

Welcome to  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



*First Sunday in Lent  
March 6, 2022  
10:15 Worship Service  
Pastor Brandon Johns*

**BELL RINGING**

*The Lenten Cross Garden will grow each week as a different symbol of Christ is added at the foot of the cross. Its stark beauty prepares us for the extravagant beauty of the Resurrection Garden on Easter Morning.*

**WOOD** *He went out, bearing his own cross. – John 19:17*

Wood has always been both a symbol of sacrifice and life, from fruit trees to altar fires to shepherd's staffs. In the cross, the focal point of our Lenten garden, the wood of sacrifice and of life become one. To it we add the shepherd's staff, for it is the Good Shepherd who leads us on this life-giving journey to the cross.

*We pause to reflect as the Shepherd's staff is added to the cross garden.*

**INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING LITANY** (*Deut. 6:4-5; 4:39; 11:18; 27:9; 28:9*)

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**May we love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.**

Take to heart that the Lord is God;

**there is no other in heaven and earth.**

The Lord will establish you as his holy people;

**this very day we have become the people of God.**

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone;

**bind these words in our hearts and souls.**

O Lord our God, show us your everlasting love,

**that we may serve you from the obedience of our hearts.**

Lead us in the way of your peace,

**that our souls may be restored.**

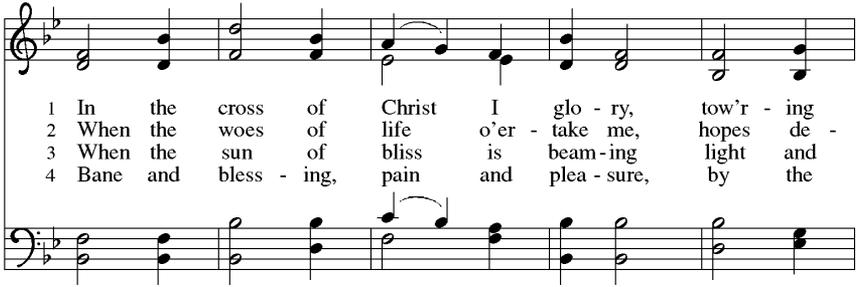
Fill our imaginations with the wonders of your creation,

**that our minds may reflect your glory.**

Guide us in the way of the cross,

**that we might proclaim the strength of your love.**

# GATHERING HYMN: In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
 love up - on my way, from the cross the  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra - diancance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.



## **CONFESSION AND REASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

To you, O God,

**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, remember us in your love, and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **GREETING OF PEACE**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

*The greeting of peace is shared.*

## **SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM**

*At the Foot of the Old Rugged Cross*

John W. Peterson

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup>You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.” <sup>4</sup>When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, <sup>5</sup>you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup>When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup>we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup>The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup>and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup>So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. <sup>11</sup>Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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



**PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16** (*Read Responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

<sup>2</sup>**you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

<sup>9</sup>Because you have made the Lord your refuge,  
and the Most High your habitation,

<sup>10</sup>**no evil will befall you,  
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

<sup>11</sup>For God will give the angels charge over you,  
to guard you in all your ways.

<sup>12</sup>**Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

<sup>13</sup>You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;  
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

<sup>14</sup>**I will deliver those who cling to me;  
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

<sup>15</sup>They will call me, and I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

<sup>16</sup>**With long life will I satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13**

<sup>8b</sup>“The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke, the fourth chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

<sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’  
<sup>11</sup>and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

*This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

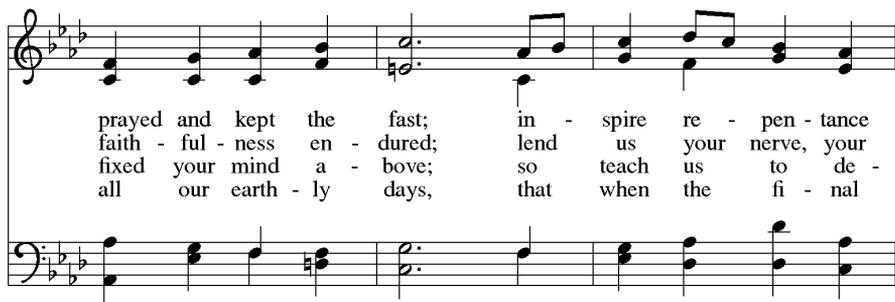
## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.



