

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 29, 2023

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Peace Website: www.peacelutheranrr.com

English Website: elc-cl.faithlifesites.com

IN OUR PRAYERS we remember: Beverly Baker, Mildred Peters, Marcia Neely

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Order of Service Hymns Peace Blue 8 & 68 649
English Gray 12 & 34 649

THIS WEEK AT PEACE AND ENGLISH:

TODAY Jan. 29 11:30 a.m. Council Meeting

Jan. 29 8:15 a.m. Worship at English

Jan. 29 10:15 a.m. Worship at Peace

Jan. 29 9:00 a.m. Christian Growth

Jan. 31 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Jan. 31 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at English

Feb. 1 9:30 a.m. Quilting

Feb. 1 Noon Bible Study

Feb. 1 5:15-6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Feb. 4 9:00 a.m. Women's Prayer Group

Feb. 5 11:30 a.m. Voter's Meeting

BIBLE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 58:3-9 1Corinthians 2:1-16
Matthew 13-20

HYMN OF THE DAY: In our epistle reading, Paul writes, "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." Because the story of a crucified Jew is foolishness to sinful man, there is constant temptation to leave Christ and his cross in favor of other things. So we pray in our hymn of the day, "Jesus, keep me near the cross." The cross is where a precious fountain flows to cleanse us from sin. The cross is where we are found by God's love. The cross is the light that guides our steps. The cross is our hope for life eternal. The cross is God's power to save. O Jesus, keep us near the cross.

A WORD: In our Old Testament reading, God reminds his people of all the good he did for them when he brought them out of Egypt. The prophet Micah responds by asking how Man should atone for sin in light of God's righteous deeds. His answer is repentance, turning from our sins to do righteousness, love mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord. In our epistle reading, Paul denies to us any part in our salvation. God chose to save us through weak and foolish means (the crucifixion of Christ) so that no one could boast in his presence, but let the one who boasts boast in the Lord. Jesus comes to us in the Sermon on the Mount to announce his blessing on those who appear unblessed in the eyes of the world. If you belong to the kingdom, then great blessing is yours regardless of your circumstances. Great is your reward in heaven.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER: Micah's vision presents the people of Israel on trial before the mountains for their continued refusal to listen to the Word of the Lord. Yet the Lord presents *His* case by pointing to His saving deeds in the past. For us today, though our sin is ever before us, in Christ, the Lord does not give testimony against us but *for* our sake!

REQUEST FROM ATLAS: "Community Drop Boxes" are for items that are in good condition and not in disrepair? We are receiving a lot of items from the drop boxes that are soiled, broken, or that we are unable to accept. Clothing must be clean and free of holes for us to place into our store. Likewise, items such as electronics (TVs, computers, etc) are not allowed to be sold and ATLAS is incurring the cost of disposal. Other examples of items that we do not accept are baby cribs, car seats, play pens, pillows, or used mattresses. We are hoping that we will receive support from the community as we attempt to balance the necessity of the drop-boxes with the overall mission from ATLAS. Currently, almost 50% of the incoming items are unusable/unsellable for our thrift store or to donate. Thank you very much for your role in helping spread the word!

ALTAR FLOWERS: If you wish to participate in bringing flowers to put on the Altar, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

COUNCIL MEETING: **TODAY**, there will be a council meeting following the service.

VOTERS MEETING: There will be a voters meeting for the election of new officers following the service on February 5th.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND: If you wish to donate to the Scholarship Fund to assist Peace Lutheran members with college tuition, mark your offering envelope with the words "Scholarship Fund" and your donation will be put into that fund.

EARLY HEAD START: If you have a child between the ages of 3 & 4 years old you may qualify for the free Head Start or Child Development Program through Mid-Sioux Opportunity. For more information on the program contact 800-859-2025. They are also taking applications for free family support and resource program.

FEBRUARY ALTAR COMMITTEES: Altar Committee for Peace is Karen Olson, Sue Vande Kop, Hennessey Flying Horse and Lexi Davis. At English it will be Linda Wulf.

THIS MONTH Daughters of Peace will collect canned fruit, elbow macaroni, spaghetti sauce, jello snack packs and soups for Atlas. Thank you all for your support in our monthly projects.

USHERS: **Today, January 29**-Wayne Ranschau and Lowell Drenth, **February 5**-Lloyd Lupkes and Steve Anderson, **February 12**-Gary Dieren and Dennis Reuvers

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

HYMN: SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

Blue Hymnal 8; Gray Hymnal 12

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Brief Silence for Inward Confession)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **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.**

P 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.
C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 1:1–5; antiphon: v. 6

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
but his delight is in the law of the LORD,

and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so,

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,

but the way of the wicked will perish.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 6:1–8

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

bring an offering, and come into his courts!

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

After the Reading

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

Blue Hymnal 68; Gray Hymnal 34

SERMON

OFFERTORY

192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

BENEDICTION

202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.
C Amen.

HYMN 649: BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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