

March 16th, 2025 – Lent 2

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Peace Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

Welcome! Thank you for joining us this morning for worship. In our service, we gather to praise our God who in his great love for us has bought us back from sin, death, and the devil through the blood of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

About the Picture: In this season of Lent, our focus is on the cross of Christ.

Offering: The offering is collected as you enter into the sanctuary, in an offering plate located on a small table. Guests and visitors do not need to feel obligated to make an offering, though you are welcome to do so.

[Online Offering Portal](#)

Service of the Word

p. 38

Hymn: 466—Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose

1 Though thoughtless thousands choose the road
That leads the soul away from God,
This happiness, dear Lord, be mine:
To live and die entirely thine.

2 In Christ, by faith, I wish to live,
From him my life, my all, receive,
To him devote my fleeting hours,
Serve him alone with all my pow'rs.

3 Christ is my everlasting all.
To him I look; on him I call.
He will my ev'ry want supply
In time and through eternity.

4 Soon will the Lord, my life, appear;
Soon shall I end my trials here,
Leave sin and sorrow, death and pain.
To live is Christ; to die is gain.

5 Soon will the saints in glory meet,
Soon walk through ev'ry golden street
And sing on ev'ry blissful plain,
"To live is Christ; to die is gain."

Stand

INVOCATION

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

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as his own dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him."

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is a simple four-note phrase: G4, A4, B4, G4. The lyrics "A - men." are written below the notes.

Be seated

THE WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 26:8–15

⁸But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the Lord had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people seized him and said, “You must die! ⁹Why do you prophesy in the Lord’s name that this house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate and deserted?” And all the people crowded around Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard about these things, they went up from the royal palace to the house of the Lord and took their places at the entrance of the New Gate of the Lord’s house. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and all the people, “This man should be sentenced to death because he has prophesied against this city. You have heard it with your own ears!”

¹²Then Jeremiah said to all the officials and all the people: “The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the things you have heard. ¹³Now reform your ways and your actions and obey the Lord your God. Then the Lord will relent and not bring the disaster he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴As for me, I am in your hands; do with me whatever you think is good and right. ¹⁵Be assured, however, that if you put me to death, you will bring the guilt of innocent blood on yourselves and on this city and on those who live in it, for in truth the Lord has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 42-43 (p. 82)

Refrain: Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

As the deer pants for streams of / water,
so my soul pants for / you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the / living God.
Where can I go and / meet with God?

Why are you downcast, / O my soul?
Why so disturbed with- / in me?

Put your / hope in God,
for I will yet praise him, my Savior / and my God.

Refrain: Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Send forth your light and your truth, let them / guide me;
let them bring me to the place / where you dwell.

Then I will go to the altar of God, my joy and / my delight.
I will praise you with the harp, O / God, my God.

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

Refrain: Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

The "Noisy Offering" follows the children's sermon. Children are invited to help the acolytes and ushers pass metal pails through the pews to collect coins for Kids CARE, a program that supports children's missions through LWMS.

Stand

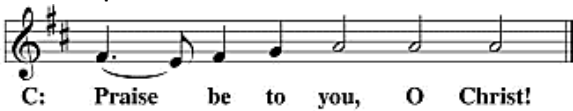
Gospel: Luke 13:31–35

³¹At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”

³²He replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.’ ³³In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!

³⁴“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord



Be seated

Hymn of the Day: 415 – Be Still, My Soul

The offering is brought to the altar during the final verse.

Our online [giving portal can be found here.](#)

1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he lived below.

3 Be still, my soul, though dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in the vale of tears;
Then you will better know his love, his heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away.

4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Sermon: Philipians 3 – Walking to Your Destiny

- 1. Following your gut**
- 2. Following Christ**

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Be seated

THANKSGIVING

Prayer of the Church

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger of the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; parents and caregivers; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions

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

Silent prayer

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our

Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

***Hymn* 111 – Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing**

1 Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross we spend,
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinner's dying friend.

2 Here we rest in wonder, viewing
All our sins on Jesus laid;
Here we see redemption flowing
From the sacrifice he made.

3 Here we find the dawn of heaven
While upon the cross we gaze,
See our trespasses forgiven,
And our songs of triumph raise.

4 Oh, that, near the cross abiding,

We may to the Savior cleave,
Naught with him our hearts dividing,
All for him content to leave!

5 Lord, in loving contemplation
Fix our hearts and eyes on you
Till we taste your full salvation
And your unveiled glory view.

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness and comforted in life and death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.



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 upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Be seated

Hymn: 417 – I'm But a Stranger Here

1 I'm but a stranger here;
Heav'n is my home.
Earth is a desert drear;
Heav'n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand
Round me on ev'ry hand.
Heav'n is my fatherland;
Heav'n is my home.

2 What though the tempest rage,
Heav'n is my home.
Short is my pilgrimage;
Heav'n is my home.
And time's wild, wintry blast
Soon shall be overpast;
I shall reach home at last;
Heav'n is my home.