40  
DAYS

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. Sharpen its proclamation of the word so that your people learn to reject voices of deception and distraction. Strengthen all who are tempted to believe lies about themselves or others.

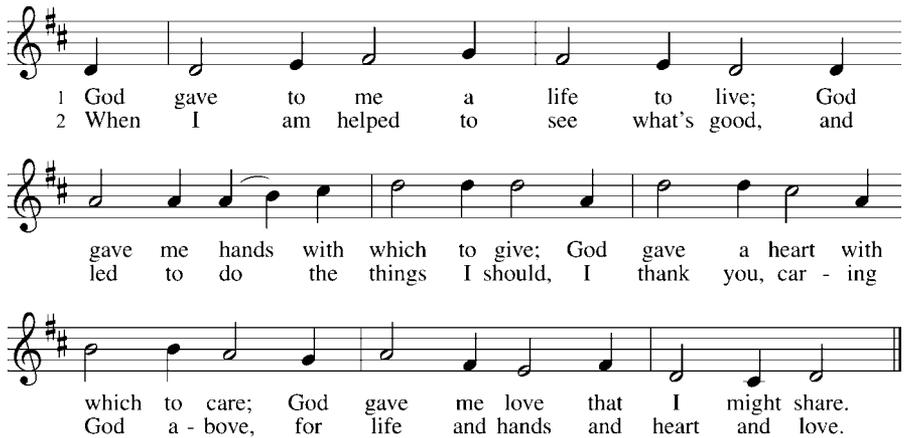
***The response for each petition is:*** Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

*Our offerings are made processionally, which means dropped into the plates located near the entrances to the front and rear of the nave.*

## OFFERING SONG: God Gave to Me a Life to Live



1 God gave to me a life to live; God  
2 When I am helped to see what's good, and  
gave me hands with which to give; God gave a heart with  
led to do the things I should, I thank you, car - ing  
which to care; God gave me love that I might share.  
God a - bove, for life and hands and heart and love.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, **receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

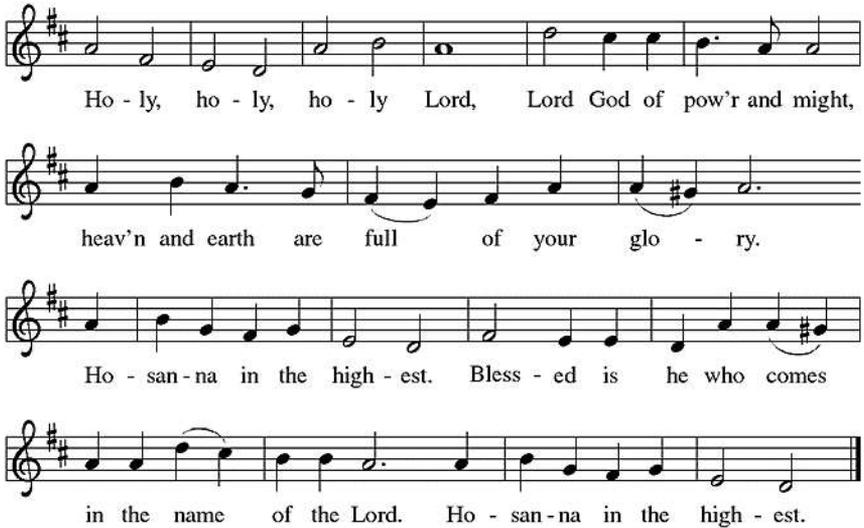
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**THE PROPER PREFACE** *(It is indeed right.... join their unending hymn)*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

## 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and help us to pray:  
**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 from our seats. 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, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:*

*“May God enrich your faith so that you follow in Jesus’ footsteps to the cross and beyond to eternal life.”*

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**



# SENDING SONG: Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,  
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;  
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.  
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.  
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,  
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;  
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.  
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.  
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

## SHARING FOR SERVING: BIRTHDAYS AND MISSION NOTICES

## DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Postlude in C*

William C. Steere

### RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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### **Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for March**

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support Camp Lutherlyn.

