

# Peace Lutheran Church of Lake Zurich



**March 3, 2024**  
**Third Sunday In Lent**

## **PRELUDE AND WELCOME**

You are welcome here. We pray our service this morning is meaningful to you and that you sense God's presence and the warmth of the people at Peace.

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Please rise as you are able and face the font. You may make the sign of the cross as a way of remembering your baptism.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**  
**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**  
**We speak in ways that silence others.**  
**We are silent when we should speak up.**  
**We keep score in our hearts.**  
**We let hurts grow into hatred.**  
**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.**  
**Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin,  
washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **GATHERING SONG “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” (ELW 885)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## **GREETING (ELW p. 98)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **KYRIE**

In peace in peace, let us pray to the

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,  
for the unity of all, let us pray to the

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

For your people here, who have come to give your praise,  
for the strength to live your word let us pray to the

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

Help save and defend us O God.

**A . . . . men**

## **GLORY TO GOD**

*Refrain: Glory to God in the highest, and  
peace to God's people on earth.*

You are God; we praise you. You are Lord; we acclaim you. You are god eternal;  
all creation worships you. **Refrain**

All the angels in the heavens chant your praise in endless song! Holy, holy, holy,  
God of power and might. **Refrain**

The apostles all praise you. All the prophets acclaim you. All the martyrs and your  
faithful people worship you. **Refrain**

God, Creator, we praise you. Jesus the Christ, we adore you. Spirit of the Living  
God, we worship you. **Refrain**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 102)**

Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act  
courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the  
wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*You may be seated as the children are invited forward.*

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## CHILDREN'S WORD

*Children from birth through Sunday School are invited forward for a special moment of preparation before the proclamation of God's word in the assembly.*

### **FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17 (pg. 59)**

A reading from Exodus.

*After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.*

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

<sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. <sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. <sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 19** (*pg. 433*)

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

<sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,**

**O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (pg. 926)**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

*The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.*

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

<sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able to welcome the gospel.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Return to God with all your heart,**

**The Source of grace and mercy:**

**Come, seek the tender faithfulness of God.**

## **GOSPEL: John 2:13-22 (pg. 863)**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.*

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*You may be seated.*

**MESSAGE** (ELW p. 103)

**Rev. Daniel Morris**

*A moment of silence for reflection is kept after the message.*

*Please rise as you are able to proclaim the gospel in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *God of Grace and God of Glory* (ELW 705, sts. 124)

**1** God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your pow'r;  
crown your ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

**4** Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.

**2** Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days,

## **CREED (ELW p. 104)**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land especially Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Give every good gift to those we remember in prayer this week, especially...We especially pray for: Mike, Wally, Chuck, Stephen, Tom, MaryKate & Ivy and the family and friends of Bonnie, and the family and friends of Mike. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Hear now the prayers we offer aloud and in the silence of our hearts...(long pause...) Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**PEACE** (*ELW p. 106*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*All may greet one another with a handshake in the name of the Lord, saying Peace be with you. Afterwards, you may be seated.*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*Your offering this morning supports the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

**OFFERING “As the Grains of Wheat” (ELW 465)**

### **Refrain**

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.

**1** As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**

**2** Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

*Please rise as you are able when the offering is brought forward.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE** (*ELW p. 107*)

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.**

### **PREFACE** (*ELW p. 108*)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;**

**Heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosana in the highest!**

**Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosana in the highest, hosana in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,  
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs  
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,  
and provided them water from the rock.  
We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,  
who joined us in our desert,  
pouring out his life for the world.  
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.  
Remembering, therefore,  
his life, death, and resurrection,  
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.  
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food  
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:  
wash away our sin,  
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.  
Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER** (*ELW p. 112*)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey.

A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

*You may be seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you break the chains of hatred and fear; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of justice and peace; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love; have mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to the table. He is truly present for you in the eating and drinking offering forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation to all who trust his words. Children are welcome to commune, “for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs” (Luke 18:16). The ushers will invite you forward to encircle the Lord’s Table and receive the bread with wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You may join hands to receive the blessing before returning to your seat.*

## COMMUNION HYMN “Let Us Break Bread Together” (ELW 471)

**1** Let us break bread together on our knees;

let us break bread together on our knees.

### Refrain

When I fall on my knees,

with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

**2** Let us drink wine together on our knees;

let us drink wine together on our knees. **Refrain**

**3** Let us praise God together on our knees;

let us praise God together on our knees. **Refrain**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,

now make us one loaf to feed the world;

in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*You are invited to line up behind the microphone at the front to share announcements.*

*Please rise as you are able for the blessing.*

### BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.

God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy,

fill you with courage, and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (ELW 803, sts. 1,3,4)

**1** When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

**3** See, from his head, his hands, his  
feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

**4** Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

### GRATITUDE

So much gratitude for everyone who has contributed to worship today.

Find all of this week's announcements in the Prints of Peace on the [PLC website](#).

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