



4900 Fairfield Avenue
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46807
www.peacelutheranfw.org
260-744-3869

The Third Week in Lent Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – 6:30pm

Rev. Paul Spira, Pastor
Rose Murphy, Dir of Family & Youth/Café Ministry
Becky Rutkowski, Secretary (M-W)
Nancy Herber, Secretary (Tu-Th)
Peace Lutheran Preschool, 456-6605
Barbara Bradtmueller, Preschool Director

Tymothy Benzinger, Fieldworker
Gary Gerke, Choir Director
Krista Koch, Organist
Zach Bultemeier, Accompanist
Lutheran South Unity School, 744-0459
Sheila Nehrenz, LSUS Interim Principal

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us and especially to those who may be visiting. We pray that as you worship, you will be strengthened by our Lord's love and grace. Please sign our Red Friendship Book at the end of the Pew. If you are our guest, please introduce yourself to the Pastor after the service. Gift bags for our visitors hang on the welcome wall in the Narthex.

Our Mission: "Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to reach the lost and to provide for spiritual growth and nurture of our family of believers through education and ministry of Word and Sacraments."

Education Programs: Pre-K program, ages 3-5, August through May here in Peace's education wing, and along with Bethlehem, Mt. Calvary and Zion Lutheran churches, we operate Lutheran South Unity School (K-8) located at 5401 South Calhoun Street.

Holy Communion: The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, second and fourth Sundays of the month and on the corresponding Thursday services prior to these Sundays. See the red fellowship folder in the pew to register your intent to receive communion and for a summary of our Biblical understanding of the Sacrament. Guests from sister Lutheran (LCMS) congregations are welcome to commune with us, while members of other church bodies are asked to speak with our Pastor. If you are unable to approach the Communion rail, please let an usher know and Pastor will serve you at your seat. *We offer gluten free wafers for those who need them - please notify the Elder at the Communion rail.*

Hospitalization: If you or a family member is hospitalized, or is scheduled for surgery, please notify the church office or Pastor Spira at 445-0555. Even though you mention a church affiliation at check in, hospital staff rarely has time to contact the churches.

Nursery and Children's Bulletins: A nursery for small children is available in Room 222 (The Nursery/Playroom). Children's bulletins may be obtained from an usher.

Large Print Bulletins Available: If you need a large print bulletin let the ushers know.

LISTEN Personal Sound System is available for people who struggle to hear what is being said during the service. They are hanging on the display wall in the narthex - ask the Elder or an Usher for help.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Eyes on Jesus: Denying Eyes



As We Gather

This Lent, we will use the metaphor of eyesight to examine how the various people in Mark's Gospel viewed Jesus during His Passion. In most cases, they misunderstood who He was and what He was doing; then again, sometimes by faith people did recognize Him correctly.

We have these forty days of Lent in which we may look within ourselves as people of faith in our day. How are we like or unlike the people who saw Jesus in the flesh? Most important, as we gather for worship, we will see what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death.

At first, Peter and the other disciples cannot see how they could ever fall away from Jesus. Then, when Peter is spotted by a servant girl and realizes that his own neck is on the line, he sees fit to deny Jesus, which leads to his weeping in remorse. What does it take for us to move beyond our own remorse to the discipleship we and our Lord desire?

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome

*(For those who are able, please stand for the portions of the service that are marked with an *)*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

* Opening Hymn

“Our Eyes Behold the Savior’s Face”

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>¹ Our eyes behold the Savior’s face
And yet cannot perceive
That His perspective held our grace
Before we could believe.</p> | <p>² Our focus flits and fails to see
The One whose steadfast gaze
Propelled Him to the darkened tree
Enveloped in death’s haze.</p> |
| <p>³ Our sights train on the dreadful cross.
Beneath His knowing eyes,
Our sins are bare and set for loss;
He sees us as His prize.</p> | <p>⁴ Our vision blurs with anxious tears
As Jesus’ eyelids fall
To conquer sin and all our fears
And tear in two our pall.</p> |
| <p>⁵ Our view scans for the coming Day
That evermore grows near,
When Jesus wipes our tears away
And all is crystal clear.</p> | |

* Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

* Opening Sentences

- P** I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
C **My help comes from the LORD,**
who made heaven and earth.
- P** The eyes of all look to You,
and You give them their food in due season.
C **You open Your hand;**
You satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- P** Keep me as the apple of Your eye;
C **hide me in the shadow of Your wings.**
- P** My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
C **for He will pluck my feet out of the net.**
- P** For I know that my Redeemer lives,
C **and at the last He will stand upon the earth.**
- P** And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
C **yet in my flesh I shall see God,**
- P** whom I shall see for myself,
C **and my eyes shall behold, and not another.**
My heart faints within me!

* Confession

- P** As we perceive how the people around Jesus were unable to truly see Him, let us confess our own failures to respond to His grace and mercy.

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

- P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

* Forgiveness

- P** “From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides [the Lord], who acts for those who wait for Him” (Isaiah 64:4). As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

* Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

- P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the Passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 59:1-3, 12-13

- L** Isaiah laments how Israel has been denying the Lord.
A reading from the 59th chapter of Isaiah.

¹Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;

²but your iniquities have made a separation
between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you
so that he does not hear.

³For your hands are defiled with blood
and your fingers with iniquity;
your lips have spoken lies;
your tongue mutters wickedness.

