

Lent 3

PEACE LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

March 4, 2026

WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Please note these things:

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. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THESE WEDNESDAY SERVICES

The main reason for our Wednesday evening services during Lent is to hear the Passion History of Christ leading up to his death and burial. This year we are hearing it – segment by segment – from the Gospel of Matthew.

We don't get to hear the Passion History like this in its unbroken entirety any other time of the year. This tradition helps us to prepare for the celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday.

THOSE WHO TURNED THEIR BACKS ON HIM

Throughout the Passion History how many times did people close to Jesus turn their backs on Him? If He was to be the Redeemer of the world, He had to go it alone. He would not be cheered, celebrated or assisted along the way. Rather, abandonment, isolation and being singled out were His lot. But He resolved to take this bitter pill for our sakes in order to save us. How precious is His love for us! There is no end to the thanks and obedience we owe Him.

Before the service... here's an idea: look up one of the hymns that we will be singing tonight in the hymnal. Read through the words of the hymn. Drink in what it's saying.

Psalms 142... take in these words as though Jesus is speaking them.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN OFFERINGS

The offerings from our Wednesday Lenten services will go toward our Peace Lutheran School tuition assistance. The Tuition Assistance Fund supports member families who desire to send their children to Peace but cannot afford tuition.

YOU CAN GIVE GENERAL OFFERINGS ELECTRONICALLY

Log on to our website – www.peacewels.org – and click on “Current Member Information” under the “Church” top menu.

The Bible tells us to give a regular percentage of our income (1 Co 16:2). We are to give from the top and not the leftovers after the bills are paid (Pr 3:9). In this way we ascribe to God his worth to us as well as our confidence in him to provide.

THE SYMBOL ON THE COVER

The letters on the cross (It looks like “ihs”) are the first three letters of the name “Jesus” in Greek. The Christian Church has used this symbol for many centuries to remind us of Jesus.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider..... Rev. Jordan Ertl
KeyboardMrs. Lynn Proeber
VocalistAllison Schweiger

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

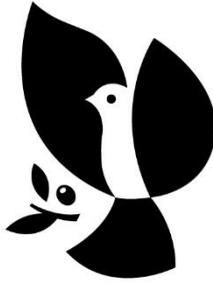
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Peace

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

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I cry to you, O LORD;

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

Listen to my cry, for I am in desperate need;

rescue me from those who pursue me, for they are too strong for me.

Set me free from my prison,

that I may praise your name.

Then the righteous will gather about me

because of your goodness to 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*

READING

Matthew 26:36–56

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane. He told his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." ³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and he began to be sorrowful and distressed. ³⁸Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death. Stay here, and keep watch with me."

³⁹He went a little farther, fell on his face, and prayed. He said, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

⁴⁰He came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "So, were you not able to stay awake with me for one hour?" ⁴¹Watch and pray, so that you do not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

⁴²He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to pass from me unless I drink it, may your will be done." ⁴³Again he returned and found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time. He said the same words as before. ⁴⁵Then he returned to his disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Rise. Let us go. Look, my betrayer is near."

⁴⁷While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly Judas (one of the Twelve) arrived. With him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign: "The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him." ⁴⁹Immediately he went to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Friend, why are you here?"

Then they advanced, took hold of Jesus, and arrested him. ⁵¹Suddenly, one of the men with Jesus reached out his hand, drew his sword, and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off

his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place, because all who take the sword will die by the sword. ⁵³Do you not realize that I could call on my Father, and at once he would provide me with more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen this way?”

⁵⁵At that same time Jesus said to the crowd, “Have you come out to arrest me with swords and clubs as if I were a robber? Day after day I was sitting in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets would be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

The Garden of Gethsemane | CW 424

A vocalist will sing verse 1.

DEVOTION

Matthew 26:56b

All the Disciples

CREED

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own¹, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

¹ “All this he did that I should be his own...” – are there more beautiful words in the whole world?

PRAYER

O God our Father, by your mercy and might the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light. We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN*Now the Light Has Gone Away*³ / **CW 784:2**

2 Je - sus, Sav - ior, wash a - way all that I've done wrong to - day.



Make me ev - er more like you, good and gen - tle, kind and true.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

Tune: Liederbuch für Kleinkinder-Schulen, Kaiserswerth, 1842

Text and tune: Public domain

² Consider the contrast: all the disciples abandoning Jesus in the garden versus the final verse of this hymn in which Jesus vows to the soul that on Him “has leaned for repose,” I’ll never, no never, no never forsake!

³ This hymn would make a beautiful personal bedtime prayer.