



**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Sunday, March 12, 2023**

**Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA**

# WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whether you are joining us in-person or on-line we are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We pray that our time of worship together further encourages and strengthens our call to discipleship.

## MISSION STATEMENT

As servants of Jesus Christ, we share God's grace and mercy. We welcome and encourage all to grow with us in God's kingdom through praise, worship, and service.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

O TENDER GOD HAVE MERCY

A Kyrie

text and tune: Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan

♩ = 105

C Am7 Dm7 Gsus4 G

O ten - der God, have mer - cy, for you are for us.

C Am7 Dm7 Gsus4 G

O liv - ing Christ, have mer - cy, for you will heal us.

F G C G/B Am

O ten - der God, have mer - cy, for you are for us,

F G C

for you are for us.

## **GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **+ WORD +**

### **FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7**

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the LORD among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 95 READ RESPONSIVELY**

Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. (*Ps. 95:1*)

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing <sup>1</sup> to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of <sup>1</sup> our salvation.

<sup>2</sup>**Let us come before God's presence <sup>1</sup> with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the <sup>1</sup> LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, <sup>1</sup> are a great God,  
and a great ruler a- <sup>1</sup>bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup>**In your hand are the caverns <sup>1</sup> of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are <sup>1</sup> also yours.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, <sup>1</sup> for you made it,  
and your hands have molded <sup>1</sup> the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>**Come, let us worship <sup>1</sup> and bow down,  
let us kneel before the <sup>1</sup> LORD our maker.**

<sup>7</sup>For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep <sup>1</sup> of  
God's hand.

Oh, that today you would <sup>1</sup> hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup>**"Harden <sup>1</sup> not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah <sup>1</sup> in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup>There your ancestors <sup>1</sup> tested me,  
they put me to the test, though they had <sup>1</sup> seen my works.

<sup>10</sup>**Forty years I loathed that gener- <sup>1</sup> ation, saying,  
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not <sup>1</sup> know my ways.'**

<sup>11</sup>Indeed I swore <sup>1</sup> in my anger,  
'They shall never come <sup>1</sup> to my rest.'"

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Sung to the tune of "Canticle of Turning"**

**Return to me, so says Our God.**

**Return with broken heart.**

**Your sins, your guilt, your fears, your tears, will not keep us apart.**

**I am slow to anger, full of love, for sinners great and small.**

**Return to me with arms outstretched, I welcome one and all.**

## GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 4th Chapter

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a

woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’<sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Rev. Mary E. Zupansic**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*COME TO ME ALL PILGRIMS THIRSTY*

**ELW #777**



- 1 “Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 “Come to me, all trav - lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 “Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
- 4 “Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."  
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."  
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."  
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

*Refrain*



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;  
 I would be your trusted friend.  
 Come and seek the gift I offer,  
 come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;  
 lonely ways no longer roam.  
 Come and take the gift I offer,  
 let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939  
 Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844  
 Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,**



suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

\* Prayers are offered for the church, the world, and all creation.

Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

### THE SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## + THE MEAL +

**OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS** *Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. We gladly accept your offerings via US Postal Service, Tithe.ly, or direct deposit from your bank.*

**CHOIR: Come to the Water (John 4:5-42)**

**Anna Laura Page**

**OFFERING HYMN**

**CREATE A CLEAN HEART**

**ELW #186**





spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
 your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
 Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of good gifts,  
**receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
 that we should at all times and in all places  
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
 through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts

and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW P. 144

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness;  
out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner;  
among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat;  
this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,  
he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,  
saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.  
Thanks be to God.

### LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**COMMUNION SONG/HYMNS***ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY**I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY* **ELW #611****TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. Compassionate God,  
**you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

