

Midweek Lent Service

March 8, 2023

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Evening Prayer

- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C the light no darkness can overcome.
- P** Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C and the day is almost over.
- P** Let Your light scatter the darkness
C and illumine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron (O Joyful Light)

- P** Joyous light of glory:
C of the immortal Father;
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.
We have come to the setting of the sun,
and we look to the evening light.
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised
with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O Giver of life:
the universe proclaims Your glory.

Thanksgiving for Light

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

- P** I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
C **My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**
P He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
C **Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**
P The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
C **The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**
P The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
C **The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**
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.**

Hymn #597

Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

1 Wa - ter, blood, and Spir - it cry - ing, By their wit - ness
 2 In a wa - t'ry grave are bur - ied, All our sins that
 3 Dark the way, yet Christ pre - cedes us, Past the scowl of
 4 Though a - round us death is seeth - ing, God, His two - edged
 5 Spir - it, wa - ter, blood en - treat - ing, Work - ing faith and
 tes - ti - fy - ing To the One whose death - de - fy - ing
 Je - sus car - ried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has fer - ried
 death He leads us; Spreads a ta - ble where He feeds us
 sword un - sheath - ing, By His Spir - it life is breath - ing
 its com - plet - ing In the One whose death - de - feat - ing
 Life has come, with life for all.
 Us a - cross death's rag - ing flood.
 With His bod - y and His blood.
 Through the liv - ing, ac - tive Word.
 Life has come, with life for all.

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¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

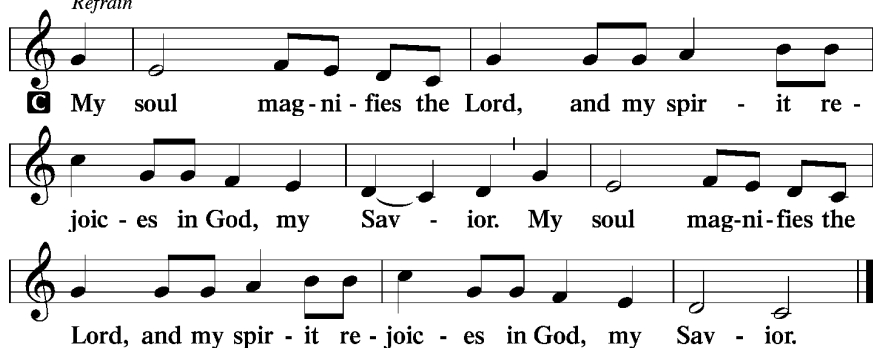
Sermon

Offering

Please take a moment to sign and pass the “Record of Friendship” booklet or use the QR code located on the inside cover of the booklet.

Magnificat

Refrain



- P** For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

C Refrain

- P** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the
lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent
empty away.
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He
spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
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.

C Refrain

Litany

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For Matt Harrison and Timothy Scharr, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For President Biden, Governor Pritzker, Mayor Marcus, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
C **Thanks be to God.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

- P** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
C **To You, O Lord.**

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.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

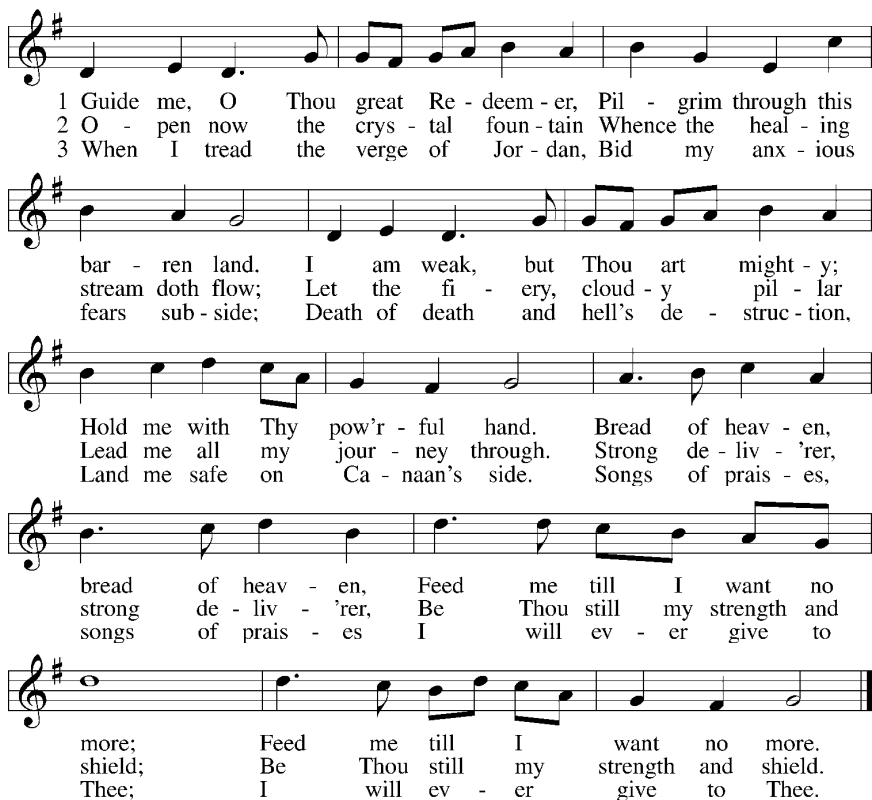
P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

AΩ

Hymn #918

Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,

Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
 Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,

bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
 strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to

more; Feed me till I want no more.
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, tune: John Hughes; text and tune: Public domain

Prelude: "Andante (from Six Sonatas)" by C. P. E. Bach

Offering: "Finlandia" by Jean Sibelius

Postlude: "Fughetta" by G.F. Handel

Please mark your calendars to join us for Midweek Lent Worship Services as follows:

Wednesday, March 15 @ 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 29 @ 7:00 PM

Holy Thursday, April 6 @ 7:00 PM

Good Friday, April 7 @ 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 9 @ 9:00 AM



[St. James Attendance](#)



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