

# Peace Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026 9:00 a.m.



## GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME!

Thank you for joining in Worship today.

Whether you regularly worship with us, are here for the first time, or are returning after a time away, your presence is important for the worship we offer to the glory of God. May your experience of God's love be a blessing in your life. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest register in the Narthex, near the front door. All are welcome at Jesus' table. The center ring in the communion tray has grape juice and the other two rings have wine.

*Information in italics* | **Congregation responses in bold** | \* indicates please stand as you are able  
Worship services may involve photography, as well as audio and video recording.

## Welcome & Announcements to Prepare Us for Worship

### Diminishing Light of Lenten Candles

On Sunday morning, for a brief space of time, we leave behind the world of home and work and school—the world where we have our lists of things to do, activities to participate in, tasks to complete. We come here this morning seeking something else. We come here seeking a shift—from the ordinary to the sacred, from doing to being. I invite you to close your eyes. Let go of your list. Recall that it is the season of Lent. Remember the parable of the sower. The sower throws the seed . . . and where it lands determines if it will grow or not grow. Think of it this way: think of the season of Lent as the sower, the time when seeds of faith are thrown with special intensity, as a time a time when God calls to us in a low, urgent voice.

Listen. Jesus is being drawn to Jerusalem. Where is God calling you to? What is God calling you to do?

*(A brief silence.)*

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain of injury done to the Earth and its ecosystems.

*(A candle is extinguished.)*

Let us pray: **Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, may we be open to your presence. Give us the strength to make the changes that are needed in our lives and the courage to take on the work of transforming the world. Amen.**

### **\* Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdainingly the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of  
your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for  
disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith,  
the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of  
Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The  
Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you,  
pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.  
**Amen.**



*\* What Wondrous Love is This*

ELW 666 (vs. 1, 2 & 5)

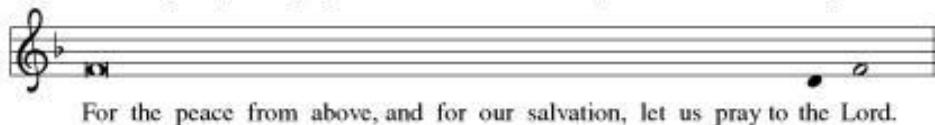
### **\*Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

# \*Kyrie



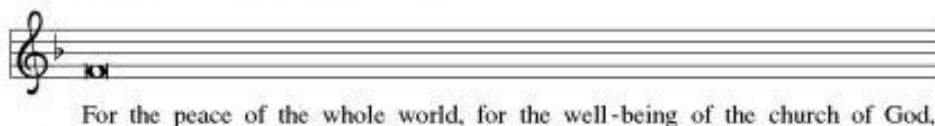
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



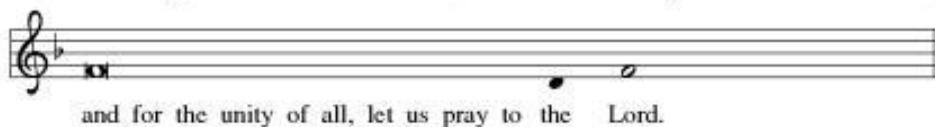
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



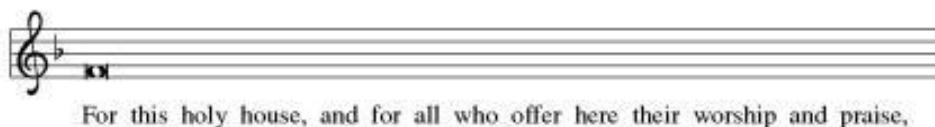
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## **\*The Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray... **O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a**

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup> So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

...the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 121**

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.** <sup>3</sup>The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**  
<sup>5</sup>the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

## Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

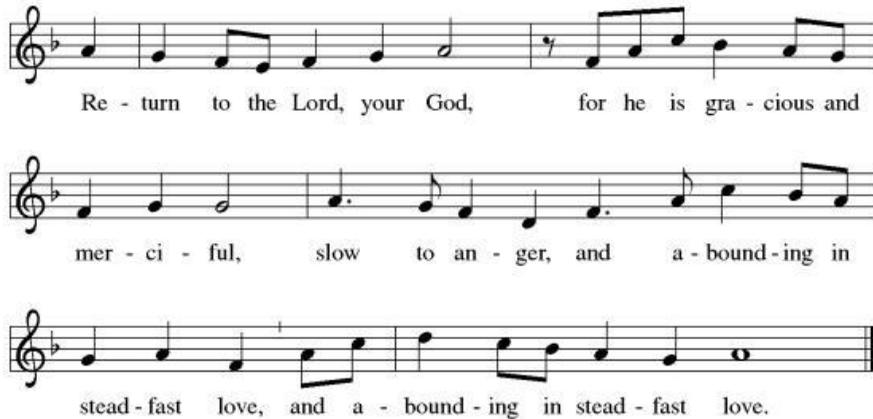
<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

<sup>16</sup> For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

....the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



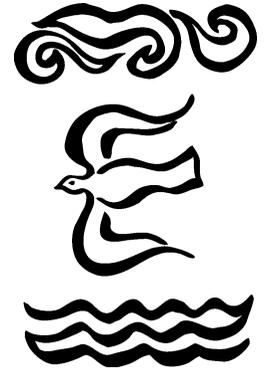
Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## \*Gospel: John 3:1-17

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

...Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the



Spirit.”<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord... **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** – Pastor Carol Jeunnette



*\* God Loved the World*

*ELW 323*

### **\*APOSTLE’S CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He**

ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **\*Prayers of Intercession**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*(A brief silence.)*

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*We pray for Dianna, Michael, Bill, Lynn and Phil, Diane, Pam & Rich.*

*Birthdays: Bill Goulding – March 2*

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

### **\*Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Share the peace with each other as you are comfortable.*

### **\* Offering Prayer**

Let us pray... **O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## \*Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## \*Proper Preface



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## \* Words of Institution & Lord's Prayer *(traditional version)*

### \*Invitation to Communion

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*Please come forward as you are able to receive communion.*

## *Lamb of God – found on Liturgy Sheet*

### **\*Post-Communion Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, now and forever.

### **\*Prayer after Communion**

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **\*Blessing**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✝ bless you now and always. **Amen.**



*\* By Grace We Have Been Saved*

W&P 25

## **Announcements for the Good of All**

**Offering** - Please place your gifts in the baskets in the back of the Sanctuary.

### **\*Dismissal**

Grow in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**



# Peace Lutheran Announcements for March 1, 2026

*Church Website: [www.peacelutheranburlington.org](http://www.peacelutheranburlington.org)*

*Church Email: [peacelca@gmail.com](mailto:peacelca@gmail.com)*

*Pastor Carol's email: [pastorcarol.peace@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarol.peace@gmail.com)*

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*Attendance for Sunday, February 22, 2026 – 24 confirmed, 1 virtual*

*General Offerings \$1,280.00 Mt Meru \$20.00*

*Worship Assistants for today – Council member in charge: open, Lector: Ken*

*Christensen, Communion Assistant: Ken Christensen, Offering counter: Kent*

*Zahn, Tech: John Jeunnette*

**Office Hours...** NOTE CHANGE FOR LENT. Pastor Carol's office hours during Lent will be Wednesdays from 10am-noon and she will not be available March 18.

Drop in and say "Hi" during those hours!

**Growing Relationships...** Please contact Renee Knapton by phone (262-492-0718) or by e-mail at [reneeknapton@gmail.com](mailto:reneeknapton@gmail.com) with any joys, sorrows, prayer requests, etc. that you wish shared with fellow members.

**Christian Nationalism class beginning today following worship, led by Pastor Carol...** Christian nationalism is the belief that America was founded as and must remain a "Christian" nation. Unfortunately, there is no single understanding of Christianity, nor was America established as a Christian nation. Beginning March 1, after worship we will look into what Christian nationalism is, what the early founders of our nation intended in terms of freedom of religion, and the dangers of this ideology. We also will consider parallels of Christian nationalism and white nationalism.

**Lent...** Wednesday soup luncheon-noon. Bring a can of soup to donate to the food cupboard. Worship 1:00-1:30.

**Burlington Senior Center...** Looking ahead we will begin collecting for the Burlington Senior Center. They are in need of paper cups (no Styrofoam), small paper plates and napkins to be delivered March 1.

**Salvation Army...** Please collect your newspapers and place them in the box in the narthex.