



The Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2023  
Peace Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN

**6:30pm, 8:30am HYMN 849 (Maroon): Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**  
**10:30am Love the Lord, Your God**

**INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP, Psalm 142**

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

<sup>1</sup> I cry aloud to the LORD;

I lift up my voice to the LORD for mercy.

<sup>2</sup> **I pour out before him my complaint;**  
**before him I tell my trouble.**

<sup>3</sup> When my spirit grows faint within me,  
it is you who watch over my way.

In the path where I walk  
people have hidden a snare for me.

<sup>4</sup> **Look and see, there is no one at my right hand;**  
**no one is concerned for me.**

**I have no refuge; no one cares for my life.**

<sup>5</sup> I cry to you, LORD; I say, "You are my refuge,  
my portion in the land of the living."

<sup>6</sup> **Listen to my cry, for I am in desperate need;**  
**rescue me from those who pursue me,**  
**for they are too strong for me.**

<sup>7</sup> Set me free from my prison,  
that I may praise your name.

**Then the righteous will gather about me**  
**because of your goodness to me.**

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

**CONFESSION**

Heavenly Father, we confess that we ask to see signs of Your work,  
while at the same time turning a closed eye toward You.

We confess that although we say we want to walk with You,  
we frequently end up in dark places, having wandered away from You.

We ask for the many blessings that You provide,  
and then we fail to acknowledge that they came from You.

Even though we have sight that does not mean that we always see.

We have all sinned and turned a blind eye to Your will for our lives.

Let us come before God in a time of reflection and confession.

**O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**6:30pm & 8:30am SONG G679 (Green): Open Our Eyes, Lord (we will sing this twice)**

**Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.  
Open our ears, Lord, help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

**10:30am Give Thanks to the Lord**

**Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever.  
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever.  
He never changes. He stays the same. He is my refuge, He is my stay.  
He is my stronghold. He keeps me safe.  
So I will lift (clap, clap, clap) up His name . . . And I will give (clap, clap, clap) my Lord praise.  
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever.  
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever.**



*Readers: 6:30pm Jim Warnke; 8:30am Sandra Hall; 10:30am Rev. Jeff Miller*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 42: 14-21**

<sup>14</sup> “For a long time I have kept silent, I have been quiet and held myself back.

But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant.

<sup>15</sup> I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation;

I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools.

<sup>16</sup> I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;

I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth.

These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.

<sup>17</sup> But those who trust in idols, who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’  
will be turned back in utter shame.

<sup>18</sup> “Hear, you deaf; look, you blind, and see!

<sup>19</sup> Who is blind but my servant, and deaf like the messenger I send?

Who is blind like the one in covenant with me, blind like the servant of the LORD?

<sup>20</sup> You have seen many things, but you pay no attention; your ears are open, but you do not listen.”

<sup>21</sup> It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness  
to make his law great and glorious. (NIV)

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

**EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 5:8-14**

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. <sup>13</sup> But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. <sup>14</sup> This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” (NIV)

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

**6:30pm & 8:30am HYMN: From Ashes to the Living Font**

**From ashes to the living font, Your Church must journey, Lord,  
Baptized in grace, in grace renewed, By Your most holy Word.**

**Through fasting, prayer and charity Your voice speaks deep within,  
Returning us to ways of truth And turning us from sin.**

**We sit beside the road and plead, “Come, save us, David’s son!”  
Now with your vision heal our eyes, The world’s true Light alone.**

**▲ From ashes to the living font, Your Church must journey, still.  
Through cross and tomb to Easter joy, New life in You begins.**

**10:30am SONG: Jesus Loves Me**

**GOSPEL READING: John 9:1-41**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

<sup>3</sup> “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup> As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

<sup>6</sup> After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. <sup>7</sup> “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

<sup>8</sup> His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup> Some claimed that he was.

Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”

<sup>10</sup> “How then were your eyes opened?” they asked.

<sup>11</sup> He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

<sup>12</sup> “Where is this man?” they asked him.

“I don’t know,” he said.

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. <sup>15</sup> Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.”

<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided.

<sup>17</sup> Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

<sup>18</sup> They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. <sup>19</sup> "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?"

<sup>20</sup> "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. <sup>21</sup> But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup> A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner."

<sup>25</sup> He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

<sup>26</sup> Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

<sup>27</sup> He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"

<sup>28</sup> Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! <sup>29</sup> We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

<sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. <sup>32</sup> Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

<sup>34</sup> To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

<sup>36</sup> "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

<sup>38</sup> Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

<sup>40</sup> Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

<sup>41</sup> Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains." (NIV)

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

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall 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.



**10:30am Preschool Children Sing: The Bible Is the Treasure**

**Children's Message**

**Whose Fault Is It? - Whose Vault Is It? Text: John 9:1-41 (I Peter 1:3-4)**

**Elementary Children Sing: I Am Jesus Little Lamb  
Congregation joins on verse 3.**

**6:30pm 8:30am HYMN 744 (Maroon): Amazing Grace**

**MESSAGE** Lord, Open Our Eyes! - Help Us Live As Children Of Light! Text: John 9:1-41; Ephesians 5:8-14  
Pastor Meyer

**OFFERING PRAYER** -- 8:30am El Shaddai by Michael Card and John Thompson; Hosanna Handbells  
*Please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it along to others. As it is passed back to the center aisle, please take the opportunity to note the names of others seated in your pew.*

**PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**6:30pm & 8:30am SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**  
Page 198, AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God)  
HYMN 547 (Maroon): The Lamb

**BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

**▲ 6:30pm & 8:30am HYMN 805 (Maroon): Doxology**  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**10:30am SONG: This Little Light of Mine**

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...
2. Hide it under a bucket? No! I'm gonna let it shine...
3. Don't let Satan "poof" it out, I'm gonna let it shine...
4. Shout it throughout Hutchinson! I'm gonna let it shine...

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### **Palm Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Normal worship times: Saturday 6:30pm, Sunday 8:30am and 10:30am  
Sunday School Sings at 8:30am

### **April 5<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday**

No Wednesday evening worship services. 8<sup>th</sup> grade rehearsal for First Communion at 5:00pm.

### **Maundy Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**

Worship in the Sanctuary at 11:30am (followed by lunch) and 6:30pm.  
First communion for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. All Maundy Thursday services will have communion.

**Good Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** - Tenebrae at 12:00pm and 6:30pm. No meal service.

**Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – No evening worship**

### **Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

Worship at 6:30am (Sunrise), 8:30am and 10:30am.  
All worship services in the sanctuary, with communion.  
Easter Breakfast 7:30-10:00am in the Peace Center  
No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study.

# SAVE-THE-DATE

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## JUNE 12-16

Peace Lutheran  
Church