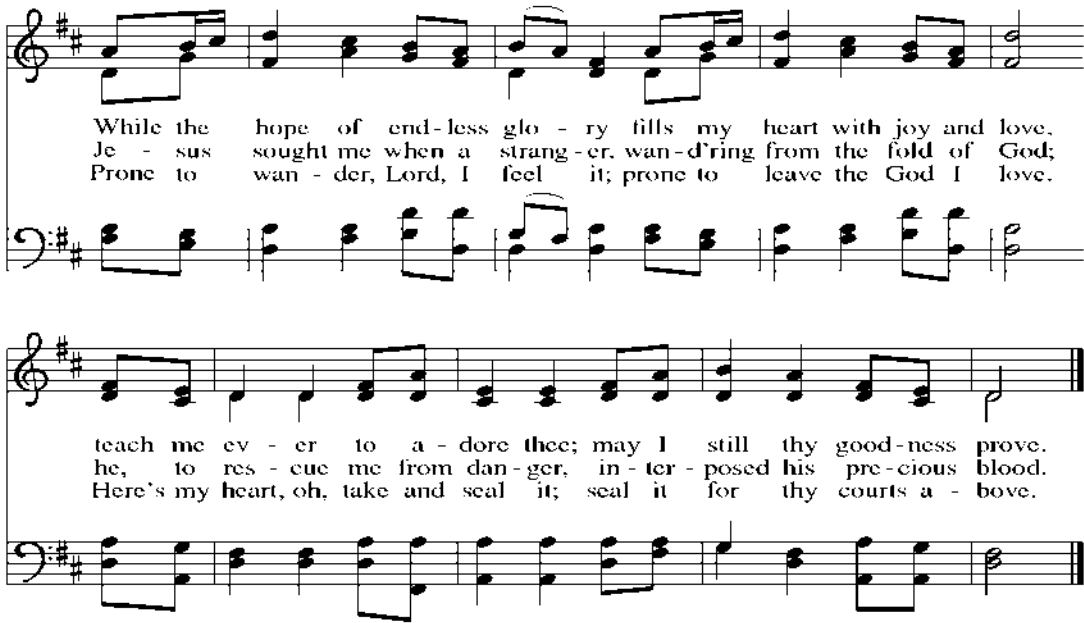
**BLESSING**

God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN***COME THOU FOUNT***ELW #807**

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo-ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.  
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wych. *Repository of Sacred Music*. Part II. 1813

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

Portions of this liturgy are revised from [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com), Copyright © 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB121760. Scripture excerpts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

## ABOUT THIS WEEKS TEXT

IN TODAY'S GOSPEL THE SAMARITAN WOMAN ASKS JESUS FOR WATER, AN IMAGE OF OUR THIRST FOR GOD. JESUS OFFERS LIVING WATER, A SIGN OF GOD'S GRACE FLOWING FROM THE WATERS OF BAPTISM. THE EARLY CHURCH USED THIS GOSPEL AND THOSE OF THE NEXT TWO SUNDAYS TO DEEPEN BAPTISMAL REFLECTION DURING THE FINAL DAYS OF PREPARATION BEFORE BAPTISM AT EASTER. AS WE JOURNEY TO THE RESURRECTION FEAST, CHRIST COMES AMONG US IN WORD, BATH, AND MEAL—OFFERING US THE LIFE-GIVING WATER OF GOD'S MERCY AND FORGIVENESS.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, JUDY BARHOOVER, MICK BUCHLER  
TOM CHRISTELL, PAULA TONELLATO, NORMAN KOEFOED, NANCY KIEL  
MIKE SCADUTO

*If you would like to be added to the prayer list, or know someone who would like to be added to our list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card, send an email to [peace.lutheran@comcast.net](mailto:peace.lutheran@comcast.net) OR call the Office at (217)546-7646. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.*

## ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

**SUNDAY, MAR. 12** IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM  
FAITH FORMATION—10:30PM  
DWELLING IN THE WORD—10:45AM  
SUNDAYS@6—6:00PM VIA ZOOM

**MONDAY, MAR. 13** PROPERTY COMMITTEE—6:00PM  
QUILTERS—6:00PM

**WEDNESDAY, MAR. 15** LENTEN SUPPER—5:45PM  
LENTENT SERVICE—6:30PM  
CHOIR REHEARSAL—7:00PM

**SUNDAY, MAR. 19** IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM

## ASSISTING THE WEEK OF MARCH 12, 2023:

**PRESIDING:** REV. MARY E. ZUPANSIC      **CAMERA:** JANET KOCIS  
**ASSISTING MINISTER:** CARTER KIM      **POWERPOINT:** LINDA RICE  
**MUSICIAN:** BRENDA PECK      **FELLOWSHIP:** MARILYN HENDERSON  
**USHERS:** CHERYL SCHNIRRING, ELAINE UREKAR  
**FLOWERS:** JAY AND CLAIRE EDGEComb—IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR 51ST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!





# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## EASTER LILIES

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING US DECORATE OUR SANCTUARY THIS EASTER.

