

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH VESPERS OF LENT

## **Fifth Vespers of Lent**

## + March 29, 2023 +

'I have not come to abolish them.'



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:

"If justice be thy plea, remember that in the course of justice, none of us should see salvation."

- William Shakespeare

## VESPERS

Congregants enter in silence for meditation and reflection.



Psalm 130

**PSALM** 



Out | of the depths\* I cry to you, | O Lord!

#### O Lord, | hear my voice!\* Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!

If you, O Lord, should mark in- | iquities,\* O Lord, | who could stand?

## But with you there is for- | giveness,\* that you | may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my | soul waits,\* and in his | word I hope;

- my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,\* more than watchmen for the | morning.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is | steadfast love,\* and with him is plentiful re- | demption.

And he will redeem | Israel\* from all his in- | iquities.

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

o Thee, Omniscient Lord of All #	613
(	Thee, Omniscient Lord of All #

#### FIRST READING

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### SECOND READING

Matthew 5:17-20

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### Please stand

#### RESPONSORY



#### SERMON

Abolish the Law

Please stand

#### MAGNIFICAT





#### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.



L Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

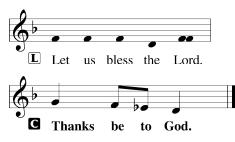


■ O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

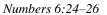


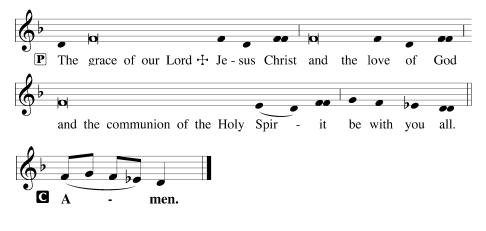
#### **BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

Psalm 103:1



**BENEDICTION** 





#### CLOSING HYMN

#### The Law of God Is Good and Wise

#579

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Serving Tonight: Pastor: Rev. George Fields Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Interpreter: Denee Smith Cantor: Keith Martin



# Why do we have a week called "Holy Week"?

Why would we refer to a week as being holy? The word "holy" means that it is from God. That's why we call the Bible "holy." It isn't just any book. It is God's living Word given to us for our salvation! The same goes for Holy Week. This is "God's Week." This is the week in the Church Year when Jesus actually paid for our sins and won our salvation!

### Which days are in Holy Week?

There are particular days during Holy Week that are extra special. During Holy Week we celebrate **Palm Sunday**, when Jesus went to Jerusalem and people celebrated His arrival; **Maundy Thursday**, when Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper; **Good Friday**, when Jesus died on the cross; and **Holy Saturday**, when we await His resurrection on Easter Sunday!









#### **Parents:**



During worship, help your children to look for other things in the church that are considered holy (i.e. God's Word, the Sacraments, etc.). Ask them: "How does God use these things to give us His forgiveness?"

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## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

+ PALM SUNDAY + 10:30 a.m., April 2 Divine Service

+ MAUNDY THURSDAY + 7:00 p.m., April 6 Divine Service

> + GOOD FRIDAY + 7:00 p.m., April 7 Chief Service

+ HOLY SATURDAY + 8:00 p.m., April 8 Easter Vigil and Divine Service

+ THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD + 10:30 a.m., April 9 Divine Service



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