

# +SERVICE OF VESPERS+

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THIRD MIDWEEK IN LENT + 15 MARCH 2023



## ***"The Sacrament of Holy Baptism"***

## **The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

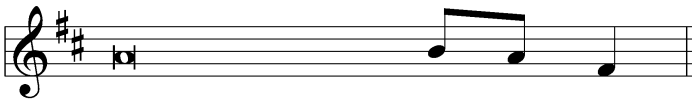
[tgslcms.org](http://tgslcms.org)

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Stand



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

## Psalmody

### Psalm

*Psalm 4*

#### Answer Me When I Call

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!  
You have given me relief when I was | in distress.\*  
Be gracious to me and | hear my prayer!

- <sup>2</sup>O men, how long shall my honor be turned | into shame?\***  
**How long will you love vain words and seek | after lies?**
- <sup>3</sup>But know that the LORD has set apart the godly | for himself;\***  
 the LORD hears when I | call to him.
- <sup>4</sup>Be angry, and | do not sin;\***  
**ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be | silent.**
- <sup>5</sup>Offer right sacri- | fices,\***  
 and put your trust | in the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup>There are many who say, “Who will show | us some good?\***  
**Lift up the light of your face upon us, | O LORD!”**
- <sup>7</sup>You have put more joy | in my heart\***  
 than they have when their grain and | wine abound.
- <sup>8</sup>In peace I will both lie | down and sleep;\***  
 for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in | safety.

Sit

Office Hymn

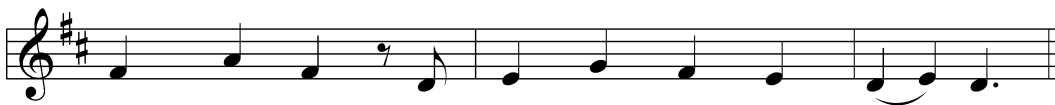
422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,  
 That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - surs Nev - er may Your work e - rase;  
 Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,  
 Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.  
 Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Readings





heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.  
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

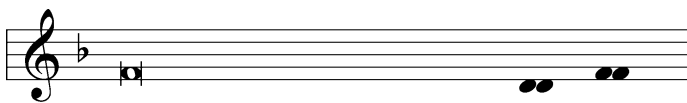
Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.  
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon: Water and Word

Pastor Edward Killian

## Canticle

Stand



**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

## Magnificat

933 My Soul Rejoices



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the  
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me  
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and  
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bles-sing, Join in con-fess-ing God, who is sole-ly Might-y and  
halt-ed; The meek ex-alt-ed. Full are the hun-gry; Emp-ty, the



ho-ly— O sing the great-ness of God the Lord! His mer-cy  
wealth-y— O sing the great-ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure-ly Shall rest se-cure-ly On all who fear Him,  
to-ken All that was spo-ken To A-br'ham's off-spring



Love and re-vere Him— O sing the great-ness of God the Lord!  
God is ful-fill-ing— O sing the great-ness of God the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622

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Tune: Public domain

**Offering** *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

## Prayer

*Kneel/Stand*

## Kyrie

LSB 233



**☐** 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



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

**P** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Collect for Peace

**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;

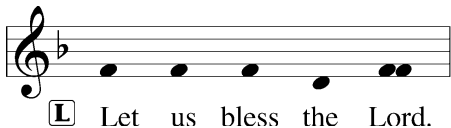
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Stand*

### Benedicamus

LSB 234



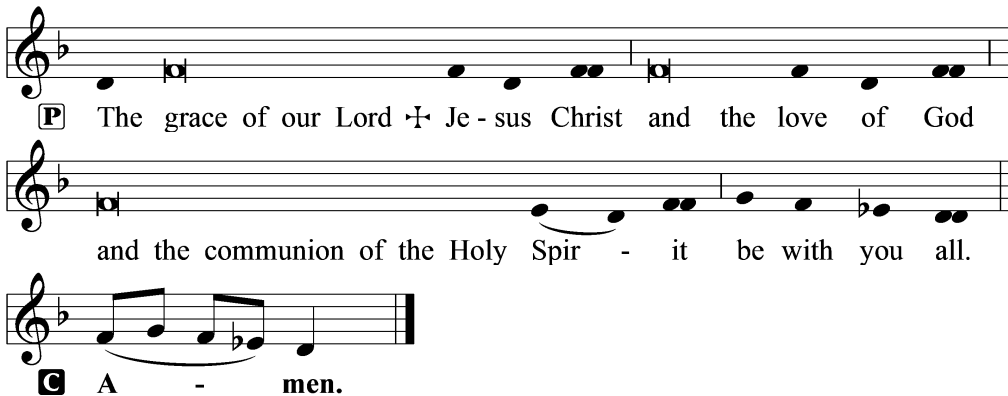
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**G** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

LSB 234



**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God

and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.

