



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday, February 26, 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

$\text{♩} = 105$

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.

The musical score is written for guitar and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 105. The key signature is one flat (F major/D minor). The guitar chords are indicated above the vocal line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system has chords C, Am7, Dm7, Gsus4, and G. The second system has chords C, Am7, Dm7, Gsus4, and G. The third system has chords F, G, C, G/B, and Am. The fourth system has chords F, G, and C. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with some harmonic support in the right hand.

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.

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and

they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loin-cloths for themselves.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 32

Read Responsively

¹Happy are they whose transgressions ¹ are forgiven,
and whose sin is ¹ put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD im- ¹ putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there ¹ is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- ¹ ered away,
because of my groaning ¹ all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me ¹ day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the ¹ heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- ¹ ceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt ¹ of my sin.

⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in ¹ time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they ¹ shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve ¹ me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts ¹ of deliverance.

⁸**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that ¹ you should go;
I will guide you ¹ with my eye.**

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no ¹ understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will ¹ not stay near you."

¹⁰**Great are the tribulations ¹ of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust ¹ in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice ¹ in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are ¹ true of heart.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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: Matthew 4:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

WHEN WE ARE TESTED

ACS #922



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, 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

* 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.*

OFFERING HYMN

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

ELW #186



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
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



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.

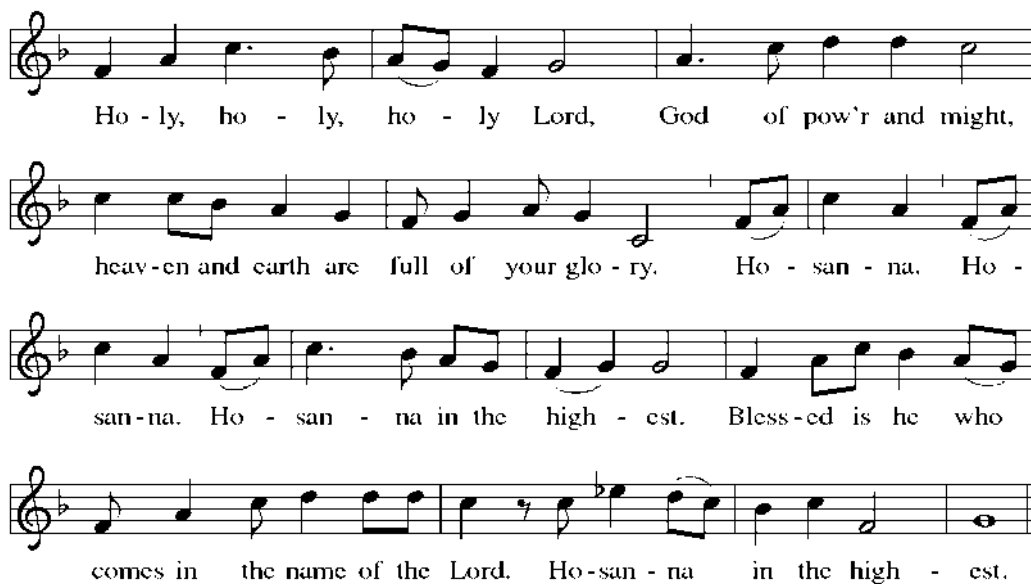
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



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,**

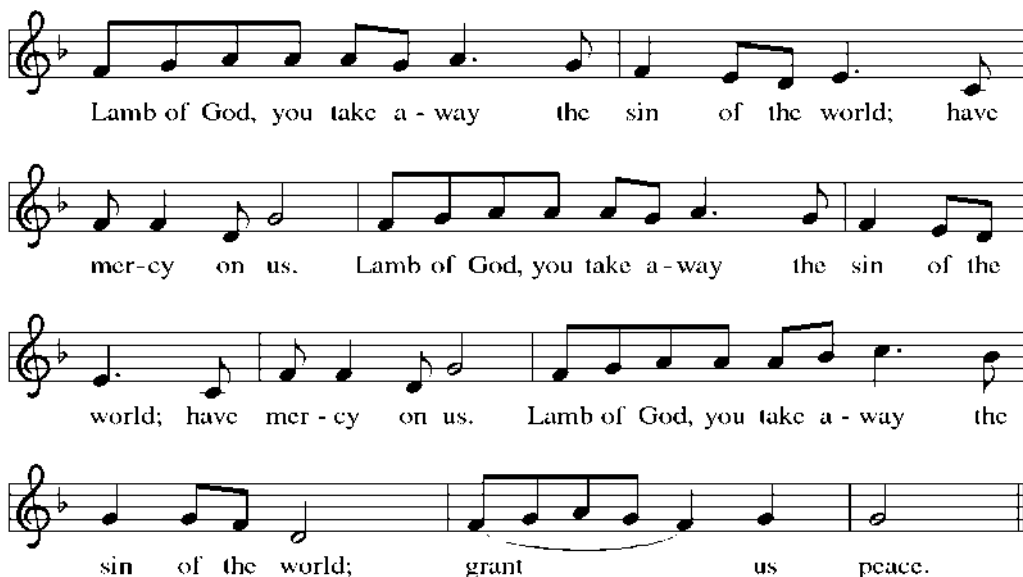
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 191



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

CONTEMPORARY SONG
COME, LET US EAT

ELW # 491

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. Embodied God,
**at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts
open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.**

