

Peace Lutheran Church
Mid-Week 3 in Lent
March 19, 2025 + 6:30pm

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: We gather together knowing that we are heard by the Triune God.
We gather together in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and
of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- L: Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!
- C: **You have given me relief when I was in distress.**
- L: Be gracious to me;
- C: **And hear my prayer. (Psalm 4:1)**
- L: O Lord, You hear the desire of the afflicted;
- C: **You will strengthen their heart; You will incline Your ear (Psalm 10:17)**
- L: I call upon You, for You will answer me, O God;
- C: **Incline Your ear to me; hear my words. (Psalm 17:6)**
- L: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;
- C: **Be gracious to me and answer me! (Psalm 27:7)**

OPENING HYMN

“Come to Calv’ry’s Holy Mountain”

LSB 435 v. 1-4

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- L: Lord Jesus, hear us as we confess our sins.
- C: **Forgive me, Jesus, for all that I have done to harm my neighbors.**
- L: Lord Jesus, hear us as we confess our sins.
- C: **Forgive me, Jesus, for all that I have failed to do.**
- L: Lord Jesus, hear us as we confess our sins.
- C: **Forgive me, Jesus, for the ways that I have sinned against You in thought, word
and deed.**
- L: Lord Jesus, hear us as we confess our sins.
- C: **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

*(Please silently reflect on how Jesus listens to—and forgives—the confessions of
his people.)*

- L: Listen now for you will hear Good News! Our Savior, Servant, Friend, Jesus, hears our confession. Our sins were nailed with Him to cross and cast with Him into the tomb. They are forgiven, and they are gone. Hear these words now as though they were spoken not by me, but by Jesus himself: your sins are forgiven. Amen.
- C: **What a savior we have in Jesus.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 29:10-14

“For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me. When you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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

EPISTLE

1 John 5:13-15

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

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

GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How

can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee "

LSB 702 v. 1-4

SERMON

"Listener"
John 15:15

Pastor Dave Karolus

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING HYMN

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

LSB 571 v. 1-5

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER

- L: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
- C: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- L: The Father invites us to come to him. The Son grants us access through the cross. The Holy Spirit guides us in the way of holiness. And, so, may the triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—be our hope, peace, and joy, now and for all eternity. Amen.
- C: What a friend we have in Jesus!**

CLOSING HYMN

“Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake”

LSB 688 v. 1

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