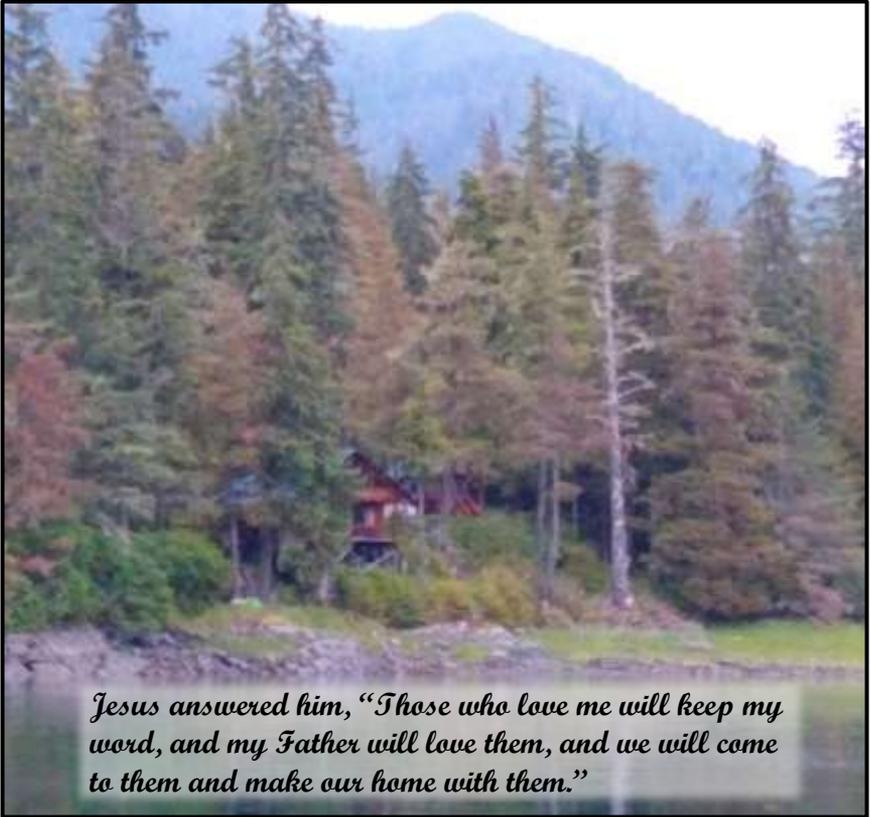


Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."

Night Prayer with Communion

March 31, 2022

7 pm Lent Worship Service

Pastor Brandon Johns

OPENING DIALOGUE

Almighty God, Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. **Amen.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

to herald your love in the morning,
your truth at the close of the day.

By day, O God,

you grant your steadfast love,

and at night your song is with me,

a prayer to the God of my life.

EVENING HYMN: Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov-ing glow of God's own
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3 You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev-'ry danc - ing star of



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us



ev - 'ry land and race, Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -



round us, we shall raise our songs to you, God of day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov - ing Spir - it



God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new,
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole,
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

Almighty and merciful God

grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

**I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**

Almighty and merciful God

grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

Psalm 134

¹ Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

² Lift up your hands to the holy place,
and bless the Lord.

³ May the Lord, maker of heaven and earth,
bless you from Zion.

Silence for reflection

Let us pray. Lord God, where two or three gather in your name, you promise to be with them. Look upon your family gathered in your name, and graciously pour out your blessing upon us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CENTERING HYMN: Now It Is Evening



1. Now it is eve - ning: lights of the cit - y bid us re-
2. Now it is eve - ning: food on the ta - ble bids us re-
3. Now it is eve - ning: lit - tle ones sleep - ing bid us re-
4. Now it is eve - ning: here in our meet - ing may we re-



mem - ber Christ is our light. Man - y are lone - ly, who will be
mem - ber Christ is our life. Man - y are hun - gry, who will be
mem - ber Christ is our peace. Some are ne - glect - ed who will be
mem - ber Christ is our friend. Some may be strang - ers, who will be



neigh - bor? Where there is car - ing, Christ is our light.
neigh - bor? Where there is shar - ing, Christ is our life.
neigh - bor? Where there is car - ing, Christ is our peace.
neigh - bor? Where there's a wel - come, Christ is our friend.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 7:7-13

⁷ It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸ It was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

⁹ Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, ¹⁰ and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. ¹¹ Therefore, observe diligently the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that I am commanding you today.

¹² If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, the Lord your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your ancestors; ¹³ he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you.

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

SECOND READING: John 14:18-23

[Jesus said:] ¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

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

REFLECTION: “The Holy Mother of God as an Example of Faith”

from *The Freedom of a Christian* by Martin Luther

The blessed Virgin provides a preeminent example of this very faith, when (as is written in Luke 2[:22]) she was purified “according to the Law of Moses,” as was the custom of all women. Although she was not bound by such a law and had no need of purification, nevertheless, she subjected herself to the law out of free and voluntary love, doing just as other women did, so that she did not offend or disdain them. She was therefore not justified by this work, but as one already righteous, she did it freely and spontaneously. So also our works ought not be done for the purpose of being justified, since—already justified by faith—we ought to do all things freely and joyfully for the sake of others.

REFLECTION HYMN: He Comes to Us as One Unknown



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts and fill your lives. Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFTS OF GOD

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...the thanksgiving continues led by Pastor and concludes with:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

TABLE GRACE

Let us pray. The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Lord taught us:
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

INSTRUCTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

At this time Pastor will take a moment to explain how the distribution of Holy Communion will take place this evening. The explanation will conclude with the Invitation to Communion and then we will commune.

The elements of the Sacrament are offered with these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. *And* The blood of Christ, shed for you.

For children who do not communion, and elect to communion at their seats, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:

May the God of steadfast love and faithfulness bless you now and always.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION and DISTRIBUTION

Let us share now in the heavenly banquet that has no end.

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Now may the forgiving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal, encompassing love of God the Father and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace, loving God and neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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