

# **The Hand of the Lord Who Raises the Dead**



## **MIDWEEK** *Lenten Service*

**Wednesday, April 2, 2025  
7:00PM**

**West Portal Lutheran Church  
200 Sloat Boulevard  
San Francisco CA 94132  
415-661-0242**

## SERVICE OF LIGHT

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

*Stand*

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

**P** Turn us again, O God of our salvation,  
**C** **that the light of Your face may shine on us.**

**P** May Your justice shine like the sun,  
**C** **and may the poor be lifted up.**

### PHOS HILARON

**P** Joyous light of glory:  
**C** **of the immortal Father;**  
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.  
We have come to the setting of the sun,  
and we look to the evening light.  
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:  
You are worthy of being praised  
with pure voices forever.  
O Son of God, O Giver of life:  
the universe proclaims Your glory.

### THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led  
Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by  
night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His  
Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are mer-  
ciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures,  
glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## PSALMODY

### Psalm 141

**C** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

**P** O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly;  
hear my voice when I cry to You.

**C** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

**P** Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,  
and guard the door of my lips.

**P** Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;  
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

**P** But my eyes are turned to You, O God;  
in You I take refuge.  
Strip me not of my life.

**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.

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

**P** Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord,  
and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified  
minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the  
whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## HYMN

*O Christ, Who Shared Our Mortal Life*

*LSB 552, Sts. 1, 7-8, 4*

1 O Christ, who shared our mortal life  
And ended death's long reign,  
Who healed the sick and raised the dead  
And bore our grief and pain:  
We know our years on earth are few,  
That death is always near.  
Come now to us, O Lord of Life;  
Bring hope that conquers fear!

7 Raising of the widow's son (Luke 7:11–17)  
 The ranks of death with trophy grim  
     Through ancient streets once trod  
     And suddenly confronted You,  
         The mighty Son of God.  
 A widow's tears evoked Your Word;  
     You stopped the bearers' tread.  
 "Weep not!" in pity then You spoke  
     To her whose son was dead.

8 The ranks of death, the Lord of Life  
     Stood face to face that hour;  
     And You took up the age-old strife  
         With words of awesome pow'r.  
 "Young man, arise!" You ordered loud,  
     And death defeated lay.  
 The widow's son cast off his shroud  
     And strode from death away.

4 Death's power holds us still in thrall  
     And bears us toward the tomb.  
 Death's dark'ning cloud hangs like a pall  
     That threatens earth with doom.  
 But You have broken death's embrace  
     And torn away its sting.  
 Restore to life our mortal race!  
     Raise us, O Risen King!

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## READING

## 1 Kings 17:8-24

Then the word of the LORD came to him, "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." And she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die." And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. For thus

says the LORD the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’” And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. And she said to Elijah, “What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!” And he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. And he cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?” Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, let this child’s life come into him again.” And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives.” And the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

#### READING

#### 1 Corinthians 15:12-28, 50-58

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes

the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."  
"O death, where is your victory?  
O death, where is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

#### READING

**Luke 7:11-17**

Soon afterward [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**C** But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

**SERMON** “The Hand of the Lord Who Raises the Dead”

*Stand*

### CANTICLE

*My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord*

*LSB 934*

1 My soul now magnifies the Lord;

My spirit leaps for joy in Him.

He keeps me in His kind regard,

And I am blest for time to come.

2 For He alone who shows such might

Has done amazing things to me.

His mercy flows; His name like light

Remains in time perpetually.

3 His arm is strong; His strength is great.

He scatters those of proud intent

And casts them down from high estate,

Then gives the low His nourishment.

4 He feeds the hungry as His own;

The wealthy leave with empty hands.

He gives His help to Israel;

His gracious promise always stands.

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*Sit*

### TITHES AND OFFERING

*Stand*

## LITANY

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** 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.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For [synodical and district presidents], 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.**

**P** For [president], 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.**

**P** 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.**

**P** 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.**

**P** 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.**

**P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

**P** 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.**

### **COLLECT OF 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.

**C** **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to 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**

### **BENEDICAMUS**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the  $\pm$  Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C** **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

### *Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me*

*LSB 756*

- 1 Why should cross and trial grieve me?  
Christ is near  
With His cheer;  
Never will He leave me.  
Who can rob me of the heaven  
That God's Son  
For me won  
When His life was given?
- 2 When life's troubles rise to meet me,  
Though their weight  
May be great,  
They will not defeat me.  
God, my loving Savior, sends them;  
He who knows  
All my woes  
Knows how best to end them.
- 3 God gives me my days of gladness,  
And I will  
Trust Him still  
When He sends me sadness.  
God is good; His love attends me  
Day by day,  
Come what may,  
Guides me and defends me.
- 4 From God's joy can nothing sever,  
For I am  
His dear lamb,  
He, my Shepherd ever.  
I am His because He gave me  
His own blood  
For my good,  
By His death to save me.

5 Now in Christ, death cannot slay me,  
Though it might,  
Day and night,  
Trouble and dismay me.  
Christ has made my death a portal  
From the strife  
Of this life  
To His joy immortal!

