

Third Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 3, 2024 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 disciples 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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE — - Lenten Meditation on "Rockingham Old", tune Edward Miller, Stanley E. Saxton, arr., © 1976, Lorenz Publishing Co. Organist — Brenda Peck

CONFESSION AND 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 Oh, Tender God, Have Mercy (3 times)

O tender God, have mercy, for you are for us.

O living Christ, have mercy, for you will heal us.

O tender God, have mercy, for you are for us,

For you are for us.

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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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Gloria!

Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you! Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

Open now our lips and our mouths shall give praise. Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you! Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

O Lord, rush to help to deliver Your world. Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you! Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you! Maker, Spirit, Friend, You are Great Mystery! Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you! Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you! Gloria! Gloria! Highest glory to you!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God. Word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19 Read Responsively

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,

and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another,

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language,

and their voices are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;

the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

 $^{\rm 14}$ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and $^{\rm I}$ my redeemer.

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

You Are Slow (2 times)



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GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

The holy gospel according to St. John the 2nd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

SERMON

PASTOR MARY E. ZUPANSIC

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY	Canticle of the Turning	ELW #723
1 My soul cries	out with a joy - ful shout	that the
2 Though I am	out with a joy - ful shout small, my God, my all, pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, rage from age to age,	you not a we re -
God of my heart is work great things in stone will be left on mem - ber who holds us	stone. Let the king be - wa	st from the re for your
won - drous things the depths of the past jus - tice tears	hat you bring to the ones who to the end of the age to ev - 'ry ty - rant from his rom the con - quer - or's crush - ing	wait. be. throne. grasp.



Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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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

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the wellbeing of creation, and a world in need.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

THE SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM — I'll Keep My Eyes on the Cross © 1998 Lorenz Publishing Co. Kenny Mann

+ 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.



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

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

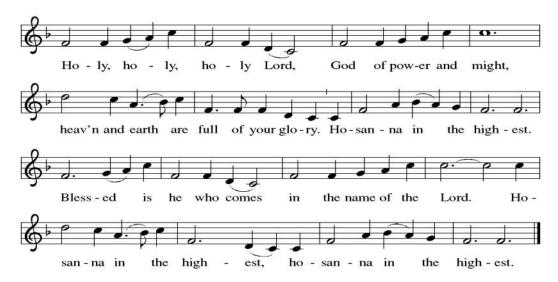
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. 207



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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, therefore,

his life, death, and resurrection,

we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food

and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:

wash away our sin,

that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **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

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 208



COMMUNION SONG/HYMNS The Wonderful Cross Be Thou My Vision

TABLE BLESSING

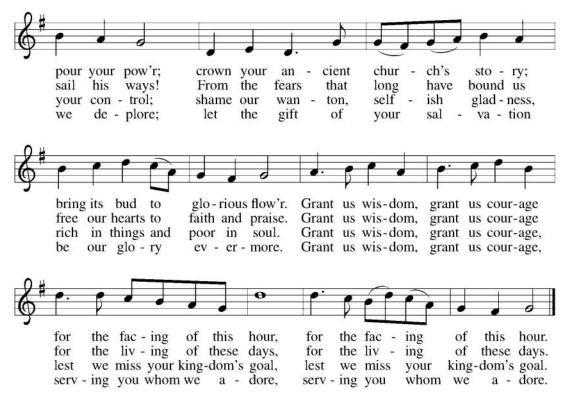
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

BLESSING





Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE — Crowned With Honor, Tom Birchwood, © 2003, Lorenz Publishing Co. Organist — Brenda Peck

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

THE THIRD COVENANT IN THIS YEAR'S LENTEN READINGS IS THE CENTRAL ONE OF IS-RAEL'S HISTORY: THE GIFT OF THE LAW TO THOSE GOD FREED FROM SLAVERY. THE COMMANDMENTS BEGIN WITH THE STATEMENT THAT BECAUSE GOD ALONE HAS FREED US FROM THE POWERS THAT OPPRESSED US, WE ARE TO LET NOTHING ELSE CLAIM FIRST PLACE IN OUR LIVES. WHEN JESUS THROWS THE MERCHANTS OUT OF THE TEMPLE, HE IS DEFENDING THE WORSHIP OF GOD ALONE AND REJECTING THE WAYS COMMERCE AND PROFIT-MAKING CAN BECOME OUR GODS. THE TEN COM-MANDMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR BAPTISMAL CALL: CENTERED FIRST IN GOD'S LIBERATING LOVE, WE STRIVE TO LIVE OUT JUSTICE AND MERCY IN OUR COMMUNI-TIES AND THE WORLD.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, PAULA TONELLATO, NORM KOEFOED, IVY KOEFOED, RON WEBER, GENE WALKER, BILL SPINDEL, NANCY KIEL, RAY STROH, VALERIE SPURGEON, DIANE CHRISTELL, PASTOR MARY

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 OR call the Office at (217)546-7646. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF MARCH 3:

