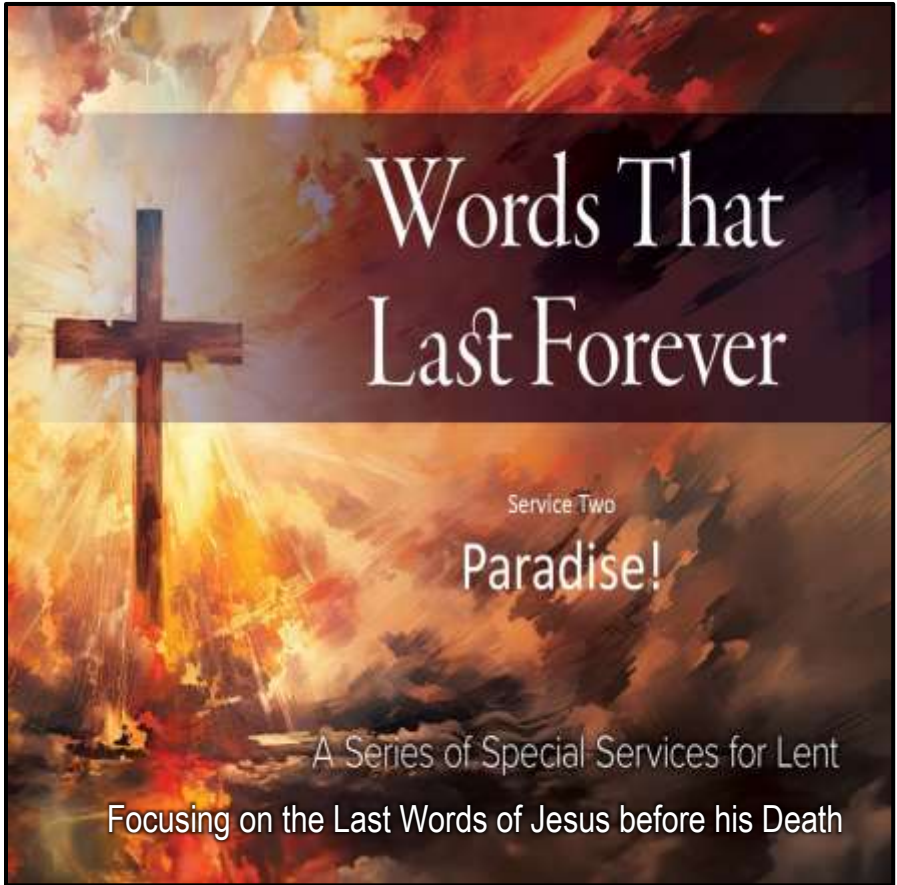


Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Night Prayer with Communion
February 29, 2024
7 pm Lent Worship Service

Pastor Brandon Johns

TONIGHT'S FOCUS WORD: PARADISE

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: Abide, O Dearest Jesus

1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace,
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your word
3 A - bide with heav'n-ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun-teous Lord;
5 A - bide, O faith - ful Sav - ior, a - mong us with your love;

that e - vil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.
and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.
your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.
let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your word.
grant stead-fast-ness and help us to reach our home a - bove.

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.

Psalms 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: O God beyond All Praising

1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day;
 2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
 3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,
 and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
 its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
 that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;
 for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
 but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
 and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,
 at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end;
 though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown;
 we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still;
 we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
 to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,
 we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
 and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
 and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 2:4b-17

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,
⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the
 field had yet sprung up — for the Lord GOD had not caused it to
 rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶but a
 stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the
 ground — ⁷then the Lord GOD formed man from the dust of the

ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. ⁸And the Lord GOD planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the Lord GOD made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ¹⁰A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. ¹¹The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; ¹²and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. ¹⁵The Lord GOD took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord GOD commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

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

EPISTLE READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

GOSPEL READING: Luke 23:39-43

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

REFLECTION PRESENTATION: “Paradise”

REFLECTION HYMN: O God of Love, O King of Peace

1 O God of love, O King of peace, make wars through -
2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, your works of old, the won - ders
3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord? Where rest but
4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove all hearts are

out the world to cease; our greed and sin - ful wrath re - strain.
that our el - ders told; re - mem - ber not our sins' deep stain.
on your faith - ful word? None ev - er called on you in vain.
knit in ho - ly love; oh, bind us in that heav'n - ly chain.

Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains four lines of lyrics. The third system contains one line of lyrics. The fourth system contains one line of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

PRAYER

Let us pray. Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, given rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous, breath your peace into all the world; and all for your love's sake.

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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Let us taste together the goodness of the forgiveness of God.

COMMUNION

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 of peace. 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 enlightening, peace-giving presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Forgiven by God, go in the peace won for you through Christ and the cross. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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