St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church Founded 1856 1343 Penniman Hvenue Plymouth, MI 48170 Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



March 31, 2019 The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Service Notes: - The following psalms in the front of the hymnal (page 64f) will aid you in your meditation before receiving the Lord's Supper: Psalms 34, 42-43, 51, 84, 116, 150. Prayers for preparation for worship are on pages 10 and 11 in the hymnal. A form for preparation for Communion is on page 156.

- Please sign the friendship registry in the pews before the service or during the offering. If you have a prayer request or would like Pastor Schaefer to visit or call you, please note your request.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. Our guests are kindly asked to note that it is our practice to first become a member of our communion fellowship before communing with us. Please speak to our pastor about becoming a member of our communion fellowship.

THE COMMON SERVICE (page 15)

OPENING HYMN: #TLH 280 "Return, O Wanderer, Return" (See next page.) (Public Domain, William B. Collyer and Herbert S. Oakeley)

280

Return, O Wanderer, Return



4 Return, O wanderer, return
And wipe away the falling tear;
"Tis God who says, "No longer mourn";
"Tis Mercy's voice invites thee near.

M: In the name of the Father and of (+) the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Rite of Holy Baptism

Baptism of
Ashton Wilton
son of Anthony Wilton and Hunter Hauk

BE SEATED

The baptismal party gathers at the font.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ gave his Church the command to baptize when he said: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Scripture makes plain the universal need for Baptism. As children of Adam, we belong to a fallen race. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature and would be lost forever unless delivered by our Lord Jesus Christ. He willingly took on himself the curse of sin and by his death on the cross redeemed us and all people.

Christ's almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. The Apostle Peter declares, "Baptism now saves you." Scripture also clearly teaches that the power and promise of Baptism is intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost the apostle testified, "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." By water and the Spirit, we are born again and united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

For the baptism of infants and young children

M: In bringing this child to Baptism, you are doing what is Godpleasing. Jesus himself invited little children to become a part of his kingdom when he said: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

The minister marks the sign of the cross on each of those present for Baptism, saying:

M: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart (+) to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father, through your stern judgment the unbelieving world was destroyed by the flood, but according to your great mercy, you saved Noah and his family. You engulfed stubborn Pharaoh and his army in the waters of the Red Sea but led your people through those same waters to safety on dry land. In the waters of the Jordan your own Son was baptized and anointed with the Spirit. By these signs you foreshadowed the precious, cleansing bath which you give us in Holy Baptism.

Clinging to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on *Ashton* through this water of Baptism, drown in *him* all sin inherited from Adam and any other evil *he* may do. Set *him* apart from the unbelieving world and hold *him* safe and secure in the holy ark of the Church. Keep *him* always fervent in spirit and joyful in hope so that *he* may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

M: Let us confess the faith of the Church, the faith into which this child will be baptized, the Apostles' Creed.

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.

The minister says to the parents or guardians of each infant or young child presented for baptism:

M: Do you desire to have your child baptized into this Christian faith?

R: Yes.

The minister applies water to the one being baptized as he says:

M: Ashton Wilton, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The minister, laying his hand on the one baptized, says:

M: The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven.

May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace (+) be with you.

EXHORTATION TO PARENTS

If the parents are present for the baptism of a child, the minister may say:

M: Dear parents, our Lord Jesus Christ, in instituting Baptism, not only commanded that children should be baptized, but that they should be taught to obey everything he has commanded us. I therefore ask you:

Do you sincerely intend to bring up *Ashton* in the way of the Lord and to instruct *him* in the truths of God's saving Word so that *he* may grow in faith, serve God with a Christian life, and remain in *his* baptismal grace unto the end? If so, answer: Yes, and *we* ask God to help *us*.

R: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

EXHORTATION TO THE CONGREGATION

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love, therefore, urges all of us to assist in whatever manner possible so that all who are baptized may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, and we ask God to help us

C: Yes, and we ask God to help us.

BAPTISMAL GARMENT

M: This white garment shows that Christ has taken away your sin and put on you his perfect robe of righteousness.