PRESIDING AND PREACHING: PASTOR MARY E. ZUPANSIC ASSISTING: LOIS MOORMAN USHERS: JOE HENKLE, LINDA SHUDROWITZ CAMERA: MIKE HORN POWERPOINT: MIKE GOTTSCHALK MUSICIAN: BRENDA PECK REFRESHMENTS: SANDI CARLSON FLOWERS: LINDA RICE — TO THE GLORY OF GOD

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 3 IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM — 9:30AM DWELLING IN THE WORD - 10:45AM FAITH FORMATION — 10:45AM SUNDAYS@6 — 6:00PM PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING - 6:00PM MONDAY. MARCH 4 **TUESDAY, MARCH 5** COMMUNITY SERVICE COMM. — 6:00PM (ZOOM) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6 LENTEN DINNER CHURCH — 5:30PM CHOIR PRACTICE — 7:00PM **SATURDAY, MARCH 9** SET YOUR CLOCK FORWARD 1 HOUR BEFORE YOU GO TO BED!! **SUNDAY, MARCH 10** IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM — 9:30AM DWELLING IN THE WORD - 10:45AM FAITH FORMATION - 10:45AM SUNDAYS@6 — 6:00PM



out our baptism fully.

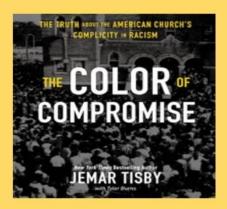
Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m. Feb. 21, 28 @ Mar. 6,13,20

GROWING IN BAPTISMAL GRACE

During the season of Lent all are invited to Dinner Church on Wednesday evenings. Dinner church is a type of worship that involves fellowship, a meal, scripture, discussion, and Holy Communion. Pope Francis has said, "Lent is a time of grace, a time to convert and live out our baptism fully." Each week we will consider a facet of Baptism. There will be opportunity to discuss the significance of this sacrament as well as a hands-on activity each week. Join us as we dive deeper into our baptisms and learn how we can live out our baptisms more fully! **WORSHIP/MEAL BEGINS AT 5:30P.M. FEBRUARY 21, 28, MARCH 6, 13, 20**



DWELLING IN THE WORD Sundays at 10:45 a.m.



Sundays@6 Adult Faith Formation

Begins February 4 6 to 7 p.m.

For details, contact Debi and Pete Ellertsen edmund.ellertsen85@gmail.com 217-793-2587

Easter Food Baskets for Blackhawk School

It's time to begin collecting food items for Peace's annual gift of Easter food baskets to 20 families at Blackhawk Elementary School, in partnership with the Grace Lutheran Food Pantry. Each year at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, we provide families at Blackhawk with a large tote of non-perishable foods, a 10-pound ham, a gallon of milk, a dozen eggs, a loaf of bread, a sack of snacks, and a bag of personal hygiene items. Below are a suggested schedule for the items we will collect and the quantities we need. In addition to food, you can support this project with monetary donations earmarked for "Holiday Food Baskets." The baskets will be packed at Grace Food Pantry and delivered to Blackhawk on Wednesday, March 27.

February 18 - 20 boxes of Cereal February 25 - 20 boxes of Cereal 20 Cans of Peaches March 3 -- 20 packages of Spaghetti 20 cans of Pasta sauce March 10 - 20 cans of beef ravioli 20 cans of pork and beans March 17 - 20 jars of peanut butter 20 jars of jelly March 24—20 boxes of mac and cheese



LET'S DECORATE FOR EASTER!!

6" LILIES - \$10 8" LILIES - \$25 CASH DONATIONS ALSO ACCEPTED. SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX OR CALL YVONNE IN THE OFFICE. ORDERS MUST BE IN BY MARCH 8.



PRAYER IS SUCH A VITAL PART OF OUR WORSHIP. PLEASE CONTINUE TO TAKE A NAME FROM THE BOWL IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY AND BE PRAYING FOR THAT PERSON THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

REFRESHMENTS

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER WORSHIP FOR 2024

If interested, please sign up in the Narthex or contact Linda Rice at 217-494-2658 or lrice10650@gmail.com



ALTAR FLOWERS

Sponsors needed for 2024! Sign up in the Narthex, or call Yvonne in the church office to pick your date! \$35.00 217-546-7646 SEVERAL DATES STILL AVAILABLE

BEFORE YOU GO TO BED SATURDAY NIGHT – MARCH 9, 2024



WE ARE COLLECTING NEW BOOKS FOR BLACKHAWK SCHOOL. SEE NYCU FOR A LIST OF PREFERRED BOOKS.

Jor The Of Reading

KLEENEX FOR KIDS



Collecting throughout February and March for Blackhawk and the Early Learning Center SEE NYCU FOR MORE INFO

HELP US STOCK OUR MICRO PANTRY STORAGE SHELVES



- OATMEAL, CEREAL AND PANCAKE MIX
- PASTA SAUCE IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- PASTA
- PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- BROTH
- INSTANT POTATOES
- CRACKERS
- SOUPS
- TUNA IN A POUCH INSTEAD OF A CAN
- NOODLE SIDES
- STUFFING MIX
- CEREAL BARS, GRANOLA BARS, TRAIL MIX AND NUTS
- COFFEE
- PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT

THANK YOU FOR BEING A NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBORS!



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



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.