

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Dennis A. Wenzholz

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Lenten Midweek Worship Service

March 1, 2023

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

FIRST WEDNESDAY IN



LENT

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERIES 2023
"CHRONICLES OF THE KING"

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Oh King, Kinsmen Redeemer
Help me oh Lord.

I believe and trust that You and You alone are my Savior.
Blot out my transgressions and wipe away my shame.
Help me oh Lord, for there is no one to turn to except you.
Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME

INVOCATION *(stand)*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance
of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 or my sin.**

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.**

INVITATORY

P Behold, the King comes.

C **Oh, come, let us return to the Lord.**

OPENING HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” LSB 450 (verse 2)

2 How pale Thou art with anguish,
With sore abuse and scorn!
How doth Thy face now languish
That once was bright as morn!
Grim death, with cruel rigor,
Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;

Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor,
Thy strength, in this sad strife.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
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THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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 with your spirit.**

KYRIE

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P Christ, have mercy upon us.

C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, You created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them. Help us to know and trust that You and You alone is the One who forgives our sins and washes away our shame. In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created

through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

2 Chronicles 14:1-7; 16:1-13

¹ Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land had rest for ten years. ² And Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God. ³He took away the foreign altars and the high places and broke down the pillars and cut down the Asherim ⁴and commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to keep the law and the commandment. ⁵He also took out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the incense altars. And the kingdom had rest under him. ⁶He built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest. He had no war in those years, for the LORD gave him peace. ⁷And he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities and surround them with walls and towers, gates and bars. The land is still ours, because we have sought the LORD our God. We have sought him, and he has given us peace on every side." So they built and prospered.

¹In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. ²Then Asa took silver and gold from the treasures of the house of the LORD and the king's house and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying,

³"There is a covenant between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending to you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me." ⁴And Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and they conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store cities of Naphtali. ⁵And when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease. ⁶Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Baasha had been building, and with them he built Geba and Mizpah.

⁷At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, "Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you. ⁸Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the LORD, he gave them into your hand. ⁹For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars." ¹⁰Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in the stocks in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this. And Asa inflicted cruelties upon some of the people at the same time.

¹¹The acts of Asa, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. ¹²In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet, and his disease became severe. Yet even in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but sought help from physicians. ¹³And Asa slept with his fathers, dying in the forty-first year of his reign.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:14–16; 27:3–6

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

³Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, ⁴saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” ⁵And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. ⁶But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, 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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens” LSB 589

- 1 Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens,
Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me,
Let each promise still my fear.
Death’s dread pow’r, its inward strife,
Wars against Your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love’s strong fervor
That I cling to You forever!
- 2 Oh, what blessing to be near You
And to listen to Your voice;
Let me ever love and hear You,
Let Your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at Your Word;
But to all who feel sin’s burden
You give words of peace and pardon.
- 3 Lord, Your words are waters living
When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving;

On Your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, Your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unailing!

- 4 As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let Your words in me take root.
May Your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing Your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.

Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638-83; (sts. 1-3): tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993 Text: Public domain

HOMILY

Pastor Dennis Wenholz

"Blood Money: Asa"

OFFERTORY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LSB 805

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

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(stand)*

After each petition:

- P Lord, in Your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P Remember us in Your kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray:

- C 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.**

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

- P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

- P Prepare the way of the Lord.
C Make His paths straight.

BENEDICTION

- 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.

CLOSING HYMN

"Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide" LSB 585

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
For round us falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light,
Shine forth undimmed into the night.

- 2 In these last days of great distress
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That we keep pure till life is spent
Your holy Word and Sacrament.
- 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold
Speak tongues of fire and make us bold
To shine Your Word of saving grace
Into each dark and loveless place.
- 4 May glorious truths that we have heard,
The bright sword of Your mighty Word,
Spurn Satan that Your Church be strong,
Bold, unified in act and song.
- 5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
Or with some man-made thoughts or things
Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.
- 6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
Preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart's defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.

Text: tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 1): Philipp Melanchthon, 1497–1560; (st. 1): German version Geistliche Psalmen, 1611, Nuremberg; (sts. 2–6): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92

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LENTEN SCHEDULE

Join us on Wednesdays for our **Soup Suppers at 5:30 PM**
and **Midweek Lenten Services at 6:30 PM.**

Dates: **March 8, 15, 22, and 29**

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES 2023:

“CHRONICLES OF THE KING”

Sermon Titles and Readings are subject to change

3/8 — Lenten Midweek 2: “Strange Bedfellows: Jehoshaphat”
(2 Chronicles 17:1-6; 16:1-13; Genesis 22:1-19; Mark 7:1-23)

3/15 — Lenten Midweek 3: “Cleaning House: Joash”
(2 Chronicles 24:1-4, 17-25; Genesis 37:1-36; Mark 10:1-12)

3/22 — Lenten Midweek 4: “Know Thyself: Uzziah”
(2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 15-21; Genesis 44:1-18; 32-32; Mark 12: 28-44)

3/29 — Lenten Midweek 5: “Our Last Hope: Josiah”
(2 Chronicles 34:1-3; 35:20-27; Exodus 4:1-18; Mark 15:1-15)

4/6 — Lenten Midweek 6, **Maundy Thursday:**
“Prepare Food: Hezekiah”
*(2 Chronicles 30:1-5, 10-13, 22b-27;
Exodus 24:3-11; Psalm 116:12-19; Matt. 26: 17-30)*

4/7 — Lenten Midweek 6, **Good Friday:**
“WORST. BEST. KING EVER: Manasseh”
(2 Chronicle 33:1-20; Psalm 22; John 19:17-30)

4/9 — **Easter Vigil / Sunrise Service:** “After The End”
(Ezekiel 37:1-14, 24-28; Psalm 16; Matthew 27:57-66)

4/9 — **EASTER DAY:** “Long Lives The King of Kings!”