



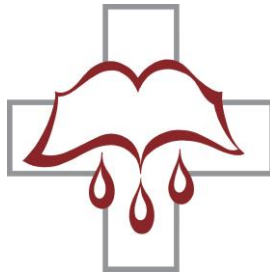
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST VESPERS OF LENT

First Vespers of Lent

+ March 1, 2023 +

Woe to You



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,
and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

WELCOME:

“Simply put, all the beatitudes teach us lowliness, humility, self-effacement, and self-reproach. And accordingly, *woe* awaits those who are rich and prosperous now, in this life, those who the Lord says ‘have received their consolation,’ meaning that in this life they have enjoyed revelry, laughter, feasting, and the praise of men. Let us tremble, brothers, to hear that *woe* awaits those who are praised by men. First, we ought to live such a life that will draw down upon us the praise of God, and then others will speak well of us indeed.”

– Blessed Theophylact, *The Explanation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke*

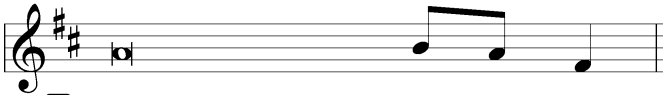
VESPERS

Congregants enter in silence for meditation and reflection.

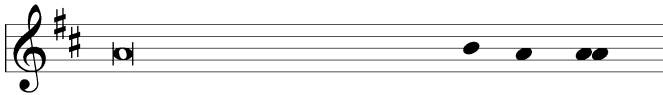
Please stand



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.



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

PSALM

Psalm 32:1-7



Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

**Blessèd is the man against whom the Lord counts no in- | iquity,*
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.**

For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away*
through my groaning | all day long.

**For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me;*
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.**

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the
iniquity | of my sin.

**Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you | may
be found;*
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.**

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;*
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All

#613

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1-10

“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes!

Pass over to Calneh, and see,
and from there go to Hamath the great;
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms?

Or is their territory greater than your territory,
O you who put far away the day of disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?

“Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music,
who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away.”

The Lord God has sworn by himself, declares the Lord, the God of hosts:

“I abhor the pride of Jacob
and hate his strongholds,
and I will deliver up the city and all that is in it.”

And if ten men remain in one house, they shall die. And when one's relative, the one who anoints him for burial, shall take him up to bring the bones out of the house, and shall say to him who is in the innermost parts of the house, “Is there still anyone with you?” he shall say, “No”; and he shall say, “Silence! We must not mention the name of the Lord.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Luke 6:20-26

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

RESPONSORY



- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.



- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me
from those who rise a - gainst me.

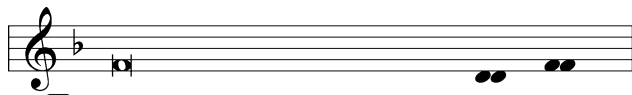
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SERMON

Woe to the Rich

Please stand

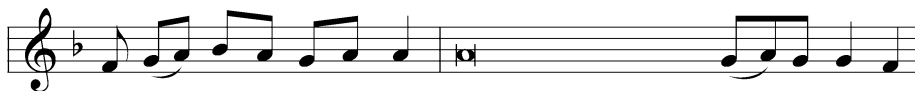
MAGNIFICAT



I Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



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



C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



I for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



II For be - hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



I For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



II and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



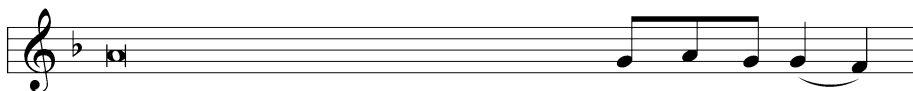
imagination of their hearts. **II** He has cast down the



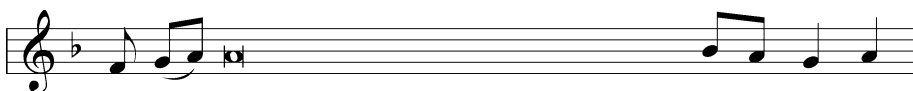
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



I He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.



II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



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

KYRIE



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

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

COLLECTS

L O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

L O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

L 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.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

Psalm 103:1



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

#714

Acknowledgments

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