

# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 17, 2024

## WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Our service is printed for you in this worship folder. Or you can follow the projections on the front wall.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hall as you enter into the school.

**Quiet room** Parents may use the library in the back of this worship space which still enables you to hear/see the service.

A **Connection Card** and pen are found in the pocket of the chair in front of you. Time will be provided to fill it out during the service. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

## LENT 5 – RETHINKING RELIGION: RETHINKING DEVOTED COMMITMENT

Throughout these Sundays in Lent, we let Jesus replace false ideas about religion from our hearts, the devil and the world. In their place, He gives us the truth of His Word that gives all glory to God and brings comfort to repentant sinners.

“Are you committed to Christ? Are you devoted to the Lord?” We want to answer yes! The natural response of Spirit-given faith in God’s great love for us leads us to want to love and serve Him with all we have! Because of sin in us, however, our devoted commitment is often weak and lukewarm.

Therefore, rejoice that true devoted commitment at the heart of Christianity is **NOT** our commitment to God, but His commitment to us! The Lord’s devoted commitment to us is so strong, it put God on the cross to save us.

## PLEASE RESPECT OUR PRACTICE OF “CLOSE COMMUNION”

Christ says the Sacrament is an expression of unity (1 Co 10:16-17). We WANT to be unified with you on the basis of Christ and His doctrine! Honesty compels us to ask you to WAIT before communing with us: 1) until you’ve had a chance to find out what we teach; 2) until you make your unity with us evident by membership at Peace. Regular classes are conducted for this purpose (837-5346). WELS & ELS guests please sign a Connection Card and give it to an usher before communing. Thank you.

**THE PSALMS OF THE ASCENTS**

Our Psalm for the day in Lent comes from Psalms 120 to 134, a section of Psalms the Bible calls the “The Songs of the Ascents.” One likely reason for this name is that believers sang these Psalms as they were “going up” to Jerusalem (located in mountains) at the special festivals that pointed ahead to Jesus’ saving work.

These Psalms even seem to describe such a journey, progressing from distant lands (Psalm 120) up to Jerusalem and the temple courts, closing with a blessing (Psalm 134). In Lent we are in a way making our way “up to Jerusalem” as we get ready to observe our Savior’s death and resurrection that took place in Jerusalem to bring God’s people true peace!

**SUNDAYS IN LENT**

During the Sundays in Lent, we use a setting of Divine Service II from *Christian Worship Supplement*, a worship resource that predated our current hymnal, familiar to many long-time Peace members. The elements and flow of this Christ-centered liturgy have their origins already in the Synagogue services of the Old Testament combined with songs of praise from the New Testament. However, in the quieter tone of Lent, we omit the use of alleluias and the great jubilant song *Glory to God*, which is replaced with a Lenten hymn.

**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Presider ..... Rev. Shaun Arndt  
Accompanist ..... Mr. Andrew Kramer  
Vocalist ..... Allison Schweiger  
Projection Slides ..... Matt Homstad

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## OPENING HYMN

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle* | **CW 419:1-3**

*Please stand*

## INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever;**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## ABSOLUTION

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

**Amen.**

## **HYMN RESPONSE**

*Christ, the Life of All the Living* | **CW 396:1,6**

**Christ, the life of all the living,  
Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
who, thyself for me once giving  
to the darkest depths of woe:  
through thy sufferings, death, and merit  
I eternal life inherit.**

**Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

**Thou hast suffered great affliction  
and hast borne it patiently,  
even death by crucifixion,  
fully to atone for me.**

**Thou didst choose to be tormented  
that my doom should be prevented.**

**Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605–1681, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt.  
Text: Public domain

# The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## FIRST READING

***Isaiah 43:1-7***

But now this is what the LORD says,  
the LORD who created you, O Jacob,  
the LORD who formed you, O Israel.

Do not be afraid, because I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you cross through the waters, I will be with you.

When you cross the rivers, they will not sweep you away.

When you walk through fire, you will not be burned,

and the flame will not set you on fire.

<sup>3</sup>Because I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior,

I gave Egypt as your ransom,

Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious and honored in my eyes,

and I myself love you,

I will give people in exchange for you,

and peoples in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid, because I am with you.

From the east I will bring your offspring,

and from the west I will gather you.  
<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them back!"  
and to the south, "Do not hold them."  
Bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—  
<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
everyone I created for my glory,  
everyone I formed,  
yes, everyone I have made.

