

Vespers
Midweek Lent
March 8, 2023

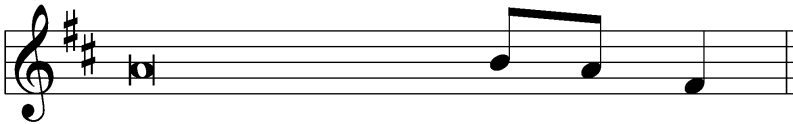
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stand

P O Lord, open my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

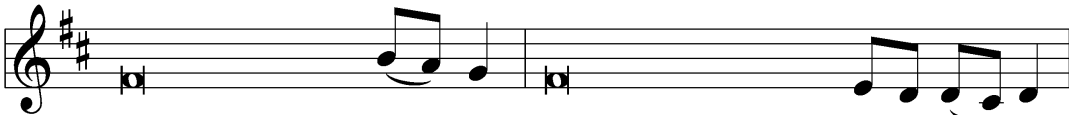
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;



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.

Psalm

Psalm 121

- P** I lift up my eyes to the hills.
- C** From where does my help come?
- P** My help comes from the LORD,
- C** who made heaven and earth.
- P** He will not let your foot be moved;
- C** he who keeps you will not slumber.

- P** Behold, he who keeps Israel
C will neither slumber nor sleep.
- P** The LORD is your keeper;
C the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
- P** The sun shall not strike you by day,
C nor the moon by night.
- P** The LORD will keep you from all evil;
C he will keep your life.
- P** The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
C from this time forth and forevermore.

Sit

OFFICE HYMN: ♪ "A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH"

LSB 438

- 1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
 The guilt of sinners bearing
 And, laden with the sins of earth,
 None else the burden sharing;
 Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
 To slaughter led without complaint,
 That spotless life to offer,
 He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
 The mockery, and yet replies,
 "All this I gladly suffer."**
- 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend,
 The Lamb of God, our Savior,
 Whom God the Father chose to send
 To gain for us His favor.
 "Go forth, My Son," the Father said,
 "And free My children from their dread
 Of guilt and condemnation.
 The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
 But by Your passion they will share
 The fruit of Your salvation."**
- 3 "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
 I'll bear what You command Me.
 My will conforms to Your decree,
 I'll do what You have asked Me."
 O wondrous Love, what have You done!
 The Father offers up His Son,
 Desiring our salvation.
 O Love, how strong You are to save!
 You lay the One into the grave
 Who built the earth's foundation.**

**4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see
And taste Your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be,
My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before Your throne,
Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought,
As Your own bride shall we be brought
To stand in joy beside You.**

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READING

2 CHRONICLES 17:1-6; 18:1-3; 19:1-7

P A reading from 2 Chronicles, chapters 17, 18 and 19.

Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place and strengthened himself against Israel. He placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim that Asa his father had captured. The LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the earlier ways of his father David. He did not seek the Baals, but sought the God of his father and walked in his commandments, and not according to the practices of Israel. Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand. And all Judah brought tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had great riches and honor. His heart was courageous in the ways of the LORD. And furthermore, he took the high places and the Asherim out of Judah.

Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor, and he made a marriage alliance with Ahab. After some years he went down to Ahab in Samaria. And Ahab killed an abundance of sheep and oxen for him and for the people who were with him, and induced him to go up against Ramoth-gilead. Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Will you go with me to Ramoth-gilead?" He answered him, "I am as you are, my people as your people. We will be with you in the war."

Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned in safety to his house in Jerusalem. But Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him and said to King Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD? Because of this, wrath has gone out against you from the LORD. Nevertheless, some good is found in you, for you destroyed the Asheroth out of the land, and have set your heart to seek God."

Jehoshaphat lived at Jerusalem. And he went out again among the people, from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim, and brought them back to the LORD, the God of their fathers. He appointed judges in the land in all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city, and said to the judges, "Consider what you do, for you judge not for man but for the LORD. He is with you in giving judgment. Now then, let the fear of the LORD be upon you. Be careful what you do, for there is no injustice with the LORD our God, or partiality or taking bribes."

