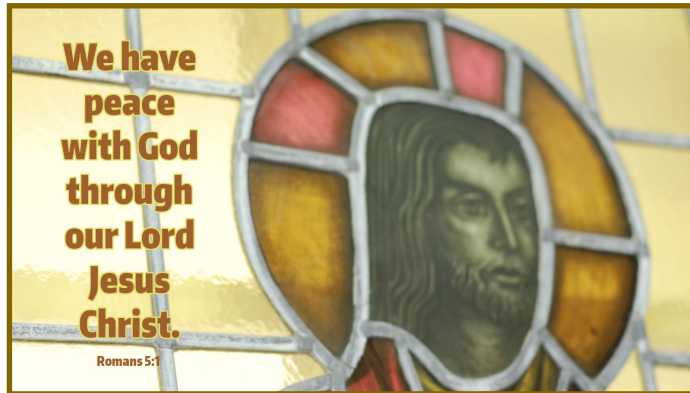


**Peace Lutheran Church**  
**St. Joseph, MI**  
**Worship with Communion**  
**Sunday, February 25, 2024 10:15 am**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

*The purpose of Peace Lutheran Church is to experience  
the peace of God with all people.*

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**Prelude**     *Prayer*

Open my eyes that I might see.  
Open my ears that I might hear.  
Loosen my tongue that I might speak.  
Open my heart that I might heal.

**Welcome**

**Order for Confession** *(please stand as you are able)*

**In joy and thanksgiving we begin our worship in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.** (Psalm 146:2)

Let us confess our sins, trusting that God is faithful and just and will hear us and grant us forgiveness. *(silence for reflection and personal confession)*

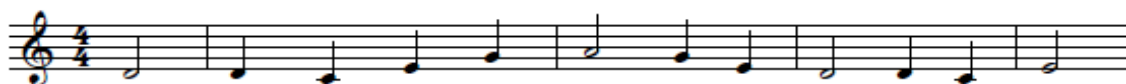
By faith, children of God, know that your sins are forgiven in Christ.

## Prayer of the Day

O God, we offer our hearts to You. We know that you see everything. We know that you love us more than we can love ourselves. We ask, O God, that You would free us from the lies of the enemy that we so easily accept. Teach us to see ourselves from Your perspective. You alone are Almighty God; Your perspective alone is true, and so we surrender this morning to You our Father from whom we come, Jesus our brother who shares our frame, and Holy Spirit our breath. **Amen**

## Gathering Hymn

### What Wondrous Love Is This



1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?  
2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;



What won - drous love is this, O my soul?  
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;



What won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,  
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful be,



To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my soul;  
While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing on!



To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?  
While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: Alexander Means, 1801-1853

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE, 12 9 12 12 9; *Southern Harmony*, 1853; harm. from *Cantate Domino*, 1980

## **Greeting**

May the Grace of God our heavenly Father who laid the foundations of the world, the love of the Son who is seated at the right hand of God in majesty, and the peace of the Holy Spirit which surpasses all understanding, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray ....

Holy One, your Son came into this world bringing salvation and life to all who believe. May your Spirit breathe life into the dry bones of our lives so that we may follow and serve you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** *(please be seated)*

## **The First Lesson Genesis 17:1-7**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 22:23-28**

You who fear the LORD, praise Him!

All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,  
and fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!

**For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted;  
nor has He hidden His face from Him;  
but when He cried to Him, He heard.**

My praise shall be of You in the great assembly;

I will pay My vows before those who fear Him.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek Him will praise the LORD.**

**Let your heart live forever!**

All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

**For the kingdom is the LORD's,  
and He rules over the nations**

## **The Second Lesson Romans 5:1-10**

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading Mark 8:27-37** *(please stand as you are able)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the Eighth Chapter

**Glory be to you O Lord.**

Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, "Who do men say that I am?" So they answered, "John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said to Him, "You are the Christ." Then He strictly warned them that they should tell no one about Him. And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to You, O Christ.** *(please be seated)*

## **Sermon**

### **Scarcity or Abundance**

#### **Quote of the Day**

*Your thoughts become your words; your words become your actions;  
your actions become your habits; your habits become your character;  
and your character becomes your life. ~ Gandhi*

#### **Practice for the Week**

Pay attention to the source of the thoughts you entertain.

# Hymn of the Day

## BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

ST. ELIZABETH



1. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of Cre - a - tion, Son of
2. Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3. Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



1. God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love thee, Tru -
2. flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je -
3. spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je -
4. God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise,



1. ly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. sus is pur - er; He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
3. sus shines pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
4. ad - o - ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: 55 7 55 8; Psalm 45:3; *Schönster Herr Jesu*, in *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677;  
tr. by Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904. Music: Trad. Silesian Melody; *Schlesische Volkslieder*, Leipzig, 1842.

## **The Apostles' Creed** *(please stand as you are able)*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the Church**

Let us pray ...

*Each petition concludes:* Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share the peace with each other.

## **Setting Aside and Letting Go**



**The Offering** *(please remain standing as you are able)*

## Create in Me

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O  
God, and re - new a right spir - it with in me. Cast me  
not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your  
Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free  
Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cre - ate in me a clean  
heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

## Offertory Prayer

Lord God, **we give you thanks for the wondrous gifts you have so freely given us. You are the source of our lives, our work, and our possessions. In an act of worship we offer back to you what you have first given to us, that our sacrifices in some small way, might express our devotion to you and be used to spread the Good News of Christ to the world. We pray this in the strong name of Jesus. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, and salutary...we praise your Name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san-na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san-na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est.

