

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



February 14, 2024
Ash Wednesday

"God on Trial"

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.
- Guests, please sign the guest registry in the narthex.
- If you have a prayer request or would like Pastor Schaefer to visit or call you, please talk to him (734-658-5735).

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.

REMAIN SEATED

PSALM 51 (Spoken by the pastor)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;

according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil
in your sight,

so that you are proved right when you speak and
justified when you judge.

Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.
Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
build up the walls of Jerusalem.
Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt
offerings to delight you;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Silence for meditation

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Most holy and merciful Father,

**C: We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

M: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

M: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation

C: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

M: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

ABSOLUTION

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen

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THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Joel 2:12-19

¹² “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³ and rend your heart and not to your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

¹⁴ Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God?

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;

¹⁶ gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave this room, and the bride her chamber.

¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, “Where is their God?”

¹⁸ Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.

¹⁹ The Lord answered and said to his people, “Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 3:1-3

3 “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. “I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead.

2 Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.

3 Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent, If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

VERSE OF THE DAY (choir sings)

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (Joel 2:13)

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” **14** But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” **15** And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of this possessions.” **16** And he told them a

parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully,
¹⁷ and he thought to himself, “What shall I do, for I have
nowhere to store my crops?” ¹⁸ And he said, “I will do this: I
will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I
will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my
soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years;
relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool!
This night your soul is required of you, and the things you
have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So is the one who
lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of
God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from
true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from
heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary,
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with
the Scriptures.**

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead,**

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is

worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness
of sins.**

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the (+) life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

GOSPEL RESPONSE: “We Who Have Sinned” Robert Leaf © 1996

Concordia Publishing House.

We who have sinned, now need your grace. Grant us your peace. We who
have sinned come in prayer. ***Repeat***

Lord, grant us peace. Grant us your peace.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #396 “In Adam We Have All Been

One” Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Tune, Setting: ©

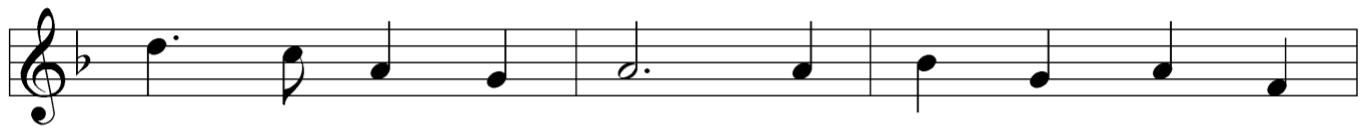
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In Adam We Have All Been One



1 In Ad - am we have all been one, One
 2 We fled our God, and los - ing him, We
 3 But your strong love, it sought us still And
 4 O Sav - ior, when we loved you not, You
 5 Send us your Spir - it; teach us truth To



huge re - bel - lious man; We all have fled that
 lost our broth - er too. Each sin - gly sought and
 sent your on - ly Son That we might hear his
 loved and saved us all; O great good Shep - herd
 purge our van - i - ty. From fan - cied wis - dom,



eve - ning voice That sought us as we ran.
 claimed his own; Each man his broth - er slew.
 shep - herd - voice And, hear - ing him, be one.
 of man - kind, Oh, hear us when we call.
 self - sought ways, O Sav - ior, set us free.

6 Then shall our song united rise
 To your eternal throne,
 Where with the Father evermore
 And Spirit you are one.

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Tune: ADAM (CM) Kurt J. Eggert, 1923-93. © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The

SERMON: 'Rich Toward God'

Sermon Text: Luke 12:13-21

STAND

PSALM 51 RESPONSE (page 20)



C: 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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

M: Holy and righteous God, as we begin again the solemn spiritual journey of Lent, we come before you in deep humility. We confess that we are sinners, both by the nature we inherit and by the sinful thoughts and desires, words and actions that nature produces. Because of our sins, we deserve only your wrath and punishment. Yet you reveal yourself, not only as a God of holiness and justice but as a God of mercy and love. Despairing of our own merits and

worthiness, and in response to your gracious invitation, we come pleading for your forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for your holy name's sake.

M: You have revealed your love and mercy for us sinners in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. You sent him into our world to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all people. Help us grasp by faith the great truth that the pain and suffering, the mockery and ridicule, and the death and punishment he endured should have been ours. Help us understand that in incomprehensible love he suffered and died for us.

C: Lord, have mercy on us for Jesus' sake.

M: In silent meditation let us reflect on our sins, praise our Savior for the forgiveness he has won for us, and ask for God's continued grace to remove any doubt that we are forgiven.

Time for silent meditation follows.

M: God of grace and mercy, may your Spirit continue to be with us as we follow the way of the cross. As we contemplate the story of our Savior's passion, build us up in our faith. Renew in us the zeal to serve you by reflecting your love in our lives. Give us the desire and the ability to boldly proclaim the grace in which we stand, so that all for whom you lived and died may join us in fellowship now and in your presence forever.

C: We offer our humble thanks and praise, our prayers and petitions, and ourselves in body and spirit to you, Lord God. Hear us, according to your promise, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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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.

BE SEATED

Please use this time for personal preparation or meditation before the Lord's Supper. A form to assist you is on page 156 in the front part of the hymnal.

STAND



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C: It is good and right so to do.

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, BWV 325) Choir sings. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685 – 1750.

Latin: Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus. Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli. Gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

English: Holy, Holy Holy. Lord God of Hosts. Heaven is full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION: #98 “Jesus I Will Ponder Now”

LENT

98

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On your ho - ly
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af -
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see your
4 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science
5 Grant that I your pas - sion view With re - pent - ant



pas - sion; With your Spir - it me en - dow
flic - tion, Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness
pas - sion, But its cause to me make known
grieve me, Let your cross my fear dis - arm;
griev - ing. Let me not bring shame to you



For such med - i - ta - tion. Grant that I in love
And your cru - ci - fix - ion; Make me see how scourge
And its ter - mi - na - tion. Ah! I al - so and
Peace of con - science give me. Help me see for - give -
By un - ho - ly liv - ing. How could I re - fuse



and faith May the im - age cher - ish Of your suf -
and rod, Spear and nails did wound you, How for them
my sin Wrought your deep af - flic - tion; This in - deed
ness won By your ho - ly pas - sion. If for me
to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful pleas - ure Since for me



f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
you died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned you.
the cause has been Of your cru - ci - fix - ion.
he slays his Son, God must have com - pas - sion!
God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out meas - ure?

6 Graciously my faith renew;
Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from you,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give you love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above
Sing your praise forever.

THANKSGIVING (page 24)

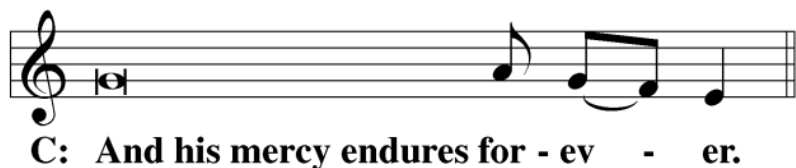
STAND

SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

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



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

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.



C: A - - men.

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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

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OFFICIANTS:

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Communion Assistant: Ron Bude

Organist: Julie Webber; Cantors: Senior Choir