

✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Pastor Mark Huston

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Midweek of Advent 3

December 14, 2022

Vespers

As We Gather

Absalom: Good looks and beautiful, flowing hair can only get you so far. They got Absalom, the son of David, caught in a tree and put to death for his rebellion against his own father. Yet despite his rebellion, David still loved his son and wanted him to live. Our daily thoughts, words, and actions reveal our rebellious hearts against our heavenly Father and King. Yet God desires not the death of the wicked and rebellious, but that we would turn and live. To that end, God sent forth His Son, the true Son of David, to perfectly obey His Father's will. Through Jesus, the Kingdom is ours forever!

402 The Only Son from Heaven



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by an - cient seers,  
 2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!  
 3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en To know and love You more,  
 △ 4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore You With God the Ho - ly Ghost



By God the Fa - ther giv - en, In hu - man form ap - pears.  
 He comes, the king a - noint - ed, The Christ, the vir - gin - born,  
 In faith to stand un - shak - en, In spir - it to a - dore,  
 And Je - sus, we a - dore You, O pride of an - gel host:



No sphere His light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly  
 Grim death to van - quish for us, To o - pen heav'n be -  
 That we, through this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en  
 Be - fore You mor - tals low - ly Cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,

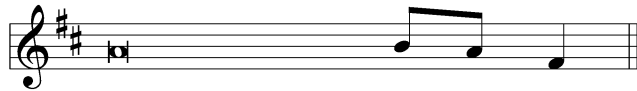


shin - ing As He, our Morn - ing Star.  
 fore us And bring us life a - gain.  
 prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.  
 ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

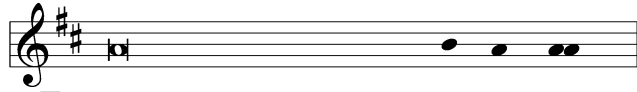
Text (sts. 1-3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500-1535; (sts. 1-3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978  
 Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, 1524, Erfurt  
 Text and tune: Public domain



**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.



Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

## Psalmody

### Psalm

*Psalm 110; antiphon: Psalm 146:3, 5*

**P** Put not your trust in | princes,\*  
in a son of man, in whom there is no sal- | vation.  
Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,\*  
whose hope is in the | LORD his God.

**C** The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at My | right hand,\*  
until I make Your enemies Your | footstool.”

**P** The LORD sends forth from Zion Your mighty | scepter.\*  
Rule in the midst of Your | enemies!

**C** Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of Your power, in holy | garments;\*  
from the womb of the morning, the dew of Your youth | will be Yours.

**P** The LORD has sworn and will not | change His mind,\*  
“You are a priest forever after the order of Mel- | chizedek.”

**C** The Lord is at Your | right hand;\*  
He will shatter kings on the day | of His wrath.

**P** He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with | corpses;\*  
He will shatter chiefs over the | wide earth.

**C** He will drink from the brook | by the way;\*  
therefore He will lift | up His head.

**C** 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.

**P** Put not your trust in | princes,\*  
in a son of man, in whom there is no sal- | vation.  
Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,\*  
whose hope is in the | LORD his God.

## In This Precious Baby Boy

Lisa M. Clark DIX  
Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

1 In this pre-cious ba-by boy, We are giv-en  
2 God's own chil-dren, we have strayed, Con-stant-ly have  
3 Through this ba-by in the hay, God has giv-en

peace and joy. By the Spir-it, hope is won—  
dis-o-beyed In the gar-den, in the sand,  
us the Way To in-her-it life a-bove,

Mar-y bore the Fa-ther's Son. Son of God and  
Through the riv-er, in the Land. But the Child who  
Res-cued by His per-fect love. In this Child, we

Son of Man: He ful-fills the ho-ly plan.  
takes our place Bears the cross to earn us grace.  
all may be Chil-dren of e-ter-ni-ty.

## Readings

### Reading

2 Samuel 18:24–33

**R** A reading from 2 Samuel, chapter 18.

<sup>24</sup>Now David was sitting between the two gates, and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and when he lifted up his eyes and looked, he saw a man running alone. <sup>25</sup>The watchman called out and told the king. And the king said, “If he is alone, there is news in his mouth.” And he drew nearer and nearer. <sup>26</sup>The watchman saw another man running. And the watchman called to the gate and said, “See, another man running alone!” The king said, “He also brings news.” <sup>27</sup>The watchman said, “I think the running of the first is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok.” And the king said, “He is a good man and comes with good news.”