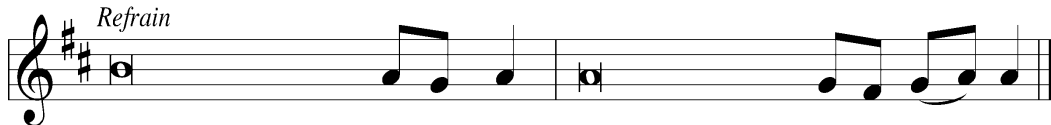
P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

LSB 231

L Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.



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

L In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.



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

L Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.



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

SERMON: "STRANGE BEDFELLOWS:JEHOSHAPHAT"

2 CHRONICLES 17:1-6; 18:1-3;19:1-7

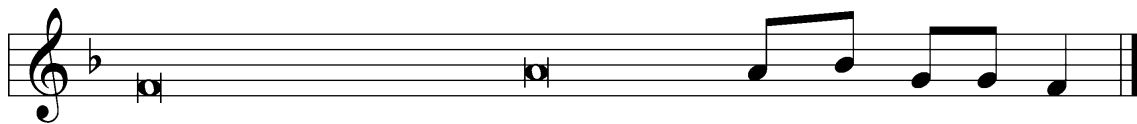
By Pastor John Schmidt

Stand

CANTICLE

LSB 231

P Let my prayer rise before You as incense,



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

MAGNIFICAT: ♪"MY SOUL REJOICES"

LSB 933

**1 My soul rejoices, My spirit voices—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
For God my Savior Has shown me favor—
Sing the greatness of the Lord!
With praise and blessing, Join in confessing
God, who is solely Mighty and holy—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
His mercy surely Shall rest securely
On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him—
O sing the greatness of God the Lord!**

2 His arm now baring, His strength declaring—
 Sing the greatness of the Lord!
 The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters—
 Sing the greatness of the Lord!
 Oppression halted; The meek exalted.
 Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy—
 O sing the greatness of God the Lord!
 Here is the token All that was spoken
 To Abr’ham’s offspring God is fulfilling—
 O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

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Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN:

J “WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN”

LSB 781 V. 1-2

1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;
 All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
 2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
 And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

KYRIE

LSB 227



C 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

P O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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.



BENEDICAMUS

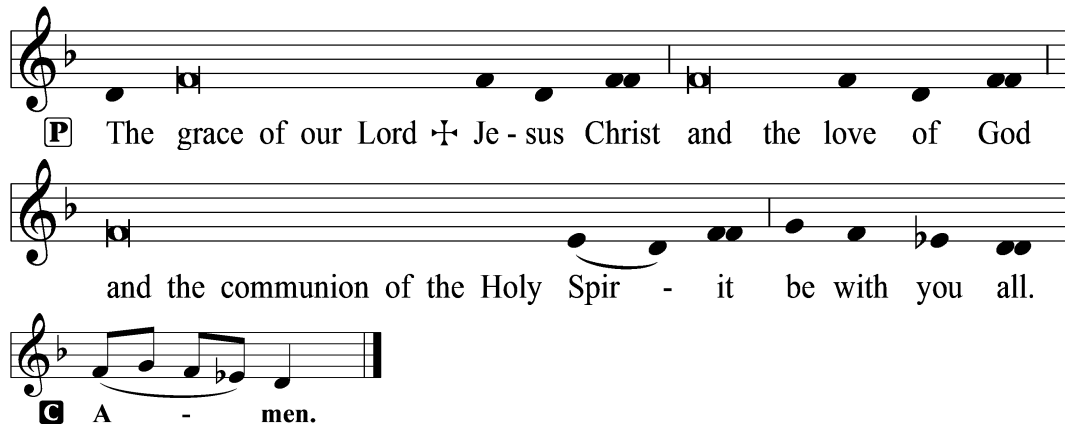
LSB 234

P Let us bless the Lord



BENEDICTION

LSB 234



CLOSING HYMN: ♪ "THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION"

LSB 644

- 1 The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation:
One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With ev'ry grace endued.

- 3** **Though with a scornful wonder**
 The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
 By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
 Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
 Shall be the morn of song.
- 4** **Through toil and tribulation**
 And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
 Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
 Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
 Shall be the Church at rest.
- 5** **Yet she on earth has union**
 With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
 With those whose rest is won.
O blessèd heav'nly chorus!
 Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
 May see You face to face.

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Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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