## Third Sunday of Lent In-Person and Online Worship Bulletin March 23, 2025



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### **Mission Statement**

We are called to be an inclusive community, sharing God's grace through worship, service, and hospitality.

We of Peace Lutheran Church welcome all people to full participation in the life of the church regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or physical or mental disability.

Children are welcome in any worship service at Peace Lutheran Church.

It is a pleasure to have you worship with us this week and we invite you to worship with us again soon. If you are in need of assistance of any kind, please speak with an usher.

P= Presider, A= Assisting Minister, C= Congregation



PRELUDE

*Vater unser im Himmelreich* 'Our Father who art in heaven'

--J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

#### THIRD WEEK OF LENT - THE NEED FOR AN ADVOCATE

Testing and trial are core human experiences. When you find yourself in the midst of a test, it helps to have an advocate, someone who can work on your behalf and do what you cannot. This week, we consider how God steps in to advocate for us and how we can become advocates for others.

#### \*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Our forty-day journey through Lent recalls Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. Three times, the devil coaxed Jesus to rely on himself instead of on God. Three times, Jesus resisted, trusting God to give him all he needed.

Friends, we are not Jesus. We don't recognize relying on ourselves instead of God as a temptation; we even extol self-reliance as a virtue. Join me in confessing this to God, and asking for compassion.

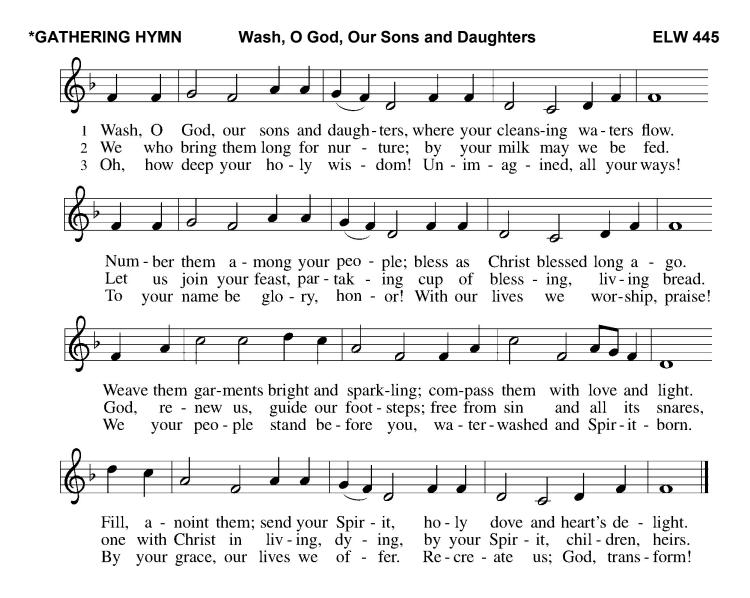
Silence for reflection.

- P: God, I confess
- C: that I struggle to confess. I want to delight you by doing all the right things. I don't want to admit that I can't. To receive your forgiveness, I must confront my failure.
- P: God, I confess
- C: that I struggle to confess: I'm afraid of being a burden to others. I don't want to need them too much, so I try not to need them at all.
- P: God, I confess
- C: that I struggle to confess: just like I turn away from my own vulnerability I turn away from the vulnerable.
  I have rejected my weakness and avoided those who are weak.
  I have denied my frailty and looked down on those who are frail.
  I have resisted my dependence and thought less of those who depend on others.
- P: God, forgive us,
- C: because we struggle to forgive ourselves. We build a wall of self-reliance that separates us from your love.

### P: Jesus once said,

"Those who are well have no need of a physician." Jesus didn't come for those who didn't need him: he came for me and for you and for everyone who has fallen short. Jesus' power is made perfect in our weakness. In Christ's name, you are completely and entirely forgiven. You are imperfect, and you are forgiven, and you are entirely loved.