If you would like to support this cause, please mark the other line on your contribution envelope Lutherlyn.

Matt & Kim Morris	Jeannie Wearing	David English
Jan Hogan	Rosalyn Kummer	
Luke Clawson	Joyce Hayes (cancer)	
Cole Barkley	Ron & John West	
Bob Tarbet	The family of Carol Kusserow	
Amy Anthony	Amanda, Raquel, and Elana Barron	
Ed Hunia	Erin Price	

Please hold these members and friends of St. Peter's in your prayers.  
*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16*

*Today's Altar Flowers  
are given  
by Neal & Bev Critchlow  
In honor of  
Nathan's (22<sup>nd</sup>)  
&  
In memory of  
Lydia's (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Birthdays*

**Meager Meals** – is returning this Lent. On Thursday evenings at 6 pm starting on March 10<sup>th</sup>, we will gather before worship to eat soup and bread together. If you would like to provide either for a night or nights, there is a sign-up in Luther Hall.



## **ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*is a congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*

Presiding Bishop (ELCA)	The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Synodical Bishop (SW PA Synod)	The Rev. Kurt A. Kusserow
Pastor	The Rev. Brandon Johns
Organist & Music Director	Marlene Domhoff
Office Secretary	Heidi Beahm
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Lector	Adam Price
Acolyte	Logan Thomas
Bell Ringer	Davin Beahm
Ushers	Cindy Ayers & Heidi Beahm

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### St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

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Mon. – Fri.	3:30 pm	After School Program
Mon. Mar. 7	7:00 pm	Fellowship Meeting
Tue. Mar. 8	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
Wed. Mar. 9	noon	Lunch Bunch (Harmony Inn)
	7:00 pm	Sr. Choir Practice
Thur. Mar. 10	9:00 am	Quilters
	6:00 pm	Meager Meals
	7:00 pm	Lent Service
Sat. Mar. 12	2:00 pm	All S.P.Y. Service & Games

**Fasting for Change** - As part of your Lenten journey, you are invited to donate the money you would have spent on what you have given up (eating out, sweets or your morning latte) to ELCA World Hunger. Coin boxes are on tables in Luther Hall or you are welcome to mark the other line on your contribution envelope. *Offerings given in the contribution envelopes designated to Lent will benefit St. Peter's brick loan and 10% to synod benevolence.*

**Fish Dinner**- will be held on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm. A donation poster is in the back of the church. If you can make a donation please do so and sign up on the sheet below the poster.

## Welcome to St. Peter's

We are thankful that you are here to worship with other Christians today. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray that your worship experience will fill you with the grace and mercy of Almighty God through his Holy Spirit.



## Newcomers and Guests

New to St. Peter's? Please sign the GUEST REGISTER behind the last pew. A handicapped accessible RESTROOM is located near the Van Buren Street entrance (through Luther Hall, past the kitchen, restroom is on the left in the foyer). You are welcome to commune with us if that is your practice.

**Nursery-** is self-serve and available on for children and caregivers. Exit the rear of the nave and follow the steps to the basement, the nursery is on the left. The service can be heard through an intercom in the nursery. There are activity bags in the back of the sanctuary and children's bulletins geared to children ages 5 and up.

## Office Hours:

Heidi Beahm, our secretary, is in the church office Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM until Noon.

Pastor Johns can also be reached at the church.

Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: [stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net](mailto:stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net)

Pastor Email: [rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com](mailto:rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com)

Church Website: [www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org](http://www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org)

Church Facebook Page: St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Sunday Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays at 10:00 AM.

Newsletter deadline: Third Sunday of the Month