



honest repentance

LENTEN MIDWEEK THREE

Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"

LENT 3 MIDWEEK ~ March 8, 2023

SECOND MIDWEEK IN LENT

March 8, 2023

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

+ PREPARATION +

THEME: "CHAOS"

Prelude

Welcome

HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word

- 1 God, whose almighty word
 Chaos and darkness heard
 And took their flight:
 Hear us, we humbly pray,
 And where the Gospel day
 Sheds not its glorious ray,
 Let there be light!
- 2 Lord, who once came to bring,
 On Your redeeming wing,
 Healing and sight,
 Health to the sick in mind,
 Sight to the inly blind:
 Oh, now to humankind
 Let there be light!
- 3 Spirit of truth and love,
 Life-giving, holy dove,
 Speed forth Your flight;
 Move on the water's face,
 Bearing the lamp of grace,
 And in earth's darkest place
 Let there be light!

△ 4 Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, love, might!
Boundless as ocean's tide,
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth, far and wide,
Let there be light!

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825

Text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Collect

P Let us pray.

O Lord, the precious blood of Jesus washes away our sins and restores our spirits. Grant to us all the renewal and refreshing of the Holy Spirit, that we may with joy know the blood of our Savior has cleansed us from sin, has paid the price of our redemption, and nourishes us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Confession

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ READINGS +

Psalm 121

vs. 1-8



L A reading from Psalm, chapter 121.

¹I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*

From where does my | help come?

²My help comes | from the LORD,*

who made | heaven and earth.

³He will not let your | foot be moved;*

he who keeps you will not | slumber.

⁴Behold, he who keeps | Israel*

will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.

⁵The LORD is your | keeper;*

the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.

⁶The sun shall not strike | you by day,*

nor the | moon by night.

⁷The LORD will keep you from all | evil;*

he will | keep your life.

⁸The LORD will keep

your going out and your | coming in*

from this time forth and for- | evermore.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

Gen. 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 (ESV)

Chapter 7

¹Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation. ²Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, ³and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. ⁴For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." ⁵And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. ¹²And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, ¹⁴they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. ¹⁵They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in. ¹⁷The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

Chapter 8

⁶At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made ⁷and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. ⁹But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. ¹⁰He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. ¹¹And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf.

So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth.

¹² Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore. ¹³ In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. ¹⁴ In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. ¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ “Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁷ Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” ¹⁸ So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him.

Chapter 9

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹ “Behold, I establish My covenant with you and your offspring after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. ¹¹ I establish My covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹² And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³ I have set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

- 1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me
Over life’s tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treach’rous shoal.
Chart and compass come from Thee.
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

2 As a mother stills her child,
Thou canst hush the ocean wild;
Boist'rous waves obey Thy will
When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!"
Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea,
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

3 When at last I near the shore
And the fearful breakers roar
Twixt me and the peaceful rest,
Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me,
"Fear not, I will pilot thee."

Text: Edward Hopper, 1818–88

Text: Public domain

Sermon "CHAOS"

Pastor Jim Sprengle
Gen. 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

Tithes and Offerings

Please place your offering in the basket provided. *(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)*

Prayer of the Church

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Faithful Lord, You sent Your Son to restore Your house to be a house of prayer for all nations. Give us courage to approach Your throne in prayer and to invite all nations to be Your people; Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P** Mighty God, raise up faithful pastors, missionaries, teachers, and other church leaders. Stir up the hearts of Your faithful people to serve You with gladness and humility. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Father in heaven, we thank You for the mercy You show us in the cross of Him who comes in Your name to save us: Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant that our journey through this season of Lent refresh our souls and draw us close to You as You gather us together in Your eternal presence. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** God of grace, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers for all the sick and grant them the help of Your power. If it is Your will, grant their sickness may be turned into health. Above all, may their sickness become an occasion for greater faith in You and confidence in the goodness You bring our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

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.**

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

HYMN

If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

- 1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee
And hope in Him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that naught can move.
- 2 What can these anxious cares avail thee,
These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help if thou bewail thee
O'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press
The heavier for our bitterness.
- 5 Nor think amid the fiery trial
That God hath cast thee off unheard,
That he whose hopes meet no denial
Must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring
And sets a bound to ev'rything.
- 7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word; though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Georg Neumark, 1621–81

Text: Public domain

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Acknowledgments

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Ascension Lutheran Church

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Church: 503-665-8821 • Web Site: www.alcportland.org
Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission.”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God ‘s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God ‘s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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