



LENT MIDWEEK 4

MARCH 4, 2026

**congregation stands*

AS WE GATHER

Today we see the similarities and the contrasts between Moses and Jesus. Both are God's servants, but only Jesus is willing and able to save us. We will hear of Moses' unwillingness to serve and save many people, even with the signs God provided. But Jesus, our Lord, is willing to do all that is necessary for all of us to be embraced by God's love. Jesus Christ came, delivered us, and set us free.

OPENING HYMN

ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED

LSB 437

PSALM

Psalm 25:1-5

P To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

C **O my God, in You I trust;**

P let me not be put to shame;

C **let not my enemies exult over me.**

P Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

C **Lead me in Your truth and teach me,**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 4:1-20

¹Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" ²The LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." ³And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. ⁴But the LORD said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand— ⁵"that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." ⁶Again, the LORD said to him, "Put your hand inside your cloak." And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. ⁷Then God said, "Put your hand back inside your cloak." So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. ⁸"If they will not believe you," God said, "or listen to the first sign, they may believe the

latter sign. ⁹If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

¹⁰But Moses said to the LORD, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue.” ¹¹Then the LORD said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹²Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.” ¹³But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” ¹⁴Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and he said, “Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. ¹⁵You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. ¹⁶He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. ¹⁷And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.”

¹⁸Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive.” And Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.” ¹⁹And the LORD said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead.” ²⁰So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM – read responsively

Psalm 25:10-11

- A All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.
- C **For Your name’s sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 3:1–6

¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

*HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:48–59

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
- C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free?'"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. ³⁸I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PSALM – read responsively

Psalms 25:16-17, 21-22

P Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

C **The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.**

P May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for You.

C **Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.**

HYMN

WHAT PROMPTED CHRIST

TUNE LSB 543

1 What prompted Christ our Lord to come down to the cross?
What prompted Him to die for my soul?
It was the Father's love
That sent Him to the cross
That in Christ's boundless love He would pay for all sin
To pay for ev'ry sin since the fall.

2 Lord Jesus, God's own Son, willingly You came here,
Deliv'ring us that we might be free.
You spoke Your Word in truth,
The truth in which we live,
And willingly You went to the cross, to the cross.
Help us to live for You thankfully.

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*PASSION READING

Mark 14:46–65

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁶And they laid hands on him and seized him. ⁴⁷But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁴⁸And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as

against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? ⁴⁹Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." ⁵⁰And they all left him and fled.

⁵¹And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, ⁵²but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

⁵³And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, ⁵⁸"We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" ⁵⁹Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" ⁶¹But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" ⁶²And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." ⁶³And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN

OH, DEAREST JESUS

LSB 439, vs. 1, 5, 6, 7, 12

SERMON

THE GOOD NEWS OF A GOD WHO SENDS A DELIVERER

OFFERING

*PRAYERS

P Let us pray for all people who are unsure of God's hearing their prayers.

C **Hear their cries, O Lord, grant them courage as You accompany, and answer them speedily.**

P Let us ask God to strengthen the faith of those who only recently have known Him.

C **Reveal Yourself gently to them, Lord Jesus, through the caring of Your church.**

P Let us pray for those who feel trapped by circumstances beyond their control.

C **Assure them that You know their dilemma and that the deliverer has come: Jesus, our Savior and Lord.**

P Let us pray for all who fear God's punishment.

C **Show them mercy, O Lord, as You passed over Your Old Testament people. Grant them peace through Your presence.**

P Let us pray for all who know no good ways to turn, are unsure of the truth, and await only their deaths.

- C **Tell them again, Lord Jesus, that You alone are the way, and the truth, and the life.**
- P Finally, let us pray for all who are tired from opposition in the world around them and from their own conflicts within themselves.
- C **Awaken in them a sense of Your accompanying them on their journey until that day when they and we join those who have gone before us at Your heavenly banquet hall.**
- P O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength.
- C **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.**
- P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,
- C **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;**
- P 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**

***BENEDICTION**

- P The blessing of God Almighty—the Father, who sent His Son; the Son, who is our Deliverer; and the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in our hearts—bless you now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

HYMN TO DEPART CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING LSB 420, vs. 1, 5, 7

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Serving Our Lord

		Wed. March 4	Wed. March 11
Meal	5:15pm	Served by: TLO Council	Served by: Workman family
Musician	6:30pm	Marsha Workman	Diane Streich
Cantor	6:30pm	Dave Workman	Andy Koch
Altar Guild	6:30pm	Linnea and Al Raveling	Linnea and Al Raveling
Elder(s)	6:30pm	Kurt Vallin	Bill Breitinger
Reader	6:30pm	Kurt Vallin	Jim Kohn
Usher Team	6:30pm	Andy Olson	Ben Swenson
Acolyte	6:30pm	Dana Vallin	Isaac Koch
Projection	6:30pm	Sebastian Ness	Open
Live Stream	6:30pm	Jim Nicklas	Jim Nicklas

Seder Meal

April 2 | 5:00pm

All Ages Welcome!

Reservations by March 29

Information or registrations at
651-454-7235.



Experience a traditional Seder,
a combined Passover meal
and worship service.