

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 23, 2025

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.

THEME: LENT 3

OUR RESOLUTE SAVIOR: RESOLUTE ABOUT OUR REPENTANCE

We do not have a God who is wishy-washy or who changes with the times. God says of Himself, “Do I speak and then not act? Do I promise and not fulfill?” (Nu 23:19) Indeed, throughout Scripture God compares Himself to a rock and a fortress. God is resolute in anything He decides to do. This is especially comforting for us as God was resolute about accomplishing our salvation. We don’t have to wonder where God stands on this matter from one day to the next. Throughout these Sundays of Lent we shall see the resoluteness of God in our Savior Jesus. Today we see that He is resolute about seeking our repentance. Repentance is not optional.

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.

NEW BIBLE STUDY TODAY – BATTLES OF THE BIBLE

Was Jesus a hippy pacifist? Or was He a warmonger who inspired the medieval crusades? The answer is neither. Scripture presents Jesus as both the Lord of Armies and the Prince of Peace. He is both the Healer and the One who brings “a sword” (Matthew 10:34). This spring we will be wrestling with these contrasts as we look at a number of battles in the Bible. We will see these battles are not just random historical occurrences, but fit into the Bible’s central truth that Jesus is our Savior from sin, death and hell.

3/23 – Abraham goes to war

3/30 – Gideon – a mighty warrior and The Mighty Warrior

4/6 – Philistines, Ebenezer and Saul – The Lord vs. Idolatry

4/13 – Battle with Egypt and Easter

4/27 – Hezekiah and Sennacherib – God’s people under siege

5/11 – Spiritual Warfare – the life of a Christian

5/18 – The Battle of Armageddon

A DIFFICULT HYMN

The opening hymn, *From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry* was composed by Martin Luther. The content of the words is difficult for us – partly because it isn’t much fun to sing about our natural, sinful depravity. This hymn is also difficult because the melody is common to the style of church music sung in Luther’s day in the 1500s. That doesn’t make it bad. We’re just not used to it.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICE

We worship this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments to follow. This service is about 35 minutes long.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider..... Rev. Shaun Arndt
Accompanist..... Mrs. Lynn Proeber
Vocalist Rev. Luke C. Werre
Projection Slides Kayla Frank

SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

OPENING HYMN

*From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry*¹ | CW 650

A vocalist will sing verse one. The congregation will sing the remaining verses.

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.²

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.³

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

¹ This hymn was composed by Martin Luther.

² 2 Corinthians 13:14

³ "But with you there is forgiveness, therefore you are feared" (Ps 130:4).

Our relationship with God has to begin with God forgiving our sins. In this way, the worship service models the life of a believer: God removes our sins; we praise Him for it (O Lord, Our Lord); He speaks to us in His Word (the Lessons & Sermon); we respond by telling everyone what we believe (Creed); and on it goes.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise hear our prayer, O Lord.



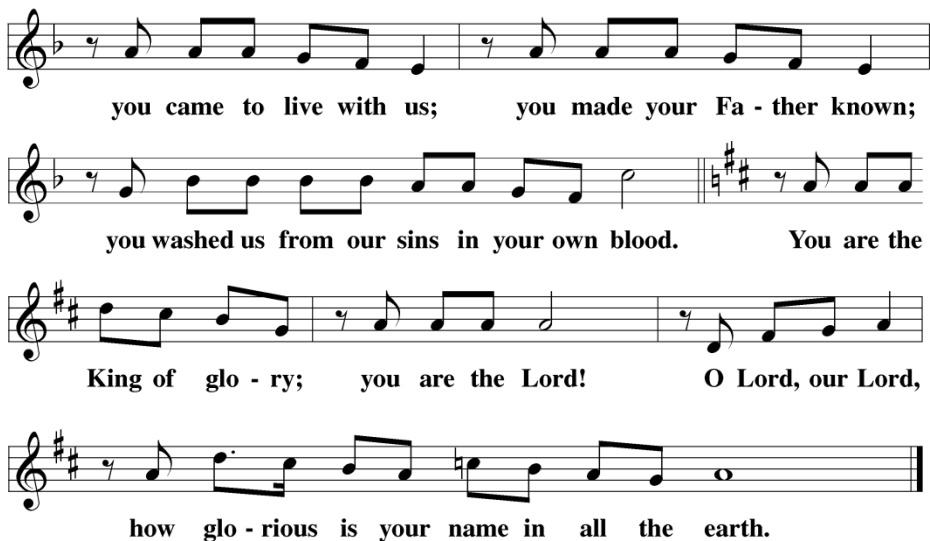
Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD





you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Please be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 3:1–15

¹Now Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, a priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²The Angel of the LORD appeared to him in blazing fire from within a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire, but the bush was not burning up. ³So he said, “I will go over and look at this amazing sight—to find out why the bush is not burning up.”