## EASTER FOOD BASKETS FOR SCHOOLS

IT'S TIME FOR PEACE'S ANNUAL COLLECTION OF FOOD AND FINANCIAL DONATIONS TO SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF EASTER FOOD BASKETS TO 30 FAMILIES AT BLACKHAWK ELEMENTARY AND JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOLS. THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GRACE LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY, WE PROVIDE FAMILIES WITH A LARGE TOTE OF CANNED AND BOXED GOODS, A HAM, MILK, BREAD, EGGS, SNACKS AND PERSONAL ITEMS. YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS PROJECT IN TWO WAYS: MAKING FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS DESIGNATED FOR "HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS" AND/OR DONATING FOODS THAT WE'LL COLLECT ON THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE: FEB. 26 AND MARCH 5 -- CEREAL; **MARCH 12 -- CANS OF BEEF RAVIOLI**; MARCH 19 -- CANS OF PORK AND BEANS; MARCH 26 -- CANS OF PASTA SAUCE; APRIL 2 -- JARS OF PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY. **THE BASKETS WILL BE PACKED AND DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOLS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5.**



## PASTORAL CARE

If you would like a visit from **Pastor Mary** or you have a pastoral emergency please call pastor on her **cell phone** at **920.671.4338**. you may also leave a message on the office phone at 217.546.7646.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## WATCHERS ON THE HILL

THE HILL CALLED GOLGOTHA THAT WAS NOT EMPTY THAT FRIDAY. BESIDES THE CROSSES AND THOSE DYING UPON THEM, THERE WERE WITNESSES – WATCHERS ON THAT ANCIENT HILL. THIS SERIES ATTEMPTS TO OVERHEAR THE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THOSE FIRST-CENTURY CHARACTERS – SOME HISTORICAL, SOME FICTICIOUS – AS THEY WITNESSED THE DEATH OF OUR LORD. WITH THE CROSS AS THE FOCAL POINT AND THE FINAL WORDS OF JESUS AS THE COMMON THREAD, EACH DRAMA DRAWS US INTO THE REALITY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR SAVIOR’S DEATH, CELEBRATING, AT LAST, THE MIRACLE OF OUR SALVATION.

## LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

**Palm Sunday**

WORSHIP AT 9:30 A.M.

On this day we wave palms in celebration Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ’s broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God’s astounding work.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6**

## **Maundy Thursday**

WORSHIP AT 5:30 P.M.

We begin in the Fellowship Hall

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. On this night we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another.

Worship begins in the Fellowship Hall. Around tables we will share a meal, hear scripture, experience a 'ritual washing of hands', and share Holy Communion with one another. A procession will lead us to the sanctuary for the 'Stripping of the Altar & Chancel'.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 7**

## **Good Friday**

WORSHIP AT 6:30 P.M.

Life and death stand side by side as we enter Good Friday. With scripture, prayer, reflection, and music we will recall Jesus' passion and death. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 9**

## **Easter Sunday**

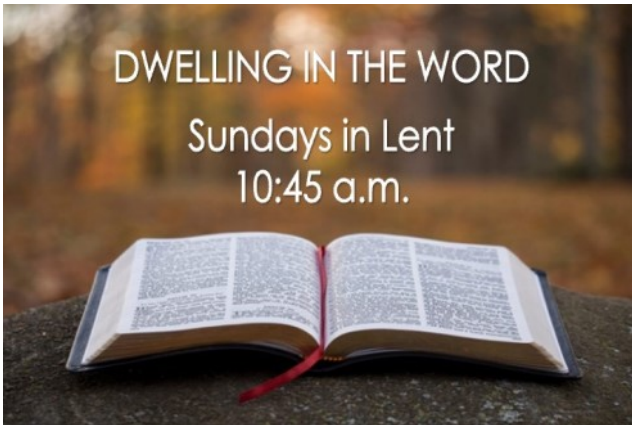
WORSHIP AT 9:30 A.M.

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

\*Weather permitting there will be an easter egg hunt for the children.



Peace Lutheran Church  
2800 West Jefferson  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Phone: 217-546-7646  
E-mail: [peace.lutheran@comcast.net](mailto:peace.lutheran@comcast.net)



## **DWELLING IN THE WORD**

THE EVANGELISM / FAITHFUL INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO JOIN IN A TIME OF “DWELLING IN THE WORD” SUNDAY MORNINGS AFTER WORSHIP DURING THE SEASON OF LENT. WE WILL GATHER IN THE SANCTUARY AFTER WORSHIP (APPROX. 10:45), WE’LL READ SOME SCRIPTURE AND THEN DISCUSS THE

TEXT USING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AS OUR GUIDE – WHAT QUESTIONS DO I HAVE, WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION, WHERE MIGHT THE SPIRIT BE NUDGING US THROUGH THIS TEXT.