BAPTISMAL CANDLE

A baptismal candle may be lit from the paschal candle and be given to the baptized (or to the parent or sponsor of a child) by the minister who says:

M: Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Receive this burning light. Live always by the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for his coming, that you may meet him with joy and enter with him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom, which shall have no end.

Light this candle again and again in years to come on anniversaries of this day, and recall what God has done for *Ashton* through the gift of his Son and through Baptism which unites *him* with Jesus in his death to sin and resurrection to new life.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray.

M: Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the gift of Baptism by which you wash away sin and give us a new and eternal life. Help us each day to remember that through Baptism you clothe us with Christ that we may stand holy and righteous before you. Look with favor on *Ashton* that *he* may be kept safe by the gift of your Spirit, grow daily in your grace, and live forever by the power of the risen Christ. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to all the baptized, so that all may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The minister dismisses the baptismal party, saying:

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ, strengthen you by his Spirit, that Christ, dwelling in your hearts by faith, may fill you with all spiritual blessings. Go in peace (+).

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED



FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 12:1-6

12 You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

² "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

⁴ And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

- ⁵ "Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.
- ⁶ Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

PSALM OF THE DAY: The choir and congregation will sing "The First Song of Isaiah" The choir will sing the refrain first, then the congregation will repeat it. Afterwards, the congregation will sing as indicated.

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³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid.___ For the



Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

VERSE

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

REFRAIN

VERSE

Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

REFRAIN

VERSE

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

REFRAIN (sung twice)

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SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

- ¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,
- "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

VERSE OF THE DAY (sung by the choir)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants." ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

³ So he told them this parable:

²⁵ "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



GOSPEL RESPONSE: "How Deep the Riches"

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How deep the riches of our God; how wondrous is God's steadfast care. In Christ our God has loved us well, has brought us hope in our despair. For who could take us from God's heart, could separate us from this love? In death, in life, in dark of night, we walk with God, our heart's delight.

We walk amid the suffering which Christ himself had come to bear. He gathered in his arms our pain, and of his cross we have a share. His death has won for us a life which never will be snatched away. His death has set our living free; we find a home on Calvary.

For life is changed, not ended now; in death we hold the victor's crown. And when our days have passed on earth we shall see God who gave us birth.

Until that day, O Lord, be near; come walk with us and calm our fear. Come be the strength we need this day and guide us on our chosen way.

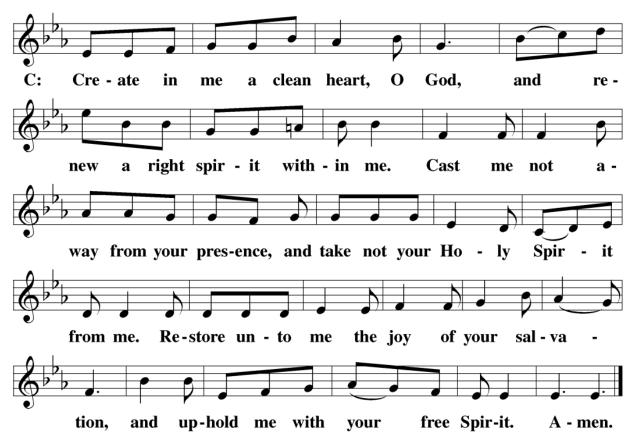
BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: #304 "Jesus Sinners Does Receive"

SERMON

STAND

PSALM 51 RESPONSE (page 20)



BE SEATED

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR THE SEASON OF LENT (page 125)

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

C: We confess that without your love we are lost.

M: 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.

C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

M: 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 their values as Christians.

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

M: 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.

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

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

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

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. *Silent prayer.*

M: 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.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.



PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.