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*Sit*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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## SERVING YOU TODAY

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Rev. Jacob Swenson, Associate Pastor</i>
<i>Liturgist</i>	<i>Rev. Curtis Binz, Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Pianist</i>	<i>Amy Kao</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Darlene Hartman, Virginia Ferry</i>

**WELCOME!** A cordial welcome is extended to all who have come to worship with us today. May God's loving presence fill us with joy and hope as we prepare ourselves to follow Christ. If you are a guest or visitor with us, please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Binz or Pastor Swenson and sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again.

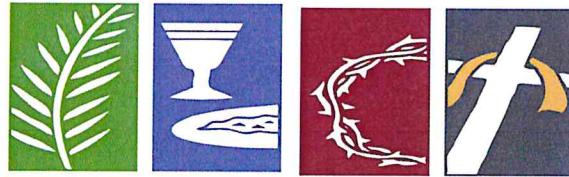
**LENTEN SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOLDERS** are available on the Narthex table. Please feel free to take one. This year's offerings will be used for the ministries of Christ's Kingdom here at West Portal.

**HELP YOURSELF TO** Lenten Devotional Booklets that are available in the Narthex.

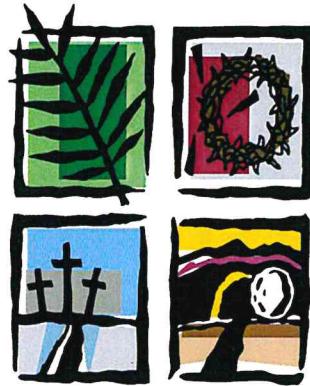
## **Lenten Midweek Services continue on Wednesday**

This year's Lenten emphasis is to look at our lives in view of God's amazing grace toward us through the sacrifice of His Son for us on the cross. Our six Midweek Lenten Services began on Ash Wednesday, March 5, at 8:30AM and 7:00PM.

We invite you to join us at the following Wednesday services at 7PM as we continue with the Lenten theme: "The Hand of the Lord".



**Lenten Midweek 5, April 9, 7PM**  
"The Hand of the Lord Who Holds All Things"



# HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<b>Palm Sunday Services</b>		<b>April 13</b>
10:00AM	Worship-Lord's Supper	
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>		<b>April 17</b>
7:00PM	Worship-Lord's Supper	
<b>Good Friday</b>		<b>April 18</b>
8:30AM	Sunset Campus Chapel	
11:15AM	Sloat Campus Chapel	
7:00PM	Tenebrae Service	
<b>Holy Saturday</b>		<b>April 19</b>
7:00PM	Easter Vigil	
<b>Easter Sunday</b>		<b>April 20</b>
10:00AM	Worship-Lord's Supper	
	Easter Brunch following Worship Service	
	Easter Egg Hunt on the church lawn following the Brunch	

**Everyone is welcome to attend all Services  
and to join us at the Easter Brunch.**

If attending the Easter Brunch and/or Egg Hunt, please kindly RSVP by Sunday, **April 6th** with the names and number of adults & children attending to Helen Bok by text or voicemail at 415-307-1536.

*(Each child should bring his/her own personal Easter Basket.)  
For more information, please contact the Church Office at  
415-661-0242*



## Easter Flowers

Portal Lutheran Church.

As we look forward to the celebration of Easter, the Altar Guild is again planning to have special floral arrangements around the Altar area. If you would like to help by donating to the flower fund, please complete this form and return it to the Church Office by **Sunday, April 13**. The suggested minimum donation is \$15.00. Please make the check payable to Altar Guild—West

Name of person(s) donating flowers

Name of person(s) honored or remembered.

If you have any Calla Lilies growing in your garden and would like to share some with us, please bring them Maundy Thursday or Good Friday. There will be containers in the kitchen. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 20



The Easter Service with Lord's Supper at 10:00 AM.

The Easter Brunch following the Easter Service.

The Easter Egg Hunt will follow after Easter Brunch. It will be located on the Church lawn featuring our special guest, "The Easter Bunny" for children ages up to 10 years old.

Please RSVP for Brunch or Egg Hunt (or both) as early as possible but no later than **Sunday, April 6th** with the names and number of adults & children attending to Helen Bok by text or voicemail at 415-307-1536.

(Each child should bring his/her own personal Easter Basket.) For more information, please contact the Church Office at 415-661-0242.

**West Portal Lutheran**  
*Church & School*

**Worship Services**

Saturday, 5:00PM  
Sunday, 10:00AM

**Bible Classes**

Wednesday, 11:00AM  
Sunday, 9:00AM

**CHURCH**

200 Sloat Boulevard  
San Francisco CA 94132  
415-661-0242  
www.  
westportallutheran.org

**SCHOOL**

Sloat Campus  
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San Francisco CA 94132  
415-665-6330

Sunset Campus  
3101 Moraga Street  
San Francisco CA 94122  
415-731-3000  
www.wplsf.com

Rev. Curtis Binz,  
*Senior Pastor*

Rev. Jacob Swenson,  
*Associate Pastor*

Ms. Sherise Lee,  
*Principal*

Mrs. Sherilyn Jew,  
*Assistant to the Principal-  
Teaching, Learning, Curriculum*

Ms. Amy Kao  
*Music Director*

*Lenten Midweek 4  
April 2, 2025  
7:00PM*