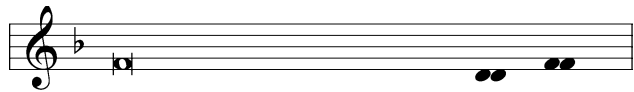
<sup>28</sup>Then Ahimaaz cried out to the king, “All is well.” And he bowed before the king with his face to the earth and said, “Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king.” <sup>29</sup>And the king said, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” Ahimaaz answered, “When Joab sent the king’s servant, your servant, I saw a great commotion, but I do not know what it was.” <sup>30</sup>And the king said, “Turn aside and stand here.” So he turned aside and stood still.

<sup>31</sup>And behold, the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, “Good news for my lord the king! For the LORD has delivered you this day from the hand of all who rose up against you.” <sup>32</sup>The king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” And the Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king and all who rise up against you for evil be like that young man.” <sup>33</sup>And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.





**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



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

### 935 Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord



1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!  
2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of His name!  
3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of His might!  
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of His Word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings, give my spir - it voice;  
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;  
Pow'rs and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
Firm is His prom - ise, and His mer - cy sure.



Ten - der to me the prom - ise of His Word;  
His mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



In God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - jice.  
His ho - ly name, the Lord, the Might - y One.  
The hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
To chil - dren's chil - dren and for - ev - er - more!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926  
Tune: Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949  
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*Sit*

**Offering**

*682 God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Sons sts. 1-2*

**Prayer**

*Stand*

**Kyrie**

*LSB 233*



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

**Lord's Prayer**

**P** Let us 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.

### Collect of the Day

**P** Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Collect

**P** God our Father, You sent the true Son of David, Your only Son, to become a curse for us by hanging Him from the tree of the cross. By the sacrifice of His flesh, He has opened the way to eternal life through the forgiveness of our sins. As we have been baptized into His death, strengthen our faith always as heirs of Your heavenly kingdom; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Collect for Peace

**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** A - men.

*Stand*

### Benedicamus

LSB 234



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

**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.

494 See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph

1 See, the Lord as - cends in tri - umph; Con - qu'ring King in  
2 Who is this that comes in glo - ry With the trump of  
3 While He lifts His hands in bless - ing, He is part - ed  
4 Now our heav'n - ly Aar - on en - ters With His blood with -  
5 He has raised our hu - man na - ture On the clouds to  
roy - al state, Rid - ing on the clouds, His char - iot, To His  
ju - bi - lee? Lord of bat - tles, God of ar - mies, He has  
from His friends; While their ea - ger eyes be - hold Him, He up -  
in the veil; Josh - ua now is come to Ca - naan, And the  
God's right hand; There we sit in heav'n - ly plac - es, There with  
heav'n - ly pal - ace gate. Hark! The choirs of an - gel voic - es  
gained the vic - to - ry. He who on the cross did suf - fer,  
on the clouds as - cends. He who walked with God and pleased Him,  
kings be - fore Him quail. Now He plants the tribes of Is - rael  
Him in glo - ry stand. Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels;  
Joy - ful al - le - lu - ias sing, And the por - tals  
He who from the grave a - rose, He has van - quished  
Preach - ing truth and doom to come, He, our E - noch,  
In their prom - ised rest - ing place; Now our great E -  
Man with God is on the throne. By our might - y  
high are lift - ed To re - ceive their heav'n - ly King.  
sin and Sa - tan; He by death has crushed His foes.  
is trans - lat - ed To His ev - er - last - ing home.  
li - jah of - fers Dou - ble por - tion of His grace.  
Lord's as - cen - sion We by faith be - hold our own.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, abr., alt.  
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **Announcements**

**Adult Sunday School** is studying Exodus at **9am** on Sunday mornings.

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets Wednesdays at **10am**. They are studying the Book of Deuteronomy.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Jan 8 at 8am**.

**Midweek Advent Services** are **Dec 14**. There will be a light meal on Wednesday nights at **6:30pm**, followed by Vespers at **7pm**.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** is at **6pm** and **Christmas Day Divine Service** is at **10am**. There will be no Sunday School that day.

## **Acknowledgments**

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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