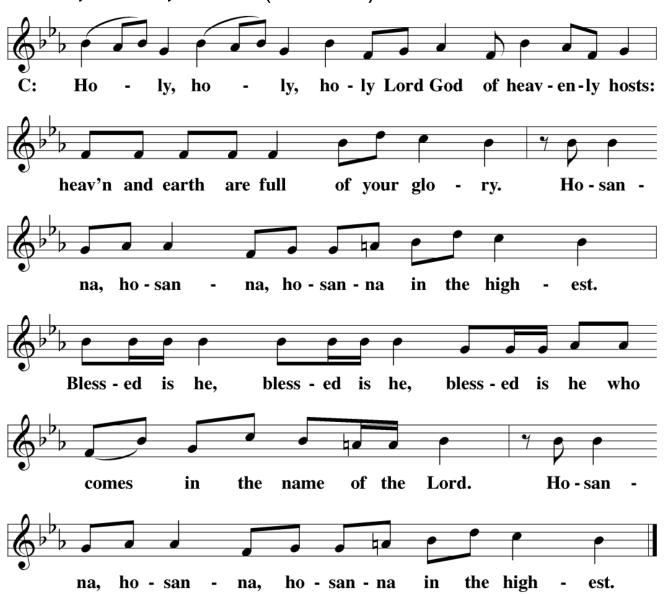
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a

tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sanctus)



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my

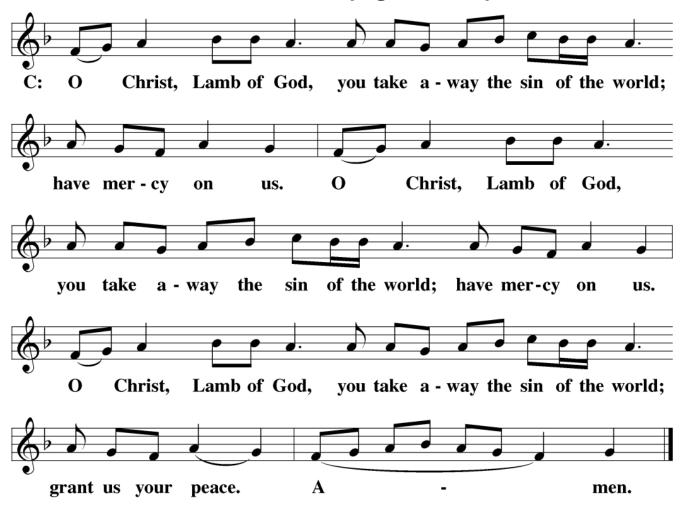
(+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is the new testament in my (+) blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace (+) of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

#384 "By Grace I'm Saved"

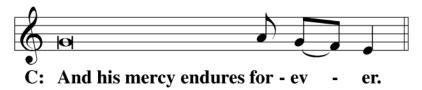
THANKSGIVING (page 24)

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON (Nunc Dimittis)



M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not

forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



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OFFICIANTS:

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Communion Assistants: Ron Bude and Mark Castellese

Organist: Jan Jacobi; Choir: Senior Choir

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Today - 9:30 AM Divine Service

-10:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

Monday - 6:00 PM Youth Catechism

Tuesday - 7:00 PM Board Meetings: Board of Trustees and Board of

Education/Stewardship

- 8:00 PM Church Council Meeting

Wednesday - 8:30 AM Bible Class

- 6:00 to 6:45 PM Lenten Meal

- 7:00 PM Lenten Vespers Service

Thursday - 6:30 PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

- 7:00 PM Senior Choir rehearsal

Sunday - 9:30 AM Divine Service

-10:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

Reminder: Wednesday Vespers Service, April 3 at 7:00 PM with a Lenten meal at 6:00 PM.

The Palm Sunday Divine Service (April 14): St. Peter's congregation will once again host our preschool students and their families. The children will sing their Hosannas to the Lord. Please welcome our visitors at the service and the reception afterwards. Any other children in the congregation who wish to participate with the preschoolers are asked to be in the church basement by 9:20 AM.

Serving next week:

Altar Guild – Margaret Seppanen (April 7) Ushering - Sunday (April 7) Team 2; Wednesday (April 10) Team 3

Lenten Schedule of Wednesday Services Theme: "Three Words of Truth"

Date	Sermon Text	Sermon Theme	Celebrant
April 3	John 18:33-40	What is Truth?	Pastor Frey
April 10	John 19:14-18	Take Him Away!	Pastor Schroeder

PASTORAL CARE & MERCY - Please remember with prayers, cards and visits those whose needs have been reported.

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