



2025: WALKING TOGETHER IN CHRIST
SERMON SERIES ON EPHESIANS
February 23, 2025
Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, MN

HYMN G629 (Green): In Christ Alone

INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 103:1-13

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

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**²Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,**

³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

**⁴who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

**⁵who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

**⁶The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

**⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.**

**⁸The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

**¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

**¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

**¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

**¹³As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. (ESV)**

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Ephesians 2:11-22)

Let us come together in a time of reflection and confession.

Christ is our peace.

Christ came proclaiming peace to those who are far off and those who are near.

This proclamation has reached our ears, but we confess that it has often not settled into our hearts.

Anxiety and fear haunt our frenzied days and our restless nights.

We numb ourselves with mindless activities and shallow pleasures.

Together, we pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ is our peace.

Christ came proclaiming peace to those who are far off and those who are near.

In His flesh and through His blood, Christ has taken those divided by hostility and made them one.

Forgive us for those times when we fail to seek peace and unity as children of God;

Instead, burdening our lives with our own personal agendas.

Together, we pray to the Lord: **Christ, have mercy.**

Christ is our peace.

Christ came and preached peace to those who were far off and peace to those who are near.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Together, we pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I 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.**

HYMN 712 (Maroon): Seek Ye First

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you. Hallelu, Hallelujah!**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Hallelu, Hallelujah!**

**Man shall not live by bread alone, But by every word
That proceeds out from the mouth of God. Hallelu, Hallelujah!**



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 45:7-15

⁷ And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰ You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' ¹² And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him. (ESV)

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

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 6:5-9

⁵ Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, ⁶ not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷ rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, ⁸ knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. ⁹ Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him. (ESV)

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

▲ GOSPEL ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. (repeat)

Thy word is a path to follow, a light to show the way.

Thy word is a path to follow, a light to show the way.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. (repeat)

▲ 10:30am Alleluia, Alleluia. Give Thanks.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:27-36

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁷ "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

³² "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.

³⁵ But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶ Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. (ESV)

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



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: Just a Closer Walk With Thee

**1 I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.**

**Refrain: Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

**2 Thro' this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. [Refrain]**

**3 When my feeble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore. [Refrain]**

**SERMON "2025 Walking Together in Christ" (the book of Ephesians) Pastor Weber
Employees and Bosses serving God and One Another**

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 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.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS - *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.*

8:30am Peace Singers – Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

*Make me a channel of your peace:
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*O, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

*Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

8:30am INSTALLATION OF ELECTED OFFICERS

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

10:30am SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

SONG: Behold 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 894 (Maroon): For the Fruits of His Creation

10:30am SONG: Be Thou My Vision

Thank you to Grace Puckett for leading our singing at 10:30am this morning.