

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Dennis A. Wenzholz

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Lenten Midweek Worship Service

March 15, 2023

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*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.*

**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,

# THIRD WEDNESDAY IN



# LENT

**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 4)*

4 My Shepherd, now receive me;

My Guardian, own me Thine.

Great blessings Thou didst give me,

O Source of gifts divine.

Thy lips have often fed me

With words of truth and love;

Thy Spirit oft hath led me

To heav’nly joys above.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000368

#### 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.

## OLD TESTAMENT

*2 Chronicles 24:1-4, 17-25*

<sup>1</sup>Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba. <sup>2</sup>And Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest. <sup>3</sup>Jehoiada got for him two wives, and he had sons and daughters.

<sup>4</sup>After this Joash decided to restore the house of the LORD.

<sup>17</sup>Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. <sup>18</sup>And they abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs. <sup>19</sup>Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD. These testified against them, but they would not pay attention.

<sup>20</sup>Then the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and he stood above the people, and said to them, "Thus says God, 'Why do you break the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.'"

<sup>21</sup>But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD. <sup>22</sup>Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. And when he was dying, he said, "May the LORD see and avenge!"

<sup>23</sup>At the end of the year the army of the Syrians came up against Joash. They came to Judah and Jerusalem and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people and sent all their spoil to the king of Damascus.

<sup>24</sup>Though the army of the Syrians had come with few men, the LORD delivered into their hand a very great army, because Judah had forsaken the LORD, the God of their fathers. Thus they executed judgment on Joash.

<sup>25</sup>When they had departed from him, leaving him severely wounded, his servants conspired against him because of the blood of the son of Jehoiada the priest, and killed him on his bed. So he died, and they buried him in the city of David, but they did not bury him in the tombs of the kings.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

122

P I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

**C Our feet have been standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

P Jerusalem—built as a city  
that is bound firmly together,

**C to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,  
as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name  
of the LORD.**

P There thrones for judgment were set,  
the thrones of the house of David.

**C Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!  
"May they be secure who love you!"**

P Peace be within your walls  
and security within your towers!"

**C For my brothers and companions' sake**

**I will say, "Peace be within you!"**

P For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek your good.

**EPISTLE**

*Hebrews 10:19–25*

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 2:13–22*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

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

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. <sup>15</sup>And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>And he told those who sold the

pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

<sup>18</sup>So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" <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, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>When therefore 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.

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**

*“O Christ, You Walked the Road” LSB 424*

- 1 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand’ring feet must go.  
You faced with us temptation’s pow’r  
And fought our ancient foe.
- 2 No bread of earth alone  
Can fill our hung’ring hearts.  
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,  
The food Your grace imparts.
- 3 No blinding sign we ask,  
No wonder from above.  
Lord, help us place our trust alone  
In Your unswerving love.
- 4 When lures of easy gain  
With promise brightly shine,  
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;  
Our wills with Yours align.
- 5 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand’ring feet must go.  
Stay with us through temptation’s hour  
To fight our ancient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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### **HOMILY**

Pastor Dennis Wenholz

### **“Cleaning House: Joash”**

### **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 “O Christ, the Same”

*Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith Tune: “Londonderry Air”*

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,  
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;  
Eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,  
unchanging still, amid the passing years:

O living Word, the source of all creation,  
who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze,  
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,  
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing  
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide,  
Still as of old upon your body bearing  
the marks of love, in triumph glorified:

O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,  
O Prince of life, in all your saving power,

O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,  
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping  
our lives and loves, our days and years remain,  
Our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,  
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:  
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,  
for all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,  
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,  
We bring our thanks for all that is to be.

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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 22 and 29**

### MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES 2023:

#### “CHRONICLES OF THE KING”

*\*Sermon Titles and Readings are subject to change\**

**3/22** — Lenten Midweek 4: “Know Thyself: Uzziah”  
*(2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 15b-21; Psalm 110; Hebrews 7:1-10, 26-28; John 10:11-18)*

**3/29** — Lenten Midweek 5: “Our Last Hope: Josiah”  
*(2 Chronicles 34:1-3; 35:20-27; Psalm 30; Revelation 21:1-6b; Luke 23:26-31)*

**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!”