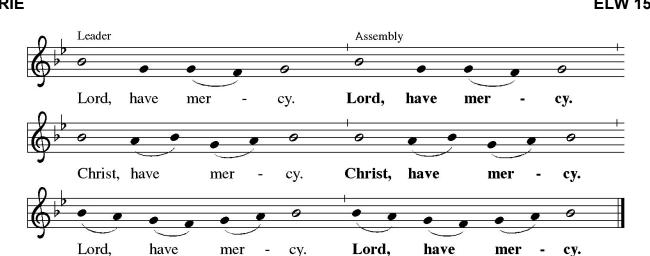
C: Thanks be to God! Amen.



#### \*GREETING

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

C: And also with you.



\*KYRIE

**ELW 156** 

#### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- A: God our strength, you shelter us when trouble draws near, and in the shadow of your wings we sing for joy. Help us whenever we are tested, so that we do not simply survive but thrive, bearing fruit for your holy reign.
- C: Amen.



#### FIRST READING

Isaiah 55: 1-9

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the

earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

#### SECOND READING

#### 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

<sup>1</sup>I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

#### FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

- P: The Gospel according to Luke, the thirteenth chapter
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

#### \*GOSPEL

#### Luke 13: 1-9

<sup>1</sup> At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup> He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

- P: The Gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to You, O Christ.

#### SERMON

**Pastor Hannah DiPasquale** 

Silence for Reflection

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me **ACS 1084** 1 God. be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to 2 Bind my-self the name of Ho - 1y, great cloud of wit - ness to of Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing light - ning, 3 4 Walk - ing be - hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that my voice; God. up - hold me: move be the strength to now en - fold; a - pos gels wit - ness: proph - ets. tles. an es of strength of wind, depth the sea to soil of plan - et: light my way, and from be - neath, a bove, and all ways: hear in the of all who know me: my voice, Christ hearts Refrain 0 Christ, sur - round me: 0 Christ, sur - round me.

#### **\*THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, **C**: 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 THE PEOPLE

- A: God in your mercy,
- C: receive our prayer.

Saints of Peace:

Louise Jackson, Edith Hollinrake, Elmer Winte, Orville Crossland, Jenell Wood, Marvin Tessneer, Estelle Williams

- P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
- C: Amen.

#### **\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

- P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

In-Building: Please share signs of peace in whatever way you are comfortable and is respectful of your neighbor's comfort level. Online: You may share signs of peace in the chat.

#### OFFERING

Gifts for the work and ministry of Peace Lutheran Church can be placed in the offering plates or mailed to the Church Office or sent through on-line giving on our website.

OFFERING MUSIC

Open My Eyes that I May See Campanas de Paz

--Barry Braman

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#### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A: O God,
- C: you gave us what we needed to love you today. Now we offer you a portion of these gifts, a harvest of the love you planted.
  We have supplied the gifts, and you have supplied the purpose. Now bless our gifts and use them in your service. Amen.

#### \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- 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 God thanks and praise!
- P: It is not only right...And so we join the echoing song:

#### \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Setting 7, p. 181



#### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: On the night of his arrest, he gathered his friends for a simple meal and set a feast of love. He took bread, 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.

P: Extravagant God, pour out your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup. Let the fragrance of your love fill this house.

#### C Come, Holy Spirit.

- P: Let it fill our noses with the sweetness of grapes and the earthiness of grain.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Let it fill our hearts as lavish compassion for the little, the lost, and the least.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Let this bread and cup magnify your prodigal love, mirroring the heavenly feast that has no end. Bring us at last to the infinite table where you have gathered all your holy ones in the new creation where every tear is wiped away, and every need has been met in you.

All honor and glory is yours, O God, who is both Giver and Gift, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### **\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

C: 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 Padre nuestro que estás enel Cielo, santificado sea tu nombre, venga a nosotros tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la Tierra como en el Cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen. No nos dejes caer en tentación, y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el Reino, tuyo el Poder, y tuya la Gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table for communion, regardless of age or church membership. Come forward up the center aisle, taking an empty cup from the tray at the front. Follow the direction of the ushers and kneel or stand at the rail. The Bread Minister will hand you a piece of bread (gluten-free wafers are available, just ask the bread minister). There are two Wine Ministers. The first pouring chalice offers wine and the second chalice is grape juice.