**G** A - men.





## Hymn to Depart

## 880 Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,  
2 The ra - diant sun has van - ished, Its gold - en  
3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in  
4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your  
5 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.  
rays are ban - ished From dark - 'ning skies of night;  
star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un - known;  
wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.  
night will sure - ly From per - il guard your heads.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic  
But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our  
And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish  
Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing  
Sweet slum - bers may He send you And bid His hosts at -



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.  
sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.  
be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.  
o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.  
tend you And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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### **Lenten Midweek Services**

Vespers – Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> @7pm – Confession

Vespers – Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> @7pm – Sacrament of the Altar

Vespers – Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> @7pm

Lenten Suppers will be held in the Assembly Room at 6pm before service.

Join us for Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Good Friday – Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

### **Luther’s Small Catechism – The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

#### **First**

##### ***What is Baptism?***

Baptism is not only plain water, but it is the water set in God’s command and joined to God’s Word.

##### ***Which is that word of God?***

Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Matthew: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

[\[Matthew 28:19\]](#)

#### **Second**

##### ***What is the gift or benefit of Baptism?***

It brings about forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

##### ***Which are these words and promises of God?***

Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” [\[Mark 16:16\]](#)

#### **Third**

##### ***How can water do such great things?***

Of course it is not the water that does them, but the word of God, which is in and with the water, and the faith that trusts this word of God in the water. For without the word of God the water is just water and no baptism. But with the word of God it is a baptism, that is, a water of life rich in grace, and a washing of new birth by the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus chapter three:

“He saved us ... by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by His

grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is trustworthy.” [Titus 3:5–8]

#### **Fourth**

##### ***What does such baptising with water signify?***

It signifies that the old Adam in us should, by daily remorse and repentance, be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new person should daily come forth and arise, to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

##### ***Where is this written?***

St Paul says in Romans chapter six: “We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” [Romans 6:4]

### **A Snippet From 1517**

#### ***The Hidden Glory***

*Hidden beneath the sinner is a glorious saint. Jesus has declared it to be so in your baptism.*

Glory often hides. That is the case many times over in the narration of Jesus’ transfiguration found in Matthew 17.

What happened before these words? It’s important for us to ask the question because Matthew 17 begins, “After six days...” So what had just happened? Jesus had just placed two paths before his people, and each one was rather unnerving. One path: follow Jesus and carry a cross for a lifetime (Matt. 16:24). You could escape the cross on the other path, but that means no Jesus, no heaven, only shame and condemnation for eternity. Then silence for six days.

Finally Jesus pulls Peter, James, and John aside. They must have been pondering Jesus’ words for the past week. Did they want to ask about what he said as they climbed the mountain? Certainly Jesus was thinking about them. He had told them he would soon go to Jerusalem to die, but they didn’t want to hear it. Peter even tried to rebuke him. Jesus needed them to know the cross was the only way for him to go, and it is the only way for those who want to follow him.

Jesus takes them to this mountain to make that truth plain. Jesus had always been God in all his fullness, but he most often hid his glory in the world. On this mountain, he dropped the veil. The glory, hidden for so long, shone forth. His face was the sun, and his clothes were light itself. Moses and Elijah also appear with him in this glory. They speak with each other, and they speak about how Jesus would soon die in Jerusalem. How could anyone witness this event and not see that Jesus, full of such immense glory and power, could allow anything to happen to him or the plan of salvation that he did not want to happen? Trust him; he knows what he’s doing.

The Father then appears. Yet even on this mountain of glory, the Father continues to hide himself. He covers himself in clouds because there is no sinful soul who could withstand his unveiled presence and live. He hides himself still to spare these men from what their sins deserve. But as he hides, he also reveals himself in his word: "Listen! This is my Son. I love him. Listen to him! In this path to the cross, you see only defeat. But it is in my love for him that I want him to walk this path and so earn a glory that has no equal. It is on this path alone that your salvation lies."

Jesus revealed his hidden glory here while the Father's glory remained veiled, but what about you and me? Aren't we those sinners from whom the Father must hide himself? Aren't we those for whom Jesus had to walk the way of the cross? True, and yet hidden beneath the sinner is a glorious saint. Jesus has declared it to be so in your baptism. There he connects you to his cross where the sinner is crucified and to his empty tomb where the saint rises to live and follow him.

In this world, that life of the sinner-saint does not seem so glorious. That life under the cross can be ugly and messy and painful. However, because you are connected to Jesus, the crown remains secure. It is also in that connection to him you find strength to carry your cross just as Moses and Elijah did in their lives in this world. That picture of a glorious Moses and Elijah here is a glimpse into your own future in heaven where glory hides no more. Amen. *Jason Oakland, 2023*