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### **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, for ever and ever. Amen.** *(please be seated)*

### **Distribution**

*(When directed by the usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. All who are baptized or commune in their home church are welcome at the Lord's Table. Adults and children are welcome to come forward for a blessing: simply cross your arms in front of yourself.)*

### **Communion**

*After all have returned to their places, we stand and the Pastor continues.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

### **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heav'nly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Amen

## Announcements

## Closing Hymn

# Give Me Jesus



In the morn - ing when I rise, in the  
Dark\_\_\_\_\_ mid - night was my cry, dark\_\_\_\_\_  
Just a - bout the break of day, just a -  
Oh,\_\_\_\_\_ when I come to die, oh,\_\_\_\_\_



morn - ing when I rise, in the morn - ing when I  
mid - night was my cry, dark\_\_\_\_\_ mid - night was my  
bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of  
when I come to die, oh,\_\_\_\_\_ when I come to



rise, give me Je - sus. Give me Je - sus, give me Je -  
cry, give me Je - sus.  
day, give me Je - sus.  
die, give me Je - sus.



sus, You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Tune: African American Spiritual

## **Benediction**

In the name of the Father, the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, remember brothers and sisters, to show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. Instead, go into the world to share God's love so that all will know his goodness and mercy. **Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Postlude**

### **Next Week's Readings**

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-22 [23-25]

Assisting with  
Worship

**Worship Lead:** Pastor Walker  
**Guitarist:** Jim Thurman  
**Audio:** Josh Lochner  
**Video:** Josh Lochner  
**Usher:** Gary Walker  
**Altar Guild:** Teresa Caspar  
**Welcome Center:** Chris Bennett  
**Communion Assistant:** Teresa Caspar  
**Lector:** Virgil Bennett  
**Greeters:** Bob Phillips & Herb Kroening

**February Birthdays**

21 Debbie Kroening  
25 Bob Phillips  
28 Pastor Schmidt

**The Shut-Ins**

Leona Barowicz  
Andrea Barowicz  
Evelyn Chevrette  
Darlene Gaul  
Marilyn Hettig  
Delores Kraklau  
Betty Pliley  
Jerry Pliley  
Ruth Retzke  
Gloria Siewert  
Jane Wilson

**Prayer Requests**

Angie Layman  
(cancer)  
Juli Nurbhai  
(brain tumor)  
Lisa Smith  
(cancer)  
Joyce White  
(cancer)  
Teresa Hogan  
(stenosis)

Worship Attendance & Giving

**Sunday Attendance (2/18) Total: 32**

**Sunday Giving: \$900.00**

**Simply Giving: \$0.00**

\*Major Rep. & Maint: \$0.00

**Wednesday Attendance (2/21) Total: 30**

**Wednesday Giving: \$218.00**

**Total Giving: \$1,118.00**

**Total Operating Fund: \$1,065.00**

**Weekly Budget Need: \$2,500.00**

**Over/(Under) Budget: (\$1,435.00)**

\* Designated Funds, which are subtracted from total giving to make our operating fund

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

The Council will be meeting on  
Thursday, February 29 at 6:30 p.m.

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### **SEASON OF LENT**

#### **Join us for our Lenten Midweek Services**

February 28

March 6, 13, & 20

5:45 p.m. Soup Dinner

6:30 p.m. Service

### **BINGO**

Will be Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

February 27

March 6, 13, 20

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### **HELP NEEDED**

We are looking for a chair person for our Soup Kitchen Team!  
Contact the church office or Chris Bennett (269-208-5016)  
with any questions.



**Pastor:** Brent Walker  
**Pastor Email:** brent38@mailbox.org  
**Church Secretary:** Laura Ruble  
**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9 am-12 pm  
**Church Office:** (269) 556-7000  
**Church Email:** PeaceLutheranStJoe@sbcglobal.net  
**Website:** www.PeaceLutheranStJoe.org  
**Facebook:** Peace Lutheran Church NALC

## **Christian Education and Prayer Opportunities:**

**Monday:** 9 am - Noon: Office Hours  
**Tuesday:** 9 am - Noon: Office Hours  
10 am - Bible Study Class  
6 pm - BINGO  
**Wednesday:** 9 am - Noon: Office Hours  
5:45 pm - Soup Dinner  
6:30 pm - Ash Wednesday Service  
**Thursday:** 8:30 am - Men's Bible Study  
9 am - Noon: Office Hours  
**Friday:** Office Closed  
**Sunday:** 10:15 am - Worship with Communion

**Welcome members, friends and visitors!** Please sign the register at the welcome center. Visitors, we pray your welcome was warm here at Peace and we invite you to visit with the Pastor following the service. If you'd like to know more about the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church, please fill out our card online by pointing your phone camera at the QR code to the right. Prayer requests can be posted to the live chat or by filling out a prayer request form and giving it to the usher.



## **Communion**

Communion is celebrated every Sunday. Additional communion services may be added during special seasons such as Advent and Lent. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. White grape juice is available.

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