3 There at my Savior's side --
Heav'n is my home.--
I shall be glorified;
Heav'n is my home.
There are the good and blest,
Those I love most and best,
And there, I, too, shall rest;
Heav'n is my home.

4 Therefore I murmur not;

Heav'n is my home.
Whate'er my earthly lot,
Heav'n is my home.
And I shall surely stand
There at my Lord's right hand.
Heav'n is my Fatherland;
Heav'n is my home.

"Service of the Word" and all hymn lyrics

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Thank you to Corrine Ziesemer for playing the organ this morning.

THIS WEEK AT PEACE:

**Today, March 16: Bible Study & Sunday School,
Worship, Fellowship Acolytes: Jonah Haasch & Layne
Lemke**

Monday, March 17: Griefshare, 6 pm

Wednesday, March 19: Adult Bible Study, 10 am

Catechism, 5 pm

**Supper, 5:30 pm (Ladies' Aid—barbecues &
cheesy potatoes)**

Worship: 6:30 pm

Adult choir and chime choir follow worship

Friday, March 21: PLS Entertainment Night, 6:30 pm

Sunday, March 23: Bible study and Sunday School, 8 am

**Worship with Communion (choir sings), Fellowship,
Council Meeting**

Acolytes: Jackson Stocker & Larisa Schwark

COMING UP:

March 26, April 2, 9: Midweek Lent

April 12: Spring Cleaning

April 17: Maundy Thursday Worship

April 18: Good Friday Worship

April 19: Easter Breakfast Prep

April 20: Easter

April 26: LWMS Rally, Ripon

March Birthdays! Happy birthday to our March

members: Dan Bierman, Dan Lueck, Alice Bazeley, Corrine Ziesemer, Shellie Hiemstra, Libby Jahnke, Erin Pulice, Jonah Haasch, Nancy Himebaugh, Nolan Decker, Paul Schoeneck, Melissa Tadman, Larisa Schwark, Michele Jacobs, Sara Hintz, Alicia Kelma, Jenna Kelma, Dawn Koopman, and Justin Arndt!

Did we miss a birthday? Fill out a friendship register, leave a note in Pastor's box, or email

PeaceChurchGL@gmail.com.

Midweek Lenten Suppers and Worship

Various groups host Wednesday evening suppers in Lent—they provide the main course, and we need volunteers to bring beverages and desserts! Sign up in the fellowship hall! Our area WELS pastors also participate in a pulpit swap for these services, which means we get to hear from different pastors (and a trainee – “Vicar”) throughout the season. This year's midweek Lenten sermons will focus on Psalm 51.

Noisy Offering This Morning

Kids are invited to help the ushers and acolytes collect a coin offering in tin pails today after the children's sermon. These offerings will go toward LWMS Kids CARE, which supports children's ministries—currently St. John's church and school in Antigua.

March Food Drive

Please consider donating to the Green Lake County Food Pantry throughout the month of March. See flyers around the building for lists of items needed by the food pantry.

Easter is coming soon!

Signups are out to volunteer for food donations or setup/serving/cleanup crews for Easter breakfast! Many hands are needed.

Order Easter Flowers

Sign up in the fellowship hall to order flowers for Easter! They will be part of our altar display on Easter Sunday and then you can take them home to enjoy and/or replant.

Easter Lilies: 6" diameter pots = \$15

Tulip, crocus, daffodil, hyacinth: 6" = \$12; 4" = \$7.

Garage Accoutrements

As the garage nears completion, it's time to accessorize! The building itself is fully funded; now we're looking for donations to add shelving and fixtures. To sponsor a project, grab an angel from the garage poster in the fellowship hall, then attach it to your check and put it in the offering plate.

· Wall rail and attachments: \$50, 2 needed

- Wall mount shelves: \$80, 2 needed
- Garage door openers: \$200, 2 needed
- Hand tool kit: \$40
- Outdoor lights: \$30, 2 needed
- Outdoor spotlight: \$40
- Ceiling lights (halogen panel): \$20, 5 needed
- Shelves: \$300 each, 5 needed
- Chair/table rack, rolling chairs: \$500
- Platform utility truck: \$300

OFFERINGS 3-2-25

General Fund \$4,792.00
 Ash Wednesday \$520.00
 Church Birthday/Anniversary \$21.00
 Church Blacktop \$8.00
 Church Furnace Fund \$58.00
 Church Outdoor Sign \$183.00
 Lent Envelope \$25.00
 Meditations \$25.00
 Plate Offering \$152.00
 Church Applied To Operating \$133.00
 Self Denial \$225.00
 Tuition \$1,040.00
 Roof Fund \$8.00
 School Family Financial Aid \$12.00

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Total \$7,202.00

Our weekly offering goal is \$9,626.

In Memory of Fred Schmidt
 To: Outdoor Sign

From: Audrey Kelma

In Memory of Rachel Siebel Biertzer

To: Outdoor Sign

From: Audrey Kelma

In Memory of Carol Shady

To: Outdoor Sign

From: Audrey Kelma