

St Peter Lutheran Church
Order of Worship
Fourth Sunday in Lent March 15, 2026

Welcome

Opening Song, Here I Am to Worship

Light of the World, You stepped down into
darkness Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus: So here I am to worship, here I am
to bow down Here I am to say that You're
my God And You're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy Altogether wonderful to
me

King of all days, oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the Earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Chorus

Bridge: And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross

Chorus 2X

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(Please stand, as you are able)

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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 $\cdot\ddagger\cdot$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Responsive Psalm Reading, 142

With my voice I cry out to the Lord;

with my voice I plead for mercy to the Lord.

²I pour out my complaint before him;

I tell my trouble before him.

**³When my spirit faints within me,
you know my way!**

In the path where I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴Look to the right and see:

there is none who takes notice of me;

no refuge remains to me;

no one cares for my soul.

⁵I cry to you, O Lord;

I say, "You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living."

⁶Attend to my cry,

for I am brought very low!

Deliver me from my persecutors,

for they are too strong for me!

⁷Bring me out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name!
The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me.

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 42:14–21

For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
"You are our gods."

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,

or deaf as my messenger whom I send?

Who is blind as my dedicated one,

or blind as the servant of the Lord?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

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

Epistle Reading, Ephesians 5:8–14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper,

and arise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you."

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

(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel, John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." . . .

³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

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

(Please be seated)

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Sermon Song, LSB 744 Amazing Grace

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)

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

**the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Peace of the Lord

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.

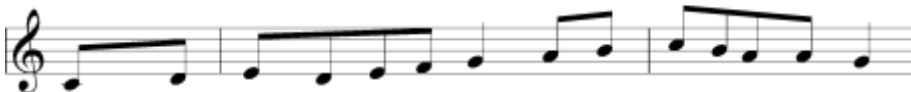
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;

Tru - ly 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 Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Communion Distribution *(Please be seated)*

St Peter's Communion Statement

At St. Peter Lutheran Church, we confess that the body and blood of Jesus Christ are truly present in the Sacrament of the Altar (Communion) in, with, and under the bread and wine. (See Matt 26:26-28 and 1 Cor. 11:23-28) In this gift we receive forgiveness of sins, life, and strengthening of faith. Those who share our confession of faith as members of the LCMS may receive Communion here. Anyone else is still welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the pastor during Communion. We ask anyone desiring a blessing to cross their arms over their chest at the railing, and the pastor will bless you.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please signal to Pastor by holding up your index finger in front of you. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available in the center of the tray, for those with alcohol sensitivities.

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 doctrine of faith as the church body with which I am about to commune

545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Word of God, come down on earth,
Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You;
Word made flesh, we long to hear You. | 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
Speak to us, Your love outpouring. |
| 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
Heal the world, by sin now broken. | 4 Word that speaks God's tender love,
One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us. |

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411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain | ref In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. |
|--|---|

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
 I want to look at Jesus.
 Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
 And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
 I want to be with Jesus.
 When we have run with patience the race,
 We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

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The Lord Is My Light (Ps. 27)* (Don Wharton)

(Chorus) The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? Though the world may come against me, I will not be afraid.
 Yes, the Lord is my strength, my firm foundation. When they advance, they'll stumble.
 Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? I will not be afraid. **(Chorus)**

The Lord is in His temple. And I will praise His name.
 I'll sing and shout for joy. I will praise His name.

(Chorus)

Final Tag: Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

**(words reprinted by permission of Don Wharton)*

704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

1 Renew me, O eternal Light,
 And let my heart and soul be bright,
 Illumined with the light of grace
 That issues from Your holy face.

2 Remove the pow'r of sin from me
 And cleanse all my impurity
 That I may have the strength and will
 Temptations of the flesh to still.

3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,
 That gladly I obey Your Word.
 Let what You will be my desire,
 And with new life my soul inspire.

4 Grant that I only You may love
 And seek those things which are above
 Till I behold You face to face,
 O Light eternal, through Your grace.

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Nunc Dimittis

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P 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.

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.**

Closing Song, Whom Shall I Fear” (God Of Angel Armies)

1. You hear me when I call
You are my morning song
Though darkness fills the night
It cannot hide the light
Whom shall I fear?
You crush the enemy, underneath my feet
You are my sword and shield
Though troubles linger still
Whom shall I fear?

2. My strength is in Your name
For You alone can save
You will deliver me
Yours is the victory
Whom shall I fear?
Whom shall I fear?

Chorus

Chorus: I know Who goes before me
I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by
my side
The One who reigns forever
He is a friend of mine
The God of angel armies is always by
my side

Bridge

(And) nothing formed against me shall
stand
You hold the whole world in Your hands
I'm holding on to Your promises
You are faithful
You are faithful

(REPEAT)

Chorus 2X

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Announcements



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