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

GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER

ELW #618



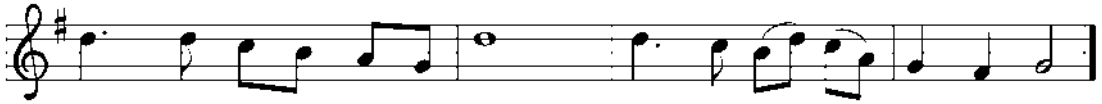
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land, I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABOUT THIS WEEKS TEXT

TODAY'S GOSPEL TELLS OF JESUS' TEMPTATION IN THE DESERT. HIS FORTY-DAY FAST BECOMES THE BASIS OF OUR LENTEN PILGRIMAGE. IN THE EARLY CHURCH LENT WAS A TIME OF INTENSE PREPARATION FOR THOSE TO BE BAPTIZED AT THE EASTER VIGIL. THIS CATECHETICAL FOCUS ON THE MEANING OF FAITH IS AT THE HEART OF OUR LENTEN JOURNEY TO THE BAPTISMAL WATERS OF EASTER. HUNGRY FOR GOD'S MERCY, WE RECEIVE THE BREAD OF LIFE TO NOURISH US FOR THE DAYS AHEAD.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, TOM CHRISTELL, MIKE SCADUTO
JUDY BARHOOVER, MICK BUCHLER, PAULA TONELLATO, DALE KRUCKEBURG

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, FEB. 26 IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM
SUNDAYS@6—6PM VIA ZOOM
CROSS-GENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION—LITTLE FREE
LIBRARIES—AFTER WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 1 LENTEN SUPPER 5:45PM
LENTEN SERVICE 6:30PM
CHOIR REHEARSAL—7:00PM

SUNDAY, MAR. 5 IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM
SUNDAYS @6—6PM VIA ZOOM

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26:

PRESIDING: REV. MARY E. ZUPANSIC
ASSISTING MINISTER: ELIZABETH MITCHELL
MUSICIAN: BRENDA PECK
USHERS: ELAINE UREKAR, LINDA SHUDROWITZ

CAMERA: JANET KOCIS
POWERPOINT: LINDA RICE
FELLOWSHIP: LINDA SHUDROWITZ
FLOWERS: TO THE GLORY OF GOD



ALTAR FLOWERS

WE ARE TAKING ORDERS FOR 2023 ALTAR FLOWERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF OR IN HONOR OF A PERSON OR EVENT IN THE COMING YEAR PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR FLOWERS ON OUR WEBSITE IN THE MEMBERS' SECTION. FLOWERS ARE \$35.00

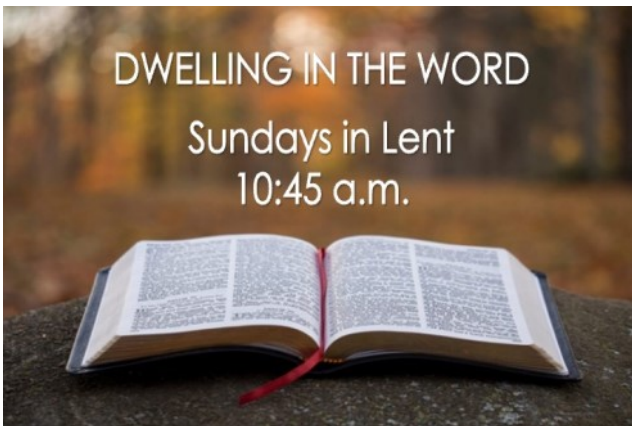


ANNOUNCEMENTS



WATCHERS ON THE HILL

THE HILL CALLED GOLGOTHA 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.



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- Oatmeal, cereal and pancake mix
- Pasta Sauce in plastic containers
- Pasta
- Peanut Butter and Jelly in plastic containers
- Instant Potatoes
- Crackers
- Tuna in a pouch instead of a can
- Noodle sides
- Stuffing Mix
- Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, Trail Mix and Nuts
- Coffee

Thank you for being a neighbor helping neighbors!



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING PREPARE A MEAL FOR THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE, PLEASE CONTACT AMANDA KIM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

GEORGE HERBERT, HYMNWRITER, DIED 1633

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023

AN EXCELLENT SCHOLAR, HERBERT SERVED BRIEFLY IN THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT, THEN BECAME A PARISH PRIEST. HE WAS KNOWN FOR DEVOTED CARE OF HIS PARISHIONERS, AS WELL AS FOR WRITING POETRY AND HYMNS, INCLUDING "COME, MY WAY, MY TRUTH, MY LIFE." HE DIED AT AGE 40.

JOHN WESLEY, DIED 1791; CHARLES WESLEY, DIED 1788; RENEWERS OF THE CHURCH THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023

THESE BROTHERS LED A REVIVAL ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO REMAIN WITHIN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, ONE THAT INVOLVED FREQUENT COMMUNION AND ADVOCACY FOR THE POOR. EXCEPT FOR A BRIEF TIME IN AMERICA, THEY WORKED IN ENGLAND. CHARLES WAS ALSO A PROLIFIC HYMN WRITER. AFTER THEIR DEATHS, THEIR WORK LED TO THE FORMATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.



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.**



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

**CROSS-GENERATIONAL
FAITH FORMATION**

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, FOLLOWING THE REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE, FOR A CROSS-GENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITY! WE WILL BE LEARNING ABOUT **LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES** AND HOW THEY WORK TO PROVIDE BOOKS IN OUR COMMUNITY. FEEL FREE TO BRING A FEW PREVIOUSLY LOVED BOOKS TO DONATE!

