

St Peter Lutheran Church

Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 30, 2025

Welcome

Opening Song, LSB 644 The Church's One Foundation

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| 1 The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord; She is His new creation By water and the Word. From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died. | 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth; Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued. |
| 3 Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed, By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed, Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song. | 4 Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest, And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest. |
| 5 Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won. O blessèd heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face. | |

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(Please stand, as you are able)

Call to Worship

P Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

C **For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.**

P Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

C **We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

P Come, let us worship and be thankful.

C **Let us open our hearts to the peace and joy of God.**

Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:

C God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(We pause for a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection)

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Responsive Psalm Reading, Psalm 32

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**²Blessèd is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

**³For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.**

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

**⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;**

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.**

⁷You are a hiding place for me;

**you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹**Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.**

¹⁰Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.

¹¹**Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

Salutation and Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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. **Amen** (*Please be seated*)

Old Testament Reading, Isaiah 12:1-6

You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

²"Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the Lord God is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation."

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:
"Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵"Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

L This is the Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God**

Epistle Reading, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord **C** Thanks be to God

(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel, Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

C Glory to You, O Lord

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: . . .

"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And

he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

L This is the Gospel of the Lord **C** **Praise to You, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Sermon Song, LSB 744 Amazing Grace

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|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Amazing grace—how sweet the sound— That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see! | 2 | The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures. |
| 3 | Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home. | 4 | Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease, Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven's joy and peace. |
| 5 | When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun. | | |

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(Please stand, as you are able)

Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Peace of the Lord (Please greet the people around you with God's peace)

Offering

Prayers of the Church

After each petition respond: **P** Lord in your mercy **C** Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Preface

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 Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

The Word of Our Lord

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** **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

C **1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Communion Distribution *(Please be seated)*

St Peter's Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is a special gift given by Jesus Christ to all baptized believers in the community of faith. In preparing for the Lord's Supper, we are to reflect upon the following questions:

1. Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?

2. Do I believe that, within this Sacrament, the bread and wine are Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins?

3. Do I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life?

4. Do I confess and believe the same doctrines of faith as the church body with which I am about to commune?

If you are having difficulty in answering "yes" to any of the above questions, please follow the guide of Scripture and refrain from taking communion today. Our Pastor would be glad to visit with you after the service to answer any questions you may have about our Communion practice.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please signal to Pastor by holding up your index finger in front of you.

Non-alcoholic white grape juice is available in the center of the tray, for those with alcohol sensitivities

433 Glory Be to Jesus

1 Glory be to Jesus,

Who in bitter pains

Poured for me the lifeblood

From His sacred veins!

2 Grace and life eternal

In that blood I find;

Blest be His compassion,

Ininitely kind!

3 Blest through endless ages

Be the precious stream

Which from endless torment

Did the world redeem!

4 Abel's blood for vengeance

Pleaded to the skies;

But the blood of Jesus

For our pardon cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting

Wafts its praise on high,

Angel hosts rejoicing

Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,

Swell the mighty flood;

Louder still and louder

Praise the precious blood!

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The Reconciliation Song

Verse 1

Oh let us be the generation Of reconciliation and peace

And let us be a holy nation Where pride and prejudice shall cease

Let us speak the truth in love To the lost and least of these

Let us serve the Lord in unity So others will believe

Let us be the generation Of reconciliation and peace

Verse 2

Oh let us be the generation Of reconciliation and peace

And let us build on one foundation 'Til He comes and the wars of men shall cease

Let us share the love of Jesus Without hypocrisy

Let mercy and forgiveness Begin with you and me

Let us be the generation Of reconciliation and peace

Bridge

*Have we not one Father Have we not one faith
Have we not one calling To become one holy race
Oh let us be the generation Of reconciliation and peace*

Verse 3

And let us pray for restoration And seek the Lord together
On our knees Let us keep our hearts from evil
And cling to what is good Let us honor one another
And love the brotherhood Let us be the generation Of reconciliation and peace

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861 Christ Be My Leader

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day; Safe through the darkness, for He is the way. Gladly I follow, my future His care, Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there. | 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth, Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand, Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand. |
|---|---|
- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife; Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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Gather Us In – lyrics and music by Marty Haugen

1. Here in this place, new light is streaming Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in the lost and forsaken Gather us in the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken We shall arise at the sound of our name

2. We are the young our lives are a mystery We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in the rich and the haughty Gather us in the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly Give us the courage to enter the song

3. Here we all take the wine and the water Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters Call us anew to be salt for the earth
Give us to drink the wine of compassion Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven, light-years away
here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the Kingdom, and now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Nunc Dimittis

**1 O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in
heav'nly peace, For I have seen the
glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your
holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your
chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father, All glory to the
Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever
Three in One; For as in the beginning, Is
now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen**

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

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 Amen.

P Go in peace! **C Serve the Lord**

P Let us bless the Lord **C Thanks be to God**

Closing Song – My Lighthouse

1. In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa
oh You are the peace in my troubled sea

2. In the silence You won't let go
In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa
oh You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness
I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore

3. I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa
oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

Bridge

Fire before us You're the brightest
You will lead us Through the storms (hey)
(REPEAT 3X)

Chorus

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Announcements



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