

God's grace
is for me



LENT 4

March 14, 2021



**SAINT PETER
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL**

Welcome!

The members of Saint Peter Lutheran Church welcome you! If you have no church of your own, we encourage you to worship with us again and consider making this church your home.

THE SEASON OF LENT The word Lent comes from an Old English word for spring (“lengthen,” spring is when the days grow longer). For the last 1700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of special preparation. While it is a time of repentance and renewal, our 40 days of Lent are lived in the sure hope of the resurrection.

TODAY’S THEME

Faith Looks to Jesus

Traditionally this Sunday was called *Laetare* or “Rejoice” Sunday. We rejoice in the middle of Lent that God has so fully and so perfectly taken to heart our only real need as sinners, and satisfied it in Christ.

Saint Peter Lutheran Church

Website:	www.saintpeterlutheran.org
Email:	spevluth@hickorytech.net
Phone:	507.931.1866
Church Staff:	
Pastor Jack Kelly	jkelly@saintpeterlutheran.org 224.430.3925
Pastor Justin Heise	heise.justin@gmail.com 920.264.7665
Public Worship	Wednesdays at 4:30 & 6:30 p.m. Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Online streamed services	Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. (see our Facebook page)
Serving Today:	Preacher: Pr. Jack Kelly Liturgist: Pr. Justin Heise Organist/Pianist: Sammi Bunke A/V Technician: Steve Willett

Our Worship

ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word (p. 38)

OPENING HYMN

"Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound"

Christian Worship #379



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me;
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,



That saved a wretch like me! I
His Word my hope se - cures. He
I have al - read - y come; 'Tis
Bright shin - ing as the sun, We've



once was lost but now am found,
will my shield and por - tion be
grace has brought me safe thus far,
no less days to sing God's praise



Was blind but now I see.
As long as life en - dures.
And grace will lead me home.
Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-3, abr.; John P. Rees, 19th century, st. 4.
Tune: NEW BRITAIN (CM) *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, alt.

INVOCATION

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

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his 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.

C: 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 Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

The bronze snake.

⁴They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

⁶Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

P: The Word of the Lord.

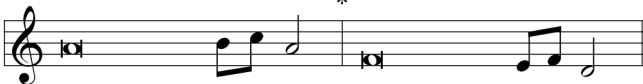
C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 38

Refrain



Psalm tone



O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger*
or discipline me in your wrath.
For your arrows have pierced me,*

and your hand has come down upon me.
My guilt has overwhelmed me*
like a burden too heavy to bear.

Refrain

All my longings lie open before you, O LORD;*
my sighing is not hidden from you.
I wait for you, O LORD;*
you will answer, O Lord my God.
Come quickly to help me,*
O Lord my Savior.

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

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Patricia Craig. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Psalm Tone: Paul Bunjes. © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:26-27

Life through the Spirit.

²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 3:16 (*Read together*)

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.

GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

Believe in the One who was lifted up.

¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God Love the World So that He Gave”

Christian Worship #391



1 God loved the world so that he gave His on - ly
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die— His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son For - gives the
5 When you are sick, when death draws near, This truth your



Son the lost to save That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
sins that you have done. You’re jus - ti - fied by
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus saves my



him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word does teach How we the bless - ed goal may reach.
Je - sus’ blood; Bap - tized, you are a child of God.
soul from death— This is the an - chor of my faith!

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: *Heiliges Lippen . . . Gesangbuch*, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

Sermon

Text: Romans 8:26-27

Theme: God’s Grace Gives Me My Own Prayer Counselor

- 1. He knows how I feel
- 2. He knows what God wants

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.

We Respond to God's Word

OFFERING (taken at the door)

The members of Saint Peter Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. May God bless us as we do his work! To give an offering with your smartphone, text "givesplc" to 77977 and click on the link that you receive. Offerings can be given by credit card, debit card, or your bank account. Offerings can also be given by going to our website (saintpeterlutheran.org) or mailed to 427 W. Mulberry, Saint Peter MN 56082.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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.

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

Silent prayer.

P: 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.

© 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

“Grace Has a Trilling Sound”

Christian Worship #381



1 Grace has a thrill - ing sound To each be -
2 Grace first in - scribed my name In God's e -
3 Grace led my wan - d'ring feet To tread the
4 Grace taught my soul to pray And made my
5 Grace all our work shall crown Through ev - er -



liev - er's ear; That peace with God through
ter - nal book, And grace has brought me
heav'n - ly road, And grace sup - plies each
eyes o'er - flow; His grace has kept me
last - ing days; The heav'n - ly home God



Christ is found Is news I glad - ly hear.
to the Lamb, Who all my sor - rows took.
hour I meet While press - ing on to God.
to this day And will not let me go.
gives his own Shall ech - o with our praise.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, st. 1, 3, 5, alt.; August M. Toplady, 1740–78, st. 2, 4, alt.
Tune: ENERGY (SM) William H. Monk, 1823–89.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

P: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord in gladness.

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: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

Christian Worship # 319

**On my heart imprint your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Have no pow'r to hide your face.
This the superscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation.**

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.

Service Notes

Scripture lessons in our service are taken from The Holy Bible: New International Version, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1984. Used by permission. All copyrighted music is protected by law. Music in this service is used by permission through the following license agreements: OneLicense: #A-716707 and CCLI: 11183443.



The Hands of the Passion

Lenten Midweek Worship
Wednesdays 4:30 & 6:30 p.m.

March 17

Hands of Repentance

Pastor Phil Gieschen, St. Peter

March 24

Hands of Self-Preservation

Pastor Jack Kelly

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Palm Sunday March 28 at & 10:30 a.m.
Hands of Praise
- Maundy Thursday.....April 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Hands of Humility
- Good Friday afternoonApril 2 at 1:30 p.m.
God's grace acquitted me!
- Good Friday Hispanic.....April 2 at 3:00 p.m.
- Good Friday evening.....April 2 at 7:00 p.m.
Service of Darkness
- Easter Sunrise Service.....April 4 at 6:30 a.m.
With Holy Communion
- Easter Festival Services.....9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

March 14-21, 2021

Sun	8:00 & 10:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:10 a.m.	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Livestream Worship on Facebook
	6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)	Women's Bible Study - Book of Daniel
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
Mon	1 p.m.	Quilters
	3:15 p.m.	Lutheran Pioneers
Wed	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	4:30 & 6:30 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship
Fri	6:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sun	8:00 & 10:30 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Livestream Worship on Facebook
	6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)	Women's Bible Study - Book of Daniel
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class