

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Clinton S. Hoff

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Third Sunday in Lent (Oculi)

March 8, 2026

*Receiving the gift of the Lord's Supper is to receive the holy, crucified, resurrected, and ascended Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in, with, and under bread and wine.*

*Therefore, to receive the Lord's Supper is a confession that all who receive it in one place are united in holding to all of the doctrines of God's Word (see 1 Cor. 10:17; 11:26). Therefore, those who do not currently adhere to the doctrinal commitment of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod through the rite of confirmation are requested to attend the Adult Instruction Class for membership before communing at Peace Lutheran Church.*



DIVINE SERVICE - SETTING THREE

PRELUDE

Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peace Handbell Choir

"How Firm a Foundation" -arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

OPENING HYMN

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

LSB 525

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

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.

**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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

**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  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

#### INTROIT

*Psalm 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: vv. 15-16*



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*  
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

To you, | O LORD,\*  
I lift | up my soul.

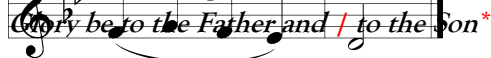
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;\*  
let not my enemies exult | over me.

The troubles of my heart | are enlarged;\*  
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.

Consider my affliction and my | trouble,\*  
and forgive | all my sins.

Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!\*

Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge in you.



**C** A - men.

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*

is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*

for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*

for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

#### KYRIE

LSB 186



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

#### SALUTATION



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## OLD TESTAMENT

*Exodus 8:16–24*

<sup>16</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats in all the land of Egypt.’” <sup>17</sup>And they did so. Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and there were gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats in all the land of Egypt. <sup>18</sup>The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. <sup>19</sup>Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and present yourself to Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let my people go, that they may serve me. <sup>21</sup>Or else, if you will not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and your servants and your people, and into your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand. <sup>22</sup>But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. <sup>23</sup>Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall happen.”’” <sup>24</sup>And the LORD did so. There came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and into his servants’ houses. Throughout all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by the swarms of flies.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 9:19, 3*



Arise, O LORD! Let not | man prevail;\*

let the nations be judged be- | fore you!

**When my enemies | turn back,\***

**they stumble and perish before your | presence.**

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 5:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

<sup>3</sup>But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. <sup>4</sup>Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup>For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. <sup>6</sup>Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>Therefore do not associate with them; <sup>8</sup>for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 11:14–28*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.



**G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup>Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. <sup>15</sup>But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” <sup>16</sup>while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. <sup>17</sup>But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. <sup>18</sup>And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. <sup>19</sup>And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>20</sup>But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>21</sup>When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; <sup>22</sup>but

when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. <sup>23</sup>Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

<sup>24</sup>“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ <sup>25</sup>And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. <sup>26</sup>Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

<sup>27</sup>As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” <sup>28</sup>But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



#### 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.

Sit

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee” LSB 750

#### SERMON

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

Stand

#### OFFERTORY

LSB 192

**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.  
**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,  
 and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the

dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  bod - y, which is giv-en for you.  
 This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so  
 He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it  
 to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in  
 My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.  
 This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

**PAX DOMINI**

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.  
**A** - men.

**AGNUS DEI**

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
 tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

**DISTRIBUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

- |                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"  | LSB 621 |
| "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"       | LSB 611 |
| "Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing" | LSB 421 |

Stand

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

LSB 199

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**G** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** Let us pray.  
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** A - men.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And with thy spir - it.

BENEDICAMUS LSB 202

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make

His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN      “O Perfect Life of Love”      LSB 452 vv. 1, 6, 7

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE      Organist

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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