

# WELCOME

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH – MARCH 5, 2023

## MEET US

Our family is loved by Christ and we love each other. We hold firmly to God's Word of truth, which convicts us of our sin and comforts us with God's forgiveness in Christ. We embrace the rich heritage of hymns and liturgy that has guided the worship of the Church for generations. We are passionate about Christian education, wanting young and old to grow in their knowledge of God's Word. As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), we enjoy fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

## TODAY'S WORSHIP

In our gospel lesson for today, Jesus explains to Nicodemus God's simple plan of salvation using a story he would have known well—the bronze serpent. Just as all who looked upon the bronze serpent lived, Jesus explained that all who look in faith upon the Messiah will also be saved. Today we consider the theme: *God's Simple Plan.*

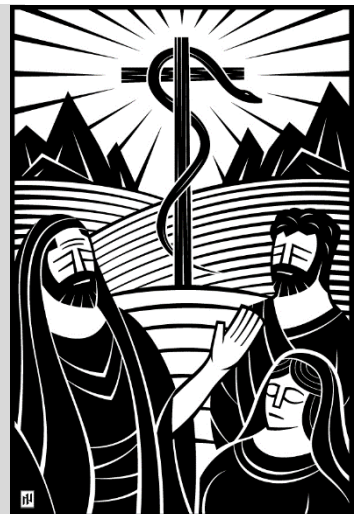
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**Restrooms** are located to the right as you leave the sanctuary and are equipped with child changing tables.

**Parent Room** is located on the left as you exit the sanctuary doors. This room is equipped with a livestream of the service.

**For the hearing impaired**, an induction loop is provided. Just switch your hearing aid to "T".

**For other special needs or questions**, our ushers are here to assist you. Don't hesitate to ask.



# DIVINE SERVICE

RITE 1  
PAGE 41

## WE COME BEFORE THE LORD

### OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

### HYMN

Lord Jesus, Though But Two or Three | ELH 5

### CONFESSION OF SIN

We poor sinners confess to You, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended You, our Lord and Maker, in thought, word and deed, so that You could with perfect justice reject and condemn us for all eternity.

**Therefore we come before You with sorrow of heart, in dread and terror of Your holy justice and of everlasting death. Our sins are a grievous foe, which we should hate in every way as long as we live.**

O merciful God, You still grant us in this hour to be reminded of Your fatherly goodness. According to the promise of Your Word we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and implore You, dearest Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised again for our justification:

Forgive us all our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts to full assurance.

**We therefore pray You, O Lord, through Your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## KYRIE ELEISON (Lord, have mercy)

O God the Fa - ther in heav - en, have mer - cy up - on  
us. O God the Son, Re - deem - er of the world, have  
mer - cy up - on us. O God the Ho - ly Ghost,  
true Com - fort - er, have mer - cy up - on us.

## ABSOLUTION

Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: Come unto me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with your spir - it.

## PRAYER

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - - - - men.

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

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### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Abram Trusts God's Promises | Genesis 12:1–8

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Get out of your country and away from your relatives and from your father’s house and go to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. You will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse anyone who dishonors you. All of the families of the earth will be blessed in you.” <sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the Lord had told him. Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>Abram took Sarai his wife, Lot his brother’s son, and all the possessions they had accumulated and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to travel to the land of Canaan. Eventually they arrived in the land of Canaan. <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land until he came to the Oak of Moreh at the place called Shechem. The Canaanites were in the land at that time. <sup>7</sup>The Lord appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your descendants.” Abram built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>He moved on from there to the hill country

east of Bethel and pitched his tent there, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and proclaimed the name of the Lord.

**EPISTLE READING** Abraham's Faith Was Credited as Righteousness | Romans 4:1–5,13–17

What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>If indeed Abraham had been justified by works, he would have had a reason to boast—but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to a person who works, his pay is not counted as a gift but as something owed. <sup>5</sup>But to the person who does not work but believes in the God who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited to him as righteousness. ... <sup>13</sup>Indeed, the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not given to Abraham or his descendants through the law, but through the righteousness that is by faith. <sup>14</sup>To be sure, if people are heirs by the law, faith is empty and the promise is nullified. <sup>15</sup>For law brings wrath. (Where there is no law, there is no transgression.) <sup>16</sup>For this reason, the promise is by faith, so that it may be according to grace and may be guaranteed to all of Abraham's descendants—not only to the one who is a descendant by law, but also to the one who has the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup>As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” In the presence of God, Abraham believed him who makes the dead alive and calls non-existing things so that they exist.

