

# LENT



*The kingdom of God is at hand.*

Mark 1:15

**ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

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Rev. Thomas Thorstad – Pastor

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**March 14, 2021**

*Prelude*

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sin to God our Father, imploring him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

**C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Pause for self-examination.*

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer...imploring your grace for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ.

**C: Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name, he gives power to become children of God and bestows on them his Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all.

**C: Amen**

**Opening Hymn**

**“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

**Insert**

**Apostolic Greeting & Kyrie**

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

P: For the Peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

**Almighty God, grant that we, who for our evil deeds worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of your grace may mercifully be relieved; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

### First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

### Psalm 107:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,\*  
and his mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim\*  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.**

<sup>3</sup>He gathered them out of the lands;\*  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>4</sup>**Some wandered in desert wastes;\*  
they found no way to a city where they might dwell.**

<sup>5</sup>They were hungry and thirsty;\*  
their spirits languished within them.

<sup>6</sup>**Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,\*  
and he delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>7</sup>He put their feet on a straight path\*  
to go to a city where they might dwell.

<sup>8</sup>**Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy\*  
and the wonders he does for his children.**

<sup>9</sup>For he satisfies the thirsty\*  
and fills the hungry with good things.

**Second Reading****Ephesians 2:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>You were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — <sup>3</sup>among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**Children's Message**

Gospel Acclamation

P: Please rise for the reading of the gospel.

**C: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John 3:14-21

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.***The Gospel is read.***C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

**Sermon Song****“Listen, God is Calling”****Insert**

Apostles' Creed

P: Join me as we confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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****Offering of Gifts Solo—David Pfohl—“Our Father, We Have Wondered”****Offertory Prayer**

P: Blessed are you,

**C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and the redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

**We continue to pray for the following:**

**Domestic Mission Partners; Church Sub-Committees:**

**Women's Ministry, Quilters**

Chuck Cederman	Harold Haseley	Lester Walck	Carol Harbart
Britt Gamache	Mark Lendwa	Alice Lange	Shane
Lori Haseley (St. James)		Nancy Thorstad	Dan Wendt

**Serving in the Military**

Nate Allen	James Garavaglia	Jillian Kelkenberg	Phillip Messina
Seth Spitler	Ben Thorstad	Justin DeVantier	Jeremy Ditto
N.F. Air Base			

**Those in nursing homes and shut-ins**

Edna Walck	Paul Greinert	Nora Hingle	Marge Kordzikowski
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The Lord's Prayer

P: We pray as Jesus taught us, Our Father,

**C: 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**

P: Now may the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

**C: Amen**

**Closing Hymn**

**"Amazing Grace"**

**Insert**

*Postlude*

**GO IN PEACE AND REMEMBER HIS SACRIFICE.**

**WE SHALL REMEMBER HIS SACRIFICE.**

**WELCOME** to St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are glad to have you join us to worship today. We invite you to join us each Sunday at 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. If you would like to request a meeting or arrange a visit from Pastor Tom, please call the his office at 731-4433 or his cell phone 990-6244.

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Tim Dyet  
GREETERS: Bob Lamb Glenn Walck  
READERS: Bob Lamb Glenn Walck  
ALTAR GUILD: Sandy Walck-Dianne Retzlaff  
TRUSTEES: 3/8-3/14 Gary Retzlaff 3/15-3/21 Calvin DuBois

**Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21**

<sup>14</sup>{Jesus said to Nicodemus,} “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”