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THE HAND OF THE LORD WHO CREATES AND SAVES

The God who is Creator of all came to save us from sin and death in the incarnate Son of Mary, Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is God. He first revealed Himself to Moses with the holy name "I AM," saying, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you'" (Exodus 3:14). When Jesus came to His disciples walking on the crashing waves of the sea of Galilee, He said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid" (Matthew 14:27). "It is I" is the same term for the divine name, "I AM." As He reached out His hand and grabbed the fearful, doubting, sinking Simon Peter, so does His compassionate hand save you in times of despair and helplessness. His greatest deliverance was when He allowed His hands to be nailed to a cross for your sins. As we are helpless like drowning Peter, our repentant prayer this day is in the words of the hymn, "Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling" (*LSB* 761:3).

OPENING SENTENCES

LSB, p. 229

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- 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.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

READING

Job 9:1–12

P ¹Then Job answered and said:

²“Truly I know that it is so:

But how can a man be in the right before God?

³If one wished to contend with Him,

one could not answer Him once in a thousand times.

⁴He is wise in heart and mighty in strength

—who has hardened himself against Him, and succeeded?—

⁵He who removes mountains, and they know it not,

when He overturns them in His anger,

⁶who shakes the earth out of its place,

and its pillars tremble;

⁷who commands the sun, and it does not rise;

who seals up the stars;

⁸who alone stretched out the heavens

and trampled the waves of the sea;

⁹who made the Bear and Orion,

the Pleiades and the chambers of the south;

¹⁰who does great things beyond searching out,

and marvelous things beyond number.

¹¹Behold, He passes by me, and I see Him not;

He moves on, but I do not perceive Him.

¹²Behold, He snatches away; who can turn Him back?

Who will say to Him, ‘What are You doing?’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

Ephesians 2:1–10

P ¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the

heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

Matthew 14:22–33

P ²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.

²³And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea.

²⁶But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

²⁸And Peter answered Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, “Truly You are the Son of God.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LENT RESPONSORY

LSB, p. 231

HYMN

“What Wondrous Love Is This” (*LSB* 543)

SERMON

+ CANTICLE +

ANTIPHON

LSB, p. 231

MAGNIFICAT

LSB, p. 231

Presentation of Offering

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

LSB, p. 233

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB, p. 233

COLLECTS

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Creator and Redeemer, "Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy Law's demands." Therefore "nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling." Increase our faith and trust in You that we may walk confidently amid the troubles and reverses of life, knowing that Your gracious hands are evermore leading us, guiding us, and saving us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P 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, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB, p. 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Glory Be to Jesus” (*LSB* 433)