**HYMN ENSEMBLE**

Christ, the True and Better Adam | Boswell and Papa

Christ the true and better Adam; Son of God and Son of man  
Who when tempted in the garden, never yielded, never sinned.  
He who makes the many righteous brings us back to life again.  
Dying, He reversed the curse; then rising, crushed the serpent's head.

Christ, the true and better Isaac; humble son of sacrifice,  
Who would climb the fearful mountain, there to offer up his life.  
Laid with faith upon the altar, Father's joy and only Son;  
There salvation was provided, oh what full and boundless love.

Amen, amen, from beginning to end.

Christ the story, His the glory;  
Alleluia, amen.

Christ, the true and better Moses, called to lead a people home;  
Standing bold to earthly powers, God's great glory to be known.  
With his arms stretched wide to heaven, see the waters part in two;  
See the veil is torn forever, cleansed with blood we pass now through.

Amen, amen, from beginning to end.

Christ the story, His the glory;  
Alleluia, Amen.

Christ the true and better David; lowly shepherd, mighty King.  
He the champion in the battle; where O death, is now thy sting?  
In our place He bled and conquered; crown Him Lord of majesty.  
His shall be the throne forever; we shall e'er His people be.

Amen, amen, from beginning to end.  
Christ the story, His the glory;  
Alleluia, amen!

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Used by permission: CCLI Song # 7160820 Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, & Matt Papa

## APOSTLES' CREED

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall 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.



## CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN

God Loved the World so That He Gave | ELH 403

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these miraculous signs you are doing unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God! <sup>6</sup>Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh. Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it pleases. You hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>"How can these things be?" asked Nicodemus. <sup>10</sup>"You are the teacher of Israel," Jesus answered, "and you do not know these things? <sup>11</sup>Amen, Amen, I tell you: We speak what we know, and we testify about what we have seen. But you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven, except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven. <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

## WE GIVE THANKS

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Everlasting and merciful God, we beseech You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**To have mercy upon us and to hear our prayer.**

Look in mercy upon Your Church. Protect it and sanctify it by Your truth. May Your Word be taught in its purity and Your Sacraments be rightly administered. Grant unto Your Church faithful pastors who shall declare Your truth with power and shall live according to Your will. Send forth laborers into Your harvest and open the door of faith unto all unbelievers and unto the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church and grant to them repentance unto life.

**O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear us in the truth of Your salvation.**

Let Your protecting hand be over our country and over all who travel. Prosper what is good among us and bring to naught every evil counsel and purpose. Protect and bless Your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, our judges and magistrates and all in authority. Fit them for their high calling by the gift of Your Spirit of wisdom and fear, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

**Hear, O Lord, and have mercy! Lord be our helper.**

According to Your promise, O God, be the defender of the widow and the father of the orphan. Relieve and comfort the sick and the sorrowful (especially our brother/sister \_\_\_\_\_ who is ill/grieving). Graciously help those who are assaulted by the devil and who are in peril of death. Be the strength of those who are suffering for the sake of Christ's holy name. Grant that we may live together in peace and prosperity. Bestow upon us good and seasonable weather; and bless us with upright Christian counsel in all that we undertake.

**O Lord, be with all in trouble. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your Name.**

We especially commend to Your care and keeping this Your congregation which You have bought with a great price. Keep from us all offenses and bind us together in the unity of Your holy love. Grant that the little ones who are baptized in Your name may be brought up in Your fear. At Your table give to those who there commune with You peace and life everlasting.

**Let all rejoice who trust in You; let them shout for joy because You defend them.**

Be merciful, O God, to all, according to Your great love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. When our final hour shall come, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection to Your glory.

**Amen. Grant us Your peace, O Lord!**

## OFFERING & FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in heav-en, Hal-low-ed be Thy name Thy king-dom  
come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav-en. Give us this day our dai-ly bread, and  
for-give us our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who tress-pass a-against us; And lead



us not in - to temp-ta - tion, But de - liv - er us from e - vil. For Thine is the  
king - dom and the pow'r and the glo - ry for - ev - er and e - ver.

A - - - - - men.

**PRAYER**

We thank You, Lord God the Father, that You have given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. We thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have borne in Your sacred body all our sins, and by Your blood have blotted out all our transgressions. We thank You, Lord, the Holy Spirit, that You have created in our hearts true faith, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. O God, grant us Your grace, that we may perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven for the sake of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so enlighten us by Your Holy Spirit, that, in the power of our Redeemer's death, we may day by day put off sin, and never forsake the Lord Jesus Christ, until we see Him face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name.

