

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 15, 2026

WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Our service can be found in the blue hymnal beneath the chair in front of you. Projections are also provided 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 4 HEED THE GOSPEL CALL: TO SEE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Jesus said, "When I am lifted up [on the cross] I will draw all men to myself" (Jn 12:32). How does He draw us to himself? Through the Gospel Call. The Gospel is the good news of salvation that comes to us from Jesus. This good news calls out to us. It makes its appeal. It wants to be heard and believed. The Holy Spirit uses the Gospel to bring us to faith in Jesus. Since Lent is a time of renewal in our faith, we are encouraged once again to heed the Gospel Call. In particular today, the Gospel calls us to see the light of Christ. Everything apart from Christ is darkness. Truth and salvation are found in Christ alone. Only the Gospel can open our eyes to see truth and salvation.

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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Service – Setting One pg. 154 in the blue hymnal

Hymns

Opening Hymn	537	<i>Word of God, Come Down on Earth</i>
Psalm of the Day	Psalm 27	page 27 in the blue hymnal
Hymn of the Day	691	<i>Awake, O Sleeper, Rise and See</i>
Distribution Hymns	399	<i>My Song Is Love Unknown</i>
	576	<i>Amazing Grace</i>

Scripture Lessons

First Lesson	Isaiah 42:14-21
Second Lesson	Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel Lesson	John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

Sermon

Jesus Destroys Doubt

John 20:19-31

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider.....	Rev. Shaun Arndt
Sermon.....	Rev. Luke C. Werre
Keyboard	Mrs. Monica Wintrone
Projection Slides	Amy Johnson

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴I have been silent for a long time.
I have kept still. I have restrained myself.
But now, like a woman giving birth, I will scream.
I will gasp and pant.
¹⁵I will dry up mountains and hills.
I will make all their grass wither.
I will turn rivers into islands.
I will dry up pools.
¹⁶I will lead the blind on a way they do not know.
Along paths they do not know I will direct them.
Ahead of them I will turn darkness into light
and rough places into level ground.
These are the things I will accomplish for them.
I will not abandon them.
¹⁷They will be turned back and completely disgraced—
those who trust in an idol,
those who say to molten images, “You are our gods.”
¹⁸You deaf ones, listen!
You blind ones, watch carefully so that you can see!
¹⁹Who is as blind as my servant?
Who is as deaf as my messenger whom I sent?
Who is as blind as my associate,
as blind as the servant of the LORD?
²⁰You, Israel, see many things, but you do not observe.
Israel opens his ears, but he does not hear.
²¹Because of his own righteousness,
the LORD was pleased to make his law great and glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 27

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. ¹⁰Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, ¹¹and do not participate in fruitless deeds of darkness. Instead, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention the things that are done by people in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes things visible. ¹⁴Therefore it is said, "Awake, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

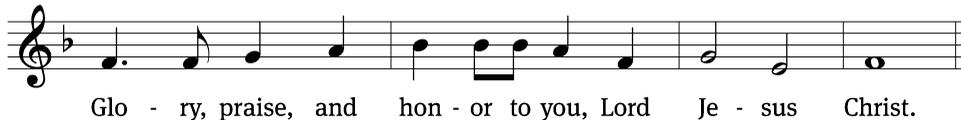
Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 12:2



Refrain



Tone



Let us fix our eyes on Je - sus, the pioneer and perfect - er of faith.

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GOSPEL

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

¹As Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His 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 God's works might be revealed in connection with him. ⁴I must do 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."

⁶After saying this, Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and spread the mud on the man's eyes. ⁷"Go," Jesus told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

¹³They brought this man who had been blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight.

"He put mud on my eyes," the man told them. "I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶Then some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath." Others were saying, "How can a sinful man work such miraculous signs?"

There was division among them, ¹⁷so they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about him, because he opened your eyes?"

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

³⁴They answered him, "You were entirely born in sinfulness! Yet you presume to teach us?" And they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out. When he found him, he asked, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

³⁶"Who is he, sir," the man replied, "that I may believe in him?"

³⁷Jesus answered, "You have seen him, and he is the very one who is speaking with you."

³⁸Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" and he knelt down and worshipped him.

³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, in order that those who do not see will see, and those who do see will become blind."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise and See | CW 691

THE THIRD ARTICLE

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

WORSHIP NOTES

- 1) The service is not a collection of unrelated bumper sticker slogans strung together. It is an intentional dialog between God and His people. *You can see the flow of conversation most clearly if you open the blue hymnal to page 154 and the following pages.* It begins with us confessing our sins. God responds by forgiving our sins (through the pastor). We respond by praising Him for His forgiveness and praying that He work in our hearts through His Word. He responds by speaking to us in the Scripture Lessons. Back and forth it goes.
- 2) Hymn #691 “Awake, O Sleeper” is tied directly to the 2nd Scripture lesson from Ephesians 5.
- 3) Why does the minister wear a robe? To cover him up. It’s a way of emphasizing that he represents and speaks for someone else – namely, God. It’s not unlike the way a judge in the court of law is covered up in a robe. He/she represents the law.
- 4) Psalm 27 ties into the theme of seeing the Light of Christ. Consider these phrases:
 - “The LORD is my light and my salvation
 - “...to gaze on the beauty of the LORD”
 - “I will see the goodness of the LORD”
- 5) What do I actually receive in the Lord’s Supper? The true body and blood of Jesus with the bread and the wine. Not in a symbolic way, but in a miraculous and very real way.