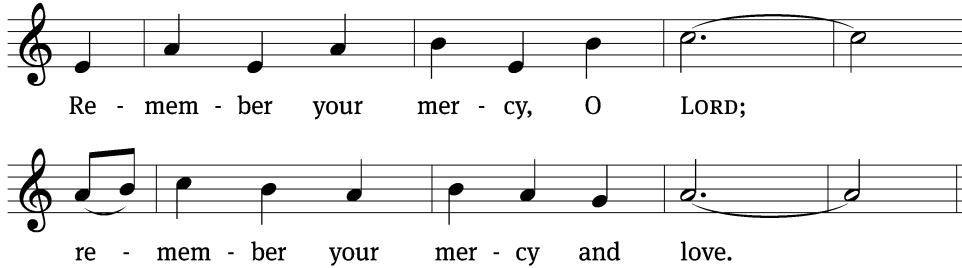
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

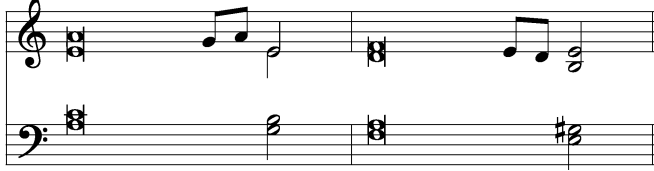
## PSALM OF THE DAY

## Psalm 130B

### Refrain



### Tone



Out of the depths I cry to / you, LORD;

Lord, / hear my voice.

Let your ears be at- / tentive  
to my cry for / mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, / who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, / serve you. *Refrain*

I wait for the LORD, my whole / being waits,  
and in his word I / put my hope.

I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the / morning,  
more than watchmen wait for the / morning.

Israel, put your hope / in the LORD,  
for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full re- / demption.

He himself will redeem / Israel  
from / all their sins.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Michael Joncas

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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## SECOND READING

**Hebrews 5:7-9**

In the days of his flesh, he offered prayers and pleas with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. <sup>9</sup>After he was brought to his goal, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Mark 10:45**

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,  
**and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

## GOSPEL

**John 12:20-33**

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we want to see Jesus."  
<sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew. Andrew came with Philip and told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, this is the reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!"

A voice came from heaven: "I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again."

<sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said it thundered. Others said an angel talked to him. <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice was not for my sake but for yours.

<sup>31</sup>"Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate what kind of death he was going to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**



*Please be seated*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*He Will Hold Me Fast | CW 813*

*The soloist will sing the first verse and refrain.*

*The congregation will join in the remainder of the hymn.*

## **SERMON**

**John 12:20-33**

**“Committed to Glory”**

*Please stand*

## **THE SECOND ARTICLE (REDEMPTION)**

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.**

**All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.**

**This is most certainly true.**

*Please be seated*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

**We confess that without your love we are lost.**

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

**Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

**By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

**Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

**Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

*Special Prayers*

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## MUSICAL OFFERING

*A musical offering follows-for meditating on the sermon and signing Connection Cards.*

*Please stand*

# The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*CW 1046*

*Tune: ANTHERS*



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."  
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:  
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.  
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.  
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.  
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.  
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my  $\text{†}$ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my  $\text{†}$ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

**CW 1054**

*Tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN*



1 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Christ, who takes a - way  
2 Je - sus, in your mer - cy, make us pure with - in;  
3 Let your end - less mer - cy ev - er - more in - crease;



all the world's trans - gres - sions, lis - ten as we pray:  
cleanse us by your per - fect sac - ri - fice for sin.  
com - fort us with par - don, calm us with your peace.

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*Please be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of "Close Communion," meaning we commune members of Peace and churches affiliated with Peace. For further explanation, please see inside the front cover of this bulletin. Thank you.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*Upon the Cross Extended | CW 434*

*Drawn to the Cross | CW 808*

*Please stand*

**SONG OF SIMEON**      *Sung to the melody of CW 430 "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"*

**Now in peace, Lord, at your promise  
we your servants now depart.  
Your salvation we have witnessed  
in your Sacrament and Word.  
Give us now your Holy Spirit  
to declare what he has done.  
For the world, yes, every nation,  
Jesus has redemption won.**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle | CW 419:4,5*

**Faithful cross, true sign of triumph,  
be for all the noblest tree;  
none in foliage, none in blossom,  
none in fruit your equal be,  
symbol of the world's redemption,  
for your burden makes us free.**

**Unto God be praise and glory;  
to the Father and the Son,  
to th' eternal Spirit honor  
now and evermore be done—  
praise and glory in the highest  
while the timeless ages run.**

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr.  
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