

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Second Sunday of Lent  
February 28, 2021  
Service of Holy Communion**

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**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.  
Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your  
cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as  
healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"*

#808

1. **Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;  
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go;  
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.  
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.**
2. **Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.  
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.**
3. **As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,  
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.  
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.  
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.**
4. **I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;  
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
And with all of the fami'ly you saved by your love,  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.**

**GREETING**

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.**

**LENT LITANY**

Holy and gracious God, provider of all our needs,

**we seek refuge in Your Holy presence,  
for we are weary, weak and empty.**

In our emptiness, we wonder about the future.

**Fill us with faith so that we might move mountains.**

Uplift us, Lord, when we fall by the wayside.

**Fill our emptiness with Your strength,  
so that we might rise again.**

Draw near to us. Ease our struggles and worries.

**Fill us with hope so that we might be free of doubt and fear.**

Strengthen our relationships with you and with one another.

**Fill us with love for you and for all,  
so that we might be the body of Christ in the world.**

Let our emptiness open the way for your presence.

**Fill us with your Holy Spirit.**

**Fill us with faith, strength, hope and love.**

Lord, in your mercy,

**grant us peace. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together.

**O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD****CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****FIRST READING**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

*When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and*

*you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.” God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 22:23-31

You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

**For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;  
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.**

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

**Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the Lord,**  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.

## SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

*For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of*

*God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

Mark 8:31-38

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."*

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"*

#667

1. **"Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be; for sake the past, and come this day, and humbly follow after me."**
2. **Take up your cross; let not its weight pervade your soul with vain alarm; his strength shall bear your spirit up, sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.**
3. **Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your foolish heart rebel; for you the Lord endured the cross to save your soul from death and hell.**
4. **Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for those who humbly bear the cross one day will wear the glorious crown.**

## APOSTLE'S CREED

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

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Petitions end:* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MEAL

## GREAT THANKSGIVING *(spoken)*

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.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

**SHARING OF COMMUNION****COMMUNION HYMN**

*"Around You, O Lord Jesus"*

#468

1. **Around you, O Lord Jesus, your own you gather still  
to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.  
You say to us so lovingly,  
"Take, eat! This is my body! Take, drink! This is my blood!"**
2. **We hear your invitation, and heed, O Lord, your call;  
your word of consolation is spoken here to all.  
It draws us to your loving heart;  
it brings to us your blessing, which never will depart.**
3. **We are your own forever; until our final breath  
we will be true and never in joy, in grief, in death  
depart from you, for you are still  
among your people dwelling, as you have said you will.**

**TABLE BLESSING**

*At the conclusion: Amen*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*At the conclusion: Amen*

**SENDING****BENEDICTION**

*At the conclusion: Amen.*

**SENDING SONG**

*"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"*

#802

1. **Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,  
through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure,  
onward in his footsteps treading, trav'lers here, our home above,  
full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Savior's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.**
2. **Let us suffer here with Jesus, and with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness; where he is there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy:  
all discomforts that annoy shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.**

3. **Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death he conquered death, he will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath. Let us mortify all passion that would lead us into sin; and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heaven. Jesus, here with you I die; there to live with you on high**
4. **Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead that to life we may awaken. Jesus, you are now our head, we are your own living members; where you live, there we shall be in your presence constantly, living there with you forever. Jesus, let me faithful be; life eternal grant to me.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Be filled with faith, strength, hope and love.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE**