

Wandering Heart

Figuring out faith
with Peter

Rescue me from danger

Art, reflections, &
poetry for the
season of Lent



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Lenten Midweek, February 21, 2024

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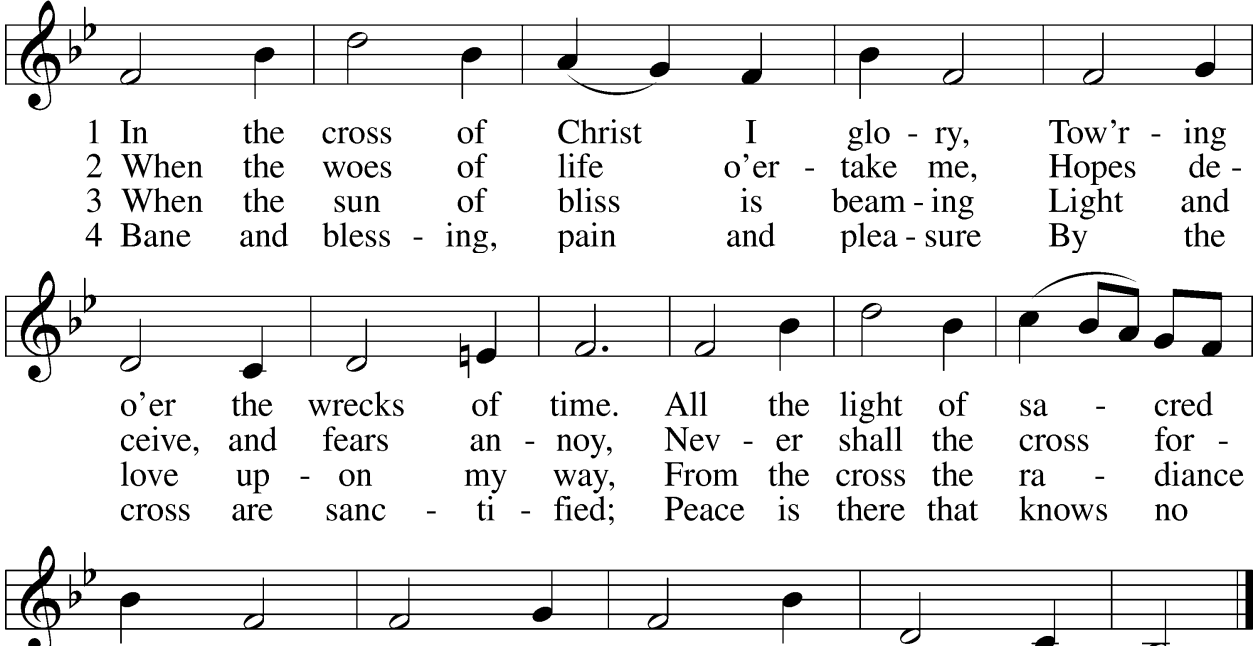
LENT LECTIONARY

This service carries the themes of the Lent Lectionary—the traditional readings for this season in the Church Year, as we gather in sorrow over our sin, recognize our need for a Savior, and anticipate His salvation accomplished through the cross and resurrection.

Opening Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

Invocation and Call to Worship

E: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

E: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

Hebrews 12:2

C: **the author and perfecter of our faith,**

E: who for the joy that was set before him

C: **endured the cross, despising the shame,**

E: and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

C: **Now is the time of God's favor; now is the day of salvation.**

2 Corinthians 6:2b

E: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

Psalms 85:4, 4:6, 37:6, 113:7

C: **that the light of Your face may shine on us.**

E: May Your justice shine like the sun;

C: ***and may the poor be lifted up.***

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.

Confession and Absolution

1 Peter 5:6-11, 1:3-5

E: Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God

so that at the proper time he may exalt you.

Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober-minded; be watchful.

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion,

seeking someone to devour.

Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering

are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

C: ***We humble ourselves before the Lord.***

We confess that we have sinned against heaven and earth,

against the Lord, His Creation, and one another.

Please come to us, Lord, and forgive. Amen.

E: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

1 John 2:1

C: ***He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.***

Mark 10:33

E: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Psalms 32:1

C: ***He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.***

E: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C: ***He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people. Amen.***

Assurance of Forgiveness

E: At the command of the Lord, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on

the mountain; yet, in mercy God the Father provided a ram as a substitute. We give

thanks to the Father that on Calvary He did not spare His only Son but sent Him to

offer His life as a ransom for many. The God of all grace has called us to his eternal

glory in Christ, and He Himself restores, confirms, strengthens, and establishes us. To

him be the dominion forever and ever. According to his great mercy, he has caused

us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the

dead and the forgiveness of our sins.

C: ***Amen.***

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

A Reading About Peter**Matthew 14:22-33 (ESV)**

²²Immediately [after the feeding of the 5000], [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."

Companion Psalm

Psalm 22:23-31 (ESV)

- ²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
- ²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.
- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
- ²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
- ²⁸For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
- ²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.
- ³⁰Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
- ³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

E: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

E: 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.

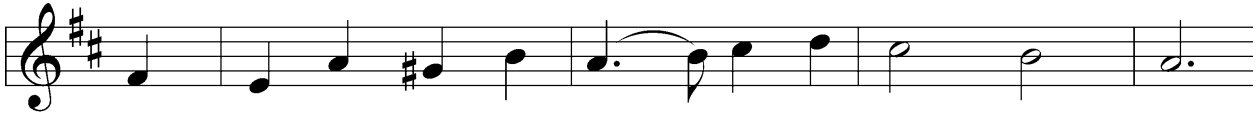
C: Amen.



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
 For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
 I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
 For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

Devotion "Rescue me from danger"

- **Commentary:** *Matthew 14:22-33*
by the Rev. Dr. Terence Lester
(LoveBeyondWalls.org)
- **Art:** "Lift Off"
by the Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda
- **Poem:** "Rescue Me"
by the Rev. Sarah Speed



Offering

Prayers

E: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: *Lord, have mercy.*

E: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C: *Lord, have mercy.*

E: 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.*

E: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C: *Lord, have mercy.*

E: For Synodical President Matthew Harrison, District President Allan Buss, 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.*

E: For President Biden, for Governor Pritzker, for Mayor Hood, 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.*

E: 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.*

E: 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.*

E: 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.*

E: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C: *Lord, have mercy.*

E: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C: *Thanks be to God.*

E: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

E: 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.***

The Lord's Prayer

E: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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

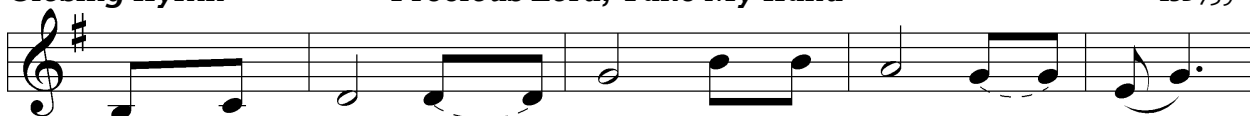
E: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all.

C: Amen.

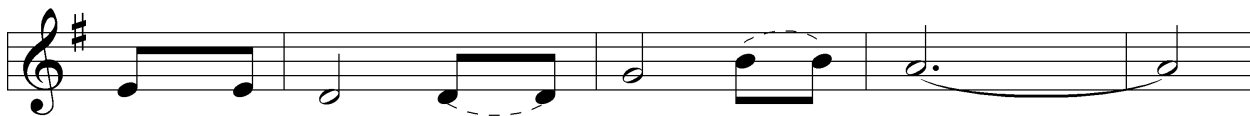
Closing Hymn

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

LSB 739



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.