⁴When the LORD saw that Moses had gone over to take a look, God called to him from the middle of the bush and said, “Moses! Moses!”

Moses said, “I am here.”

⁵The LORD said, “Do not come any closer. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶He then said, “I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷The LORD said, “I have certainly seen the misery of my people in Egypt, and I have heard their cry for help because of their slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to deliver them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹Now indeed, the Israelites' cry for help has come to me. Yes, I have seen how the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰Come now, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

¹¹But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

¹²So he said, “I will certainly be with you. This will be the sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will serve God on this mountain.”

¹³But Moses said to God, “If I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what should I say to them?”

¹⁴So God replied to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He also said, “You will say this to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you.”

¹⁵God also told Moses, “Say this to the Israelites: ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is

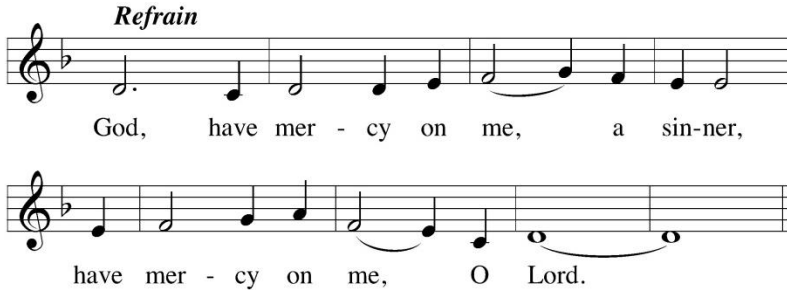
my name forever, and this is how I am to be remembered from generation to generation.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51a

Refrain



God, have mer - cy on me, a sin-ner,
have mer - cy on me, O Lord.

Psalm Tone



Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

Refrain

Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.
Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, ²and they were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them—and that rock was Christ! ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them. He had them die in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples to warn us not to desire evil things the way they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters like some of them—as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and got up to celebrate wildly.” ⁸And let us not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell. ⁹Let us not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and so were being destroyed by the serpents. ¹⁰And do not grumble, as some of them grumbled, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹All these things that were happening to them had meaning as examples, and they were written down to warn us, to whom the end of the ages has come.

¹²So let him who thinks he stands be careful that he does not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you except ordinary testing. But God is faithful. He will not allow you to be tested beyond your ability, but when he tests you, he will also bring about the outcome that you are able to bear it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: I am who I am. This is my name forever,

C: and this is how I am to be remembered from generation to generation.

Please stand

GOSPEL⁴

Luke 13:1-9

¹At that time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ²He answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered these things? ³I tell you, no. But unless you repent, you will all perish too. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse sinners than all the people living in Jerusalem? ⁵I tell you, no. But unless you repent, you will all perish too.”

⁶He told them this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it, but he did not find any. ⁷So he said to the gardener, ‘Look, for three years now I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and I have found none. Cut it down. Why even let it use up the soil?’ ⁸But the gardener replied to him, ‘Sir, leave it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put fertilizer on it. ⁹If it produces fruit next year, fine. But if not, then cut it down.’”



Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior, When in Dust to You | CW 393

⁴ The Gospel Lesson is the central point of the entire service. It drives the theme of the day. Sunday by Sunday, the Gospel Lesson follows the Christian Church Year – which follows closely the earthly life and ministry of Jesus.

God Have Mercy!

Please stand when presider indicates

NICENE CREED⁵

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

⁵ The Nicene Creed was formulated by the Church in the 300s AD in the Greek town of Nicea to summarize Scripture's teaching about the person of Jesus Christ. A popular false teacher named Arius had promoted a heresy that Jesus was something less than God and not equal to the Father which left many believers confused.

Please be seated

MUSICAL OFFERING

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

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.**

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



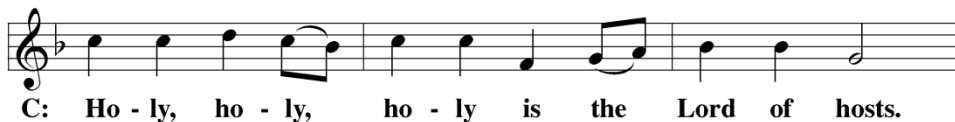
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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 \mp 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 \mp 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.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of "Close Communion." For explanation, please see the inside cover of this worship folder. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* | CW93 331



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah,
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan,



Pil - grim through this bar - ren land.
Whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
Bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;



I am weak, but thou art might - y; Hold me
Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar Lead me
Death of death and hell's De - struc - tion, Land me



with thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong De - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es



Feed me till I want no more.
Be thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, st. 1; William Williams, st. 2-3.
Tune: GUIDE ME (87 87 47) George W. Warren, 1828–1902.

Please stand when the presider indicates

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the true faith into life everlasting. Your sins are forgiven. The peace of God is with you.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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