



# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church - Locksley



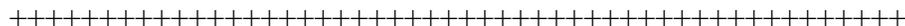
## FIRST MID-WEEK LENT WORSHIP

### "The Deliverer of Israel: Snakes, Water and Blood"

Reverend Paul Williams

Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

7:00 pm



**THE ASSISTING ELDERS**

Keith Mau & Bill Dunn

**THE ORGANIST**

Kim Blais

**Order of Vespers...**

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**Evening Prayer**

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**THE HYMNS**

First Hymn

The Tree of Life

#561

Office Hymn

Lord, You Are Our Deliverer (Below)

Closing Hymn

Water, Blood and Spirit Crying #597

**READINGS**

Exodus 7:1-25; 1 John 5:1-12



**1** Lord, You are our Deliverer,  
our only hope and stay  
against our cruel oppressor  
when we in bondage lay.  
You came in meekness lowly  
to crush the serpent's head,  
to free us from our slavery  
and raise to life the dead.

**2** The rod of Aaron shows us  
how You would swallow death.  
The blood flowed as a river  
the Pharaoh's heart to test.  
Upon the cross extended  
we see Your heart of love,  
and blood and water flowing forth  
give the life of heav'n above.

**3** Then homage let us give to God,  
the Father, Spirit, Son.  
The same today and ever,  
th'eternal Three in One.  
Who saved us from our Egypt  
and slavery to sin,  
that we may live in freedom  
and heaven for us win.



**Exodus 7:1-25** And the Lord said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. [2] You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go out of his land. [3] But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, [4] Pharaoh will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and bring my hosts, my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment. [5] The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them." [6] Moses and Aaron did so; they did just as the Lord commanded them. [7] Now Moses was eighty years old, and Aaron eighty-three years old, when they spoke to Pharaoh. [8] Then the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, [9] "When Pharaoh says to you, 'Prove yourselves by working a miracle,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent.'" [10] So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the Lord commanded. Aaron cast down his staff before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. [11] Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret arts. [12] For each man cast down his staff, and they became serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. [13] Still Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go. [15] Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water. Stand on the bank of the Nile to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that turned into a serpent. [16] And you shall say to him, 'The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, 'Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness. But so far, you have not obeyed.'" [17] Thus says the Lord, "By this you shall know that I am the Lord: behold, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall turn into blood. [18] The fish in the Nile shall die, and the Nile will stink, and the Egyptians will grow weary of drinking water from the Nile." ' " [19] And the Lord said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, their canals, and their ponds, and all their pools of water, so that they may become blood, and there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.'" [20] Moses and Aaron did as the Lord commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the Nile, and all the water in the Nile turned into blood. [21] And the fish in the Nile died, and the Nile stank, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. There was blood throughout all the land of Egypt. [22] But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts. So Pharaoh's heart remained hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said. [23] Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not take even this to heart. [24] And all the Egyptians dug along the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink the water of the Nile. [25] Seven full days passed after the Lord had struck the Nile.

**1 John 5:1-12** Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.