I have glorified You on the earth by finishing the work that You have given Me to do. ⁵ Now, Father, glorify Me at Your side with the glory that I had with You before the world existed!

⁶ “I have made Your name known to the people whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your Word. ⁷ Now they know that all things that You have given Me come from You, ⁸ because I have given them the Words that You have given Me, and they have received them and learned the truth that I have come from You and have believed that You have sent Me. ⁹ I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me. For they are Yours. ¹⁰ All that are Mine are Yours, and what are Yours are Mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name that You have given Me, that they may be one, as We are one! ¹² While I have been with them, I have kept them in Your name, which You have given Me. I have watched over them, and none of them has been lost except the one who will be lost, that the Scripture may be fulfilled. ¹³ Now I am coming to You and I say these things while I am in the world, that they may have a full measure of My joy in them. ¹⁴ I have given them Your Word, but the world has hated them, because they do not belong to the world, as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask You to take them out of the world but to keep them from the Evil One. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Make them holy by the truth! Your Word is truth. ¹⁸ As You have sent Me into the world, I have also sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For their sakes I set Myself apart as holy, that they also may be set apart as holy by the truth.

²⁰ “I am not praying for these only but also for those who believe in Me through their Word, ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I am in You. Let them also be in Us, that the world may believe that You have sent Me! ²² I have given them the glory that You have given Me, that they may be one, as We are one. ²³ I am in them, and You are in Me. Let them be brought to complete unity that the world may know that You have sent Me and that You have loved them as You have loved Me! ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also whom You have given to Me may be with Me where I am, that they may see My glory, which You have given to Me, because You have loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ Righteous Father, the world has not known You, but I have known You, and these have come to know that You have sent Me. ²⁶ I have made Your name known to them and shall make it known, that the love with which You have loved Me may be in them and that I may be in them.”

After the Narrative:

P Here ends the reading.

The congregation stands

434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
 Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
 All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

The congregation sits

HYMN

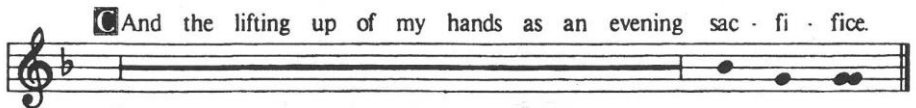
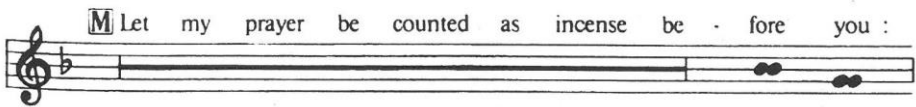
“In God, My Faithful God” (LSB 745)

SERMON Luke 9:37-43; 11:14-23 The Hand of the Lord who Casts Out Demons

HYMN “A Mighty Fortress is our God” (LSB 657)

The congregation stands

THE CANTICLE



PRAYER

P Let us pray:

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB, p. 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

BENEDICAMUS

LSB, p. 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

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.**

HYMN

“Be Strong in the Lord” (*LSB* 665)