

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Dennis A. Wenholz

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Lenten Midweek Worship Service

March 22, 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.

**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,

FOURTH 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 5)

5 What language shall I borrow
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?

O make me Thine forever!
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
Outlive my love for Thee.

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.

OLD TESTAMENT

2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 15b-21

¹And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah. ²He built Eloth and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers. ³Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. ⁴And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. ⁵He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God, and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.

¹⁵In Jerusalem he made engines, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers and the corners, to shoot arrows and great stones. And his fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong.

¹⁶But when he was strong, he grew proud, to his destruction. For he was unfaithful to the LORD his God and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. ¹⁷But Azariah the priest went in after him, with eighty priests of the LORD who were men of valor, ¹⁸and they withstood King Uzziah and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the sanctuary, for you have done wrong, and it will bring you no honor from the LORD God." ¹⁹Then Uzziah was angry. Now he had a censer in his hand to burn incense, and when he became angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead in the presence of the priests in the house of the LORD, by the altar of incense. ²⁰And Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead! And they rushed him out quickly, and he

himself hurried to go out, because the LORD had struck him. ²¹And King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death, and being a leper lived in a separate house, for he was excluded from the house of the LORD. And Jotham his son was over the king's household, governing the people of the land.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

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P The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

C The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

P Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

C The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

P The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

C He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.

P He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore he will lift up his head.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 7:1-10, 26-28

¹For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ²and to him Abraham

apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace. ³He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

⁴See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! ⁵And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. ⁶But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. ⁷It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. ⁸In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. ⁹One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, ¹⁰for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

²⁶For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

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 *“Glory Be to Jesus”* LSB 433

- 1 Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins!
- 2 Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind!
- 3 Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem!
- 4 Abel’s blood for vengeance
Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus
For our pardon cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Text: Public domain

HOMILY

Pastor Dennis Wenholz

“Know Thyself: Uzziah”

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 *“Now the Light Has Gone Away” LSB 887*

- 1 Now the light has gone away;
Father, listen while I pray,
Asking Thee to watch and keep
And to send me quiet sleep.
- 2 Jesus, Savior, wash away
All that has been wrong today;
Help me ev’ry day to be
Good and gentle, more like Thee.

- 3 Let my near and dear ones be
Always near and dear to Thee;
O bring me and all I love
To Thy happy home above.
- 4 Now my evening praise I give;
Thou didst die that I might live.
All my blessings come from Thee;
Oh, how good Thou art to me!
- 5 Thou, my best and kindest Friend,
Thou wilt love me to the end.
Let me love Thee more and more,
Always better than before.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79, alt. Text: Public domain

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Join us next Wednesday (**March 29th**) for our last **Soup Supper** at **5:30 PM** and **Midweek Service** at **6:30 PM**.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES 2023:

“CHRONICLES OF THE KING”

Sermon Titles and Readings are subject to change

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*)

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Worship services at **6:30 PM**.

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 Tenebrae Service**

EASTER DAY SCHEDULE

Sunrise service at **7 AM** and Easter Day Service at **9AM**.

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!”