*If you choose not to receive communion, you may come forward for a blessing from the Bread Minister.* Crossing your arms over your chest will indicate that you would prefer a blessing.

If you have difficulty coming to the front, please notify an usher and communion will gladly be brought to you.

## *Prayer stations are available. You are invited to stop and pray with a minister anytime during communion.*

\*LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 182



#### COMMUNION MUSIC Vater unser im Himmelreich 'Our Father who art in heaven' -- Georg Bohm (1661-1733)

#### \*BLESSING FROM THE TABLE

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

#### **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

- A: O Jesus,
- C: you have fed us with the bread that has no price, the precious gift of your own self. Now send us out like Mary with her perfume, prepared to give the best we have to dignify the world you so loved. Amen.

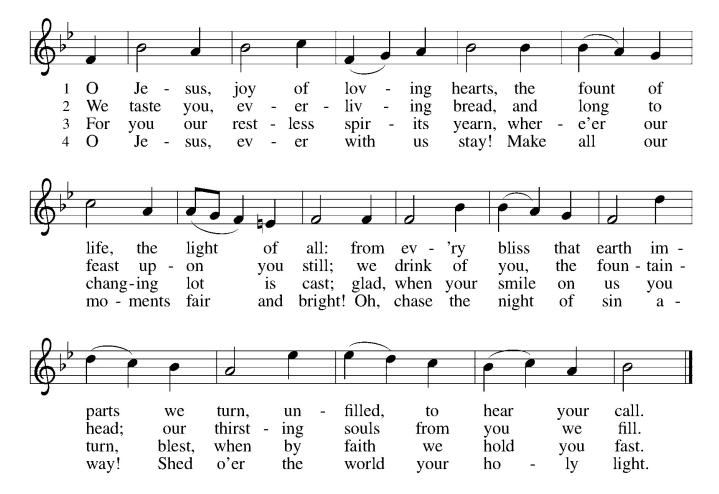


#### **\*THE BENEDICTION**

 P: Now may God, who is our refuge and our safety, who is our help and our stay, who is our advocate and our defender, bless you and sustain you. Today God has answered your need, and now the Spirit sends you out to answer the world's need.

> In the name of God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,

C: Amen



#### \*DISMISSAL

- A: Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C: Thanks be to God.

#### Postlude is Omitted during Lent

#### All are welcome to gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation

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Worship Assistants - TODAY		Worship Assistants - March 30	
Assisting Minister Lector. Greeter.	Jeanne Brown	Assisting Minister: Lector: Greeters:	David Parr, Jr. Geri Ayers
Communion Serv Ushers:	<i>er:</i> Sue Ann Collins	Communion Server Ushers:	r: Sue Ann Collins
Technology (3):	Mary Luckie, Sandy Johnson, Clare Scheffer	Technology:	Bob Treulich, Karen Harvey, Kathie Rich
Altar Care: Bulletins:	Hilkka Byrd Deb Sarabia, Barb Patton	Altar Care: Bulletins:	Judy Tofte Barb Patton, Deb Sarabia

#### SCHEDULE - March 16-23 Sun., Mar. 23 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Tues., Mar, 25 10:30 a.m. Lenten Bible Study Memorials Committee 1:00 p.m. Wed., Mar, 26 3:45 p.m. Green Team 5:00 p.m. Choir 6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper Lent Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Thurs., Mar. 27 4:00 p.m. Ana's Place Afterschool Program 4:00 p.m. Bells Fri., Mar. 28 Ana's Place Afterschool Program 4:00 p.m. Sat., Mar. 29 Time TBD Tanya Storch Memorial Service 1:00 p.m. FLARE Group Sun., Mar. 30 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Coffee Hour 10:00 a.m. Alzheimer's Women's Support Group 1:00 p.m. - 1st & 3rd Thursdays OA - Overeaters Anon: 9:30 a.m. - Sa AA - Downtown Group: 5:30 p.m. - Su, M, Tu, Th, F, Sa 7:00 p.m. - W

