

Second Sunday in Lent Sunday, March 13, 2022

Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

We extend in the name of Christ, a hearty welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. May you find here an experience of true Christian worship and fellowship. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to consider joining Peace.

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 AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

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.

One of the following or another confession is prayed.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

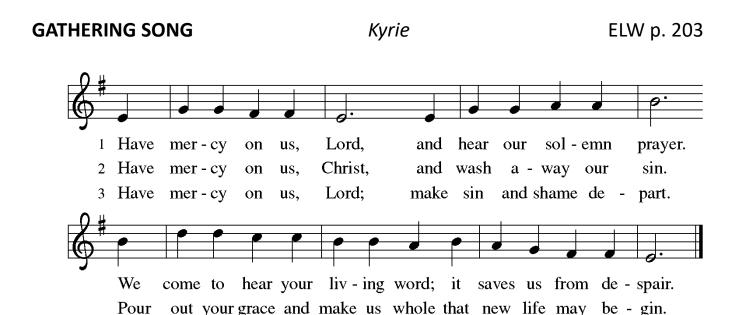
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words. 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.



Re - new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre - ate

GREETING

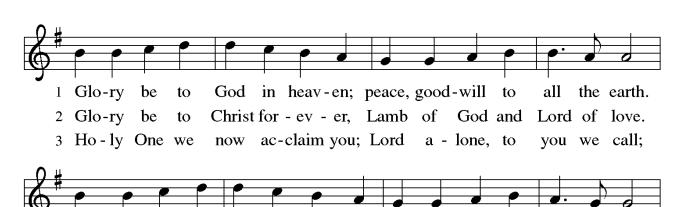
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

in

us new hearts!

C. And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW P. 204



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

A reading from Genesis.

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came

to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. ⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

- P. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

- ⁸My heart speaks your message—"Seek my face." Your face, O LORD, I will seek.
- ⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.
- ¹⁰Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.
- ¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.
- 12 Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.
- ¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!
- ¹⁴Wait for the LORD and be strong.

 Take heart and wait for the LORD!

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17--4:1

A reading from Philippians.

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

- P. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

"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 LESSON Luke 13:31-35

- P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 13th Chapter.
- C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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

SERMON

Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

REFLECTION: FOR THOSE AT HOME

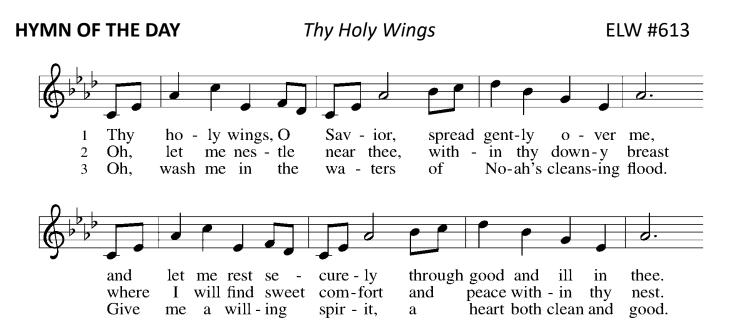
When we encounter Jesus in our reading for today, some Jewish religious officials approach him. In their haste they warn Jesus that Herod is after him, with plans to kill him. Jesus responds calmly; he is in the middle of something. Jesus' focus cannot be on Herod's death dealing ways because he has things to do. He is casting out demons and curing sickness. He doesn't have time to think about

what might befall him; that's for the third day.

In scripture the third day often denotes the day of completion, most notably the day on which Jesus arose. Herod must wait, plotting and planning, but the time will come when Jesus makes his way to his ending. The Lord issues a bold reply, "I'll be there – you and I both know a prophet must not be killed outside of Jerusalem. Jerusalem, the city that stones those promised to it and kills those who prophecy from its towers. Sweet Jerusalem, how I long to hold the city's heart in sweet embrace.'

Jesus continues, giving one of the most vivid descriptions of his love for the people – pining and promising to protect the people of Jerusalem like a mother hen protects her brood, sheltered in huge wings. The city, however, is not willing to be held in this way. Jesus cannot and will not return until the road is prepared. When all is ready the city will shout "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord"

During Lent we follow the path set out by Jesus long ago, to do the most good we Can with the time that we have. There will be a time for Herod, for work, for returning, and for the hard stuff. But in these 40 days, we are called to give of ourselves, to help those in need, to give glory to God always, and to allow ourselves to be sheltered under the wings of God. We are active participants on the journey of faith—accompanying Jesus to be present with those in need—until the very end.







Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

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

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving *especially pray for those on our prayer list*. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Encourage all who seek to share your good news in a hurting world. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

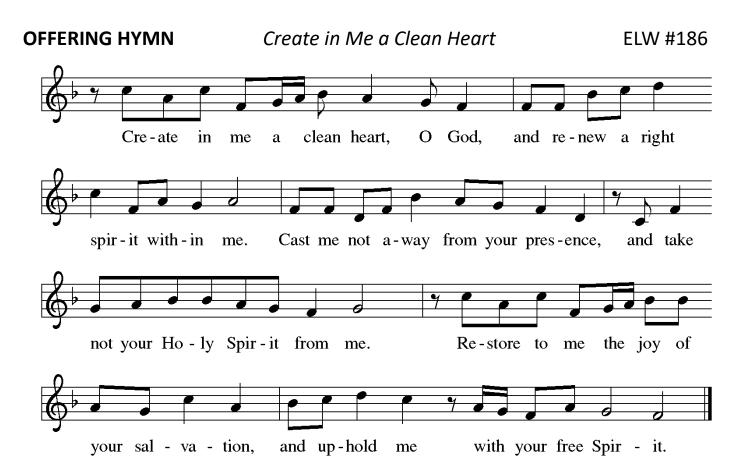
THE SHARING OF PEACE

- P. The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C. 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 you bank.



