

Peace Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
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"Peace Lutheran Church ... Our mission as a caring family is to reach out to all, share Christ's love, and teach God's Word."

Our Vision: Equipping Our Members to Take the Message of Jesus Where They Live, Work and Play

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 30, 2025

Divine Service, Setting Three

MORNING MEDITATION WITH PASTOR

Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday in Lent has been known as Laetare Sunday, from the Latin Introit Laetare Jerusalem: "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her" (Isaiah 66:10). Though still in the penitential season of Lent, this Sunday is a relaxation from normal Lenten discipline. The hymns we sing this morning reflect this brief, joyful hiatus from the more somber tone that we are used to. Our readings for today also reflect a similar joyful tone. Most notably our gospel reading, which is the parable of the prodigal son. Halfway through Lent we are given a beautiful picture of what is in store for us. A joyful reunion with our Heavenly Father as his baptized sons and daughters who have been reconciled to Him through the blood of the cross. While the journey of repentance is a long one, and sometimes painful, the joy of our Father's house awaits!

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

**The altar is the symbolic location of God's presence in our worship. In the season of Lent, the pastor begins service outside of the altar area, signifying the consequence of our sin, which is separation from God.*

OPENING HYMN

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

LSB 528 v.1-5

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 34*

- P** I sought the LORD, and He answered me
C and delivered me from all my fears.
- P** This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him
C and saved him out of all his troubles.
- P** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
C Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for personal confession)

- P** O Almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P** Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

After hearing the forgiving words of Christ, the pastor now enters the altar area, signifying our entrance into God's presence through the forgiveness that was won for us by the sacrifice of His Son.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

LSB 528 v.6-7

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE



- C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



- on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.



- C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



- C** A - men.

OLD TESTAMENT *Isaiah 12:1-6*

Pew Bible, pg. 684

("The LORD GOD is my strength and my song.")

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

Pew Bible, pg. 1148

(A new creation)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

Pew Bible, pg. 1039

(The Parable of the Prodigal Son)

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.



G Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CREED *Apostles' Creed and Explanation*

G 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P What does it mean to believe in the things we have just confessed?

G 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, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, 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, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Praise and Acknowledge You, O God"

LSB 941

SERMON

Pastor - Jonathan Dueker

OFFERTORY "Create in Me"



G 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

OFFERING

- You may also give electronically:
 - Visit our web site: www.peacelcms.org
 - Click on the "Give" button or "Ministries" and then on "Online Giving"
- You may also give by text to (989) 308-4203 & then follow the instructions

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

You are God; we praise You.

G You are the Lord; we acclaim You,

P You are the eternal Father;

G all creation worship You.

P To You all angels, all the powers of heaven, sing in endless praise.

G The glorious company of apostles praise You.

P The noble fellowship of prophets praise You.

G The white-robed army of martyrs praise You.

P You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

G You became man to set us free.

P You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

G You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

P Lord God, we pray for Your whole church on earth. Grant that Your life-giving, life sustaining Word be rightly proclaimed and firmly believed,

that many may come to repentance and faith and the eternal life of Your new creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For all who are in any need, the sick, the hospitalized, the homebound; for the lonely and abandoned; for the oppressed and the afflicted, come to all with healing, hope, and restoration of freedom and health. This morning we especially remember in our prayers Ruth, Neil, Ed, Ryan Ruth, Neil, Heather, and Scott, as well as Sandy, Jenny, Rose, Corey, Peg, Maci, Lisa, and Rich. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Helper, we pray for those who are new to faith, that they would diligently seek the instruction of Your Word on their own and in the company of the saints, in order that they might grow in the knowledge of our Lord and so become steadfast and immovable in the face of challenge or temptation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

(Te Deum Prayer v.24-27)

P Come then, Lord, and help Your people, bought with the price of Your own blood,

C and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREPARATION *Isaiah 6*

P Above God stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

C Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

P And Isaiah said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to him, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched his mouth and said:

C Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

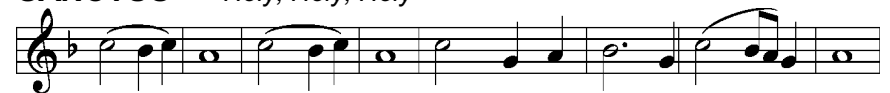


C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the Paschal Feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS "Holy, Holy, Holy"



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI *"Lamb of God"*



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

"O Living Bread from Heaven"

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

Sola Deo Gloria

LSB 642

LSB 636

LSB 545

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, for sending Your Son, our Lord, to be both a sacrifice for our sin and a model of the godly life. By His body and blood, strengthen our faith to stand steadfast as inheritors of Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF CHRIST'S PASSION

Jesus takes up His cross

P We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C By Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

P Consider how the women wept with compassion seeing Jesus so distressed and dripping with blood as He walked along.

A great number of the people followed Jesus, and among them were women who were waiting for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

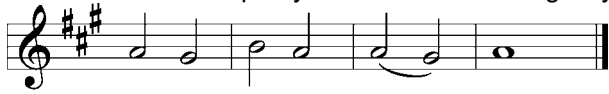
Blessed are those who mourn;

C for they shall be comforted.

(Silence for personal reflection)

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN “O Bless the Lord, My Soul”

LSB 814

† in the name of Jesus †

Acknowledgments:

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