8:00 p.m. - Sa AA - Primary Purpose: 7:00 p.m. - F

#### **Ministers and Staff**

The Congregation Members of Peace Lutheran Church Rev. Hannah DiPasquale, Pastor Deacon Anna Dykeman, Minister of Word and Service Sandy Johnson, Office Administrator (office@peacelutheranlc.com) Jieun Newland, Music Minister Tommy Grimes & Phil Lingle, Custodians

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS - March 23**

If you have Prayer Requests to be included in the Prayers of the Day, please write them before the service on the Prayer Request sheet found on the stand in the narthex.

There are now only 2 coats hanging on the rack just outside the sanctuary: 1 red jacket and 1 long black wool coat. Please claim them if they're yours!

Weekly Lenten Study from ELCA Sumud: "For Justice in Palestine & Israel." Join Pastor Hannah on Tuesdays in Lent for a special time of study and prayer. Sumud is the ELCA's ministry in response to occupation and injustice in Palestine and Israel. The Sumud leadership has released a Lenten resource for group study, featuring videos from the Holy Land and devotions from Palestinian theologians. Each week we will watch a video together, read a devotion, have discussion and pray together. No prep is needed; come as you are. Tuesdays,10:30-11:30 AM in Room 107.

**Midweek Lent Soup Suppers & Evening Prayer**, Wednesdays in Lent. Sign-up sheets for soup, bread, & set-up/clean-up are in the Narthex. **ANYONE**, whether they're in a group or not, can sign up to bring Soup or help in other ways. The Groups are designated so set up and clean up are organized.

**LENTEN EVENING PRAYER ON WEDNESDAYS** - After soup each Wednesday, we will gather at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary for a simple service called *A Refuge for the Heart: Midweek Worship with Healing Prayer*. During this worship, prayer stations will be offered, inviting participants to pray in a certain way: with a prayer minister, writing down prayers, lighting a candle, using other objects/icons/images/water, etc. Each week will follow the same rhythm but be a little different. Come for some stillness, song, and healing during this season.

Join us for a BABY SHOWER in honor of Amanda & Clark's baby girl arriving soon! On Sunday, April 13, during coffee hour after worship, we will have cake and refreshments to celebrate. You are welcome to bring gifts, money, or gift cards to support the family. Gift registry: <u>www.DreamList.com/for/amandaandclarksbabygirl</u>

**Bread for the World has a weekly Lenten devotion** that will lead us towards our letter writing campaign after Easter. Find the full devotion at <u>https://www.bread.org/article/come-to-the-table-lenten-devotional/</u>

Attention Thrivent members who may have available "thrivent choice" from 2024! March 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to designate 2024 thrivent choice dollars to a church or charity of your choosing. You can designate by contacting Susan Hernandez locally at 915-565-1010, online at <u>thrivent.com</u> (generosity tab, thrivent choice), or by phone during business hours at 1-800-847-4836 (say "thrivent choice" to get to a person to help you).

Green Team Tip Save a tree! Rather than buying a book, take it out of the library. And bring your children/grandchildren with you. It's a magical experience for them if they haven't been there before—books to take home and read, story times, craft sessions . . . .

**Thank you to the congregation for approving the Solar Initiative!** We are **95.85%** toward our goal with **\$21,825** pledged for solar panels. If you haven't yet made a pledge to support environmental stewardship, you can fill out a pledge card and put it in the box in the narthex or the offering plate.

<u>WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!</u> See the open slots on the podium in the narthex. Anyone is welcome to sign up to help! If you need training, see the bulletin board as you enter the Fellowship Hall, or ask Pr. Hannah.