¹²For our transgressions are multiplied before you,
and our sins testify against us;
for our transgressions are with us,
and we know our iniquities:
¹³transgressing, and denying the LORD,
and turning back from following our God,
speaking oppression and revolt,
conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 2:8-13

L Paul reminds us that God and His Word can always be trusted.

A reading from the second chapter of Paul's Second Letter to Timothy.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Passion

Mark 14:26-31, 66-72

P This Lent, we are looking at the events of our Lord's Passion through the eyes of some of the people who witnessed it. Today, we echo the brave words of Peter and the disciples (for "they all said the same"), as well as Peter's denials. Do we also reflect Peter's remorse, or have we hidden our faults even from ourselves?

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark, the 14th chapter.

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "*You will all fall away, for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered."* But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter said to Him,

C "Even though they all fall away, I will not."

P “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” But he said emphatically,

C “If I must die with You, I will not deny You.”

P And they all said the same. . . . And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.” But he denied it, saying,

C “I neither know nor understand what you mean.”

P And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear,

C “I do not know this man of whom you speak.”

P And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “*Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.*” And he broke down and wept.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn

“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”

Hymnal page 560

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ¹ Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in Thee my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come. | ² Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears,
Christ crucified, I come. |
| ³ Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain,
Christ crucified, I come. | ⁴ And then for work to do for Thee,
Which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me,
Christ crucified, I come. |

Sermon

“Denying Eyes”

*** Canticle**

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Hymnal page 420

vv. 1, 3, 7

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>¹ Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy sufferings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.</p> | <p>³ Thou hast borne the smiting only
That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,
Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring,
Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- ⁷ Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

(We encourage our visitors and members to sign the red Fellowship booklet located in each pew)

Offering

*** Salutation**

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

*** Prayer of the Church**

- P** Let us pray.
Most merciful God, You desire everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Grant that by the preaching of the cross and Passion of Your beloved Son we may be given the wisdom that leads to salvation. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, keep us attentive to all the teachings of Your Word. Enlighten our minds, control our wills, and purify our affections. Let Your Word be a light for our path that neither the pleasures nor the honors nor the pains of this life may turn away our thoughts from the fullness of life that is found only in You.

Enable us in sincerity of heart to follow You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. By Your Holy Word, enlighten all who are in error, doubt, or temptation with the sure and certain knowledge of Your truth that all who live in sin may be led to repentance. For the sake of Christ and His holy Passion, show mercy and grace to all those suffering any distress, to those who are sick or hospitalized, and to those facing death. Let them find comfort, peace, and rest in His holy wounds.

We commit ourselves and all for whom we pray to Your fatherly care and benediction. Be gracious to us and defend us by Your mighty power, which is made perfect in weakness and is manifested chiefly in Your compassion toward us and all whom You have made. Direct us by Your Spirit that we may daily grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Savior until we shall stand before You in the joy of everlasting glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

*** Lord's Prayer**

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.

*** Benediction**

P The blessing of almighty God—the Father, who saw mankind's hopeless condition, the ✠ Son, who showed the depth of God's love, and the Holy Spirit, who has opened our eyes of faith in Christ—be upon you now and forever.

C Amen.

*** Closing Hymn**

“Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted”

Hymnal page 451

¹ Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;
Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

³ Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

² Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause
disowning,
Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
None would intervene to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
Was the stroke that justice gave.

⁴ Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
Is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built.

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Preacher: Rev. Paul Spira

Elder: Dennis Wheeler

Organist: Zach Bultemeier

Lesson Reader: Zach Bultemeier

Greeters: Chuck and Jeri Miller

Ushers: Dick Rutkowski Bob Michael Sarah Brandon
Ivy Harkenrider Greg Hill Kameron Hill Payton Sells

Acolyte: KeyAnna Underwood

Nursery: Open but not staffed

Altar Servers: Stacey Jackson Jeri Miller

The Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Mike and Katrina Marcum in remembrance of Kendrick's baptism.

Prayers: Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

FOR HEALING:	Judy Stoppenhagen, Elsie Anderson, Bertie Hormann, Margaret Stewart (mother of Barb Bradtmueller), Rev. John Herber (brother of Jim), Reily Kennell (friend of Herbers), Rose Ann Miller (friend of LaDonna Keck), Jeremy Smith (son-in-law of the Rutkowskis), Connie Glavin (sister of Brenda Gensic), Erica Stover (instructor of Walk15) and those confined at home or in care centers.
PRAYER FAMILIES:	Marty and Michele Blessing, Kelsey Gatchell, Don and Judy Parker
MISSIONS	A Hope Center; The Burmese Missions in Fort Wayne; LCMS World Mission; and missionaries Rev. David Bush (Macau), Jamielynn Tinkey (Dominican Republic) and Rachel Meyer (Uganda)
SHARING PEACE:	That Sharing Peace Café would be a place where Christ's love is shown and our neighbors are blessed to know Him.
IN SYMPATHY:	For the family of Jacob Keirn, brother of Polly Zeimet, who went to his Heavenly Home on Thursday.

Attendance and Stewardship Summary for March 8 and 11:

Worship Attendance:	71/61
Adult Bible Class/Youth/Cross Trainers	19/5/5
Amount needed per week:	\$ 5,577.00
Our response last week	<u>\$ 4,301.05</u>
Difference:	(\$ 1,275.95)