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P. Let us pray. Extravagant God,
- C. you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

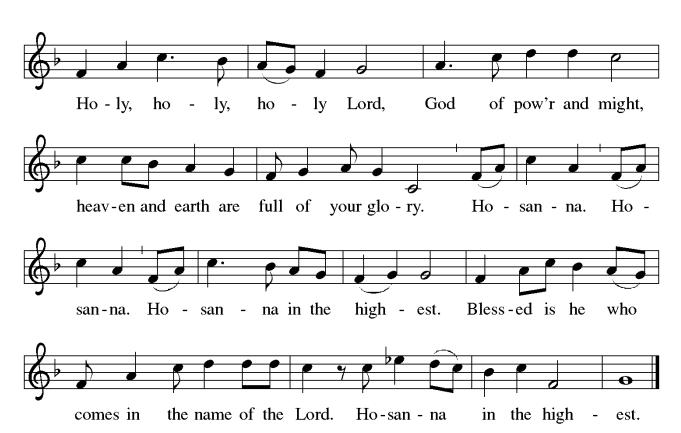
GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. And also with you.
- P. Lift up your hearts.
- C. We lift them to the Lord.
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P. 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



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

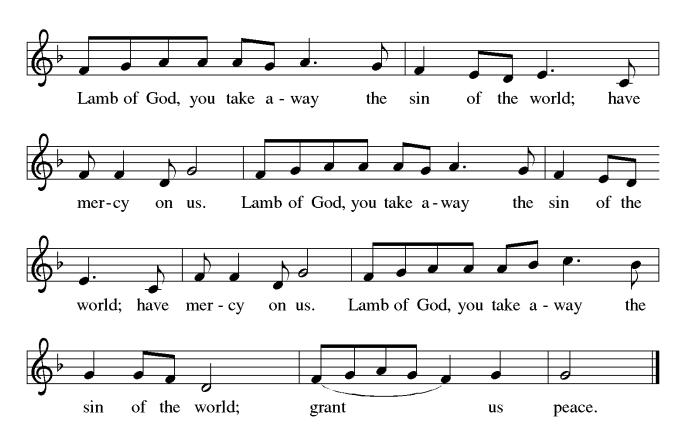
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

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

P. Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

ELW p. 146 LAMB OF GOD



For the Bread Which You Have Broken ELW # 494



- 1 For the bread which you have bro ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n-ly board,
- 4 In your ser vice, Lord, de fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord. by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord. may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord. in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch, Nürnberg, 1631

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

TABLE BLESSING

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

C. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- P. Let Us Pray. Blessed Jesus,
- C. in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

BLESSING

- P. You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always.
- C. Amen.



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870-1957

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DISMISSAL

- P. Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.
- C. Thanks be to God.

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News You Can Use

ABOUT THIS WEEKS TEXT

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Thursday, March 17 — Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461

A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.

Saturday, March 19—Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Doris Fischer, Walter Hoyt, Kim Efird, Henry Harms, Jill Blackburn Verlene Urekar, Dale Kruckeberg, Joe O'Brien, Maureen Lober Peg Kastner, Jim Titone, Judy Barhoover, Gary Wood, Margaret Wood

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. Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise notified.

Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

If interested in assisting on Saturdays or Sundays, please call the church office at 217.546-7646, or text Pastor Mary at 920-671-4338.

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, MAR 13 In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

Adult Faith Formation (Zoom) - 5:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAR 17 Church Council - 6:00pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

Adult Faith Formation (Zoom) - 5:45pm

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF MARCH 13:

Assisting Minister: Cathy Smith Ushers: Joe Henkle and Doug McFarlan

Video: Linda Rice Camera: Janet Kocis

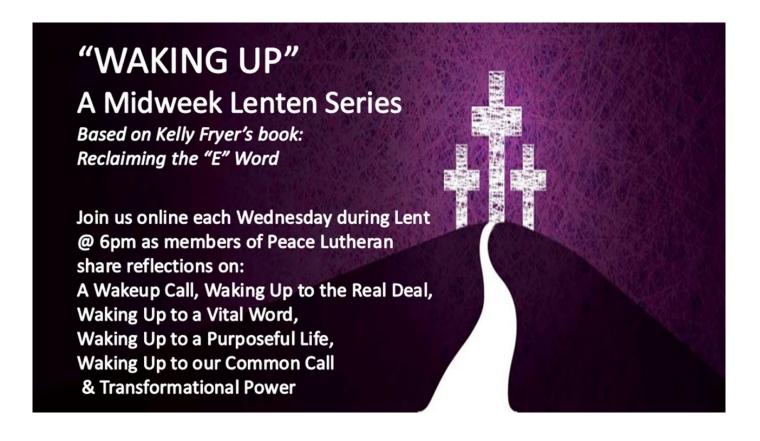
ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK:

Provided by Claire and Jay Edgecomb in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Easter Flowers: Orders are now being taken for Easter Flowers—\$20 each—Orders due by March 20th—More info in NYCU

Pastoral Care: If you would like a visit from Pastor Mary OR have a pastoral emergency, PLEASE contact Pastor on her cell phone @ 920-671-4338. You may also call the church office @ 217-546-7646 and leave a message.









Easter Food
Basket Collection

Donations of cereal or financial donations are needed by April 3rd.

More info in NYCU