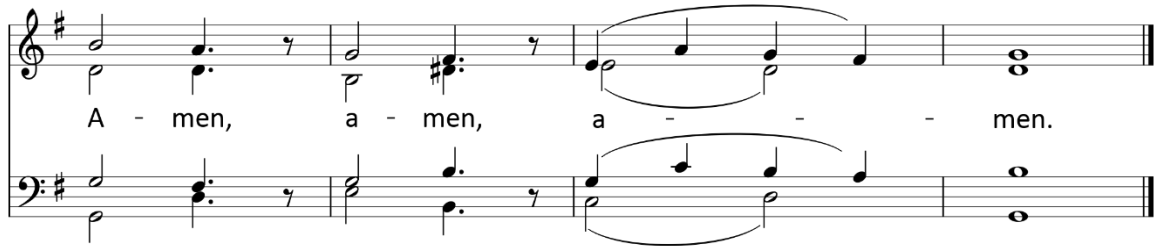
A - - - - - men.

## BENEDICTION

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.



A - men, a - men, a - - - men.

## HYMN

Jesus Loves Me | ELH 179

## PRAYER

O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

## WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE

Ensemble

Crystal Foslien | Accompanist

Organist

Katie Hartwig

Ushers

Derek Harstad, Tim Hartwig, Caleb Hartwig | 8:15

Doyle Holbird, Chris Harstad, Jeremy Burger | 10:30

Refreshments

Group 3

## GET YOUR GAME FACE ON AND GET READY TO CURL



### LEARN TO CURL - Adult Group Event Friday, March 17th from 6 to 9pm, Cost: \$10

Come out for our next adult group event: Learn to Curl on Friday March 17th at the Mankato Curling Club (600 Hope St in Mankato). We will begin the evening with an introductory lesson by one of the club members followed by a competition. At 8pm we will break for food and fellowship in the warming house. If you are planning to go, please sign-up at [peacemankato.com/curling](http://peacemankato.com/curling). See you there!



MARCH  
**25**

## PIZZA & PINEMOOD

### Peace Lutheran Church Saturday, March 25th 5pm — 8pm

Join us for our first ever, Pizza and Pinewood Derby event on March 25th from 5pm to 8pm. Children and adults are invited to design their own pinewood derby car to race as well as to be judged for style. Participants should sign up at [peacemankato.com/derby](http://peacemankato.com/derby). Pine Car kits can be purchased at the church office for \$6. A copy of the rules can be downloaded at [peacemankato.com/rules](http://peacemankato.com/rules). Prizes will be awarded according to age group.  
QUESTIONS—EMAIL: [PASTORMOLDSTAD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PASTORMOLDSTAD@GMAIL.COM)



# PSALMS OF THE PASSION



PEACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

[peacemankato.com](http://peacemankato.com)

**22**

FEB

**PSALM 51**

ASH WEDNESDAY | 6:00 PM

**01**

MAR

**PSALM 69**

MIDWEEK SERVICE | 6:00 PM

**08**

MAR

**PSALM 34**

MIDWEEK SERVICE | 6:00 PM

**15**

MAR

**PSALM 31**

MIDWEEK SERVICE | 6:00 PM

**22**

MAR

**PSALM 35**

MIDWEEK SERVICE | 6:00 PM

**29**

MAR

**PSALM 109**

MIDWEEK SERVICE | 6:00 PM

MEAL 5PM | SERVICE 6PM

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### SUNDAY

Divine Service	8:15am
Sunday School	9:30am
Bible Class	9:30am
Divine Service	10:30am

### TUESDAY

Solid Grounds	9:00am
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### WEDNESDAY

Confirmation Class	4:00pm
Lenten Meal	5:00pm
Lenten Service	6:00pm

### THURSDAY

M.O.M.s Bible Study	8:30am
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### FRIDAY

Men's Bible Study	6:30am
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## NEWS & NOTES

For more detailed information concerning our news & notes, visit [peacemankato.com/news](http://peacemankato.com/news)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGING RESCHEDULED Mar 15 | 6pm

Practice with the Adult Choir in the sanctuary at 5:40pm. Sing at midweek service at 6pm.

### ADULT GROUP - CURLING Mar 17 | 6pm

Join Adult Group for brief curling refresher and 3 hours of ice and socializing at the Mankato Curling Club. Cost: \$10/person + dessert to share. Pay Joni Moldstad. Sign up at [peacemankato.com/curling](http://peacemankato.com/curling).

### PIZZA & PINEWOOD DERBY Mar 25 | 5PM

Design a pinewood derby car to race and to be judged for style. Separate categories for children and adults. Kit: \$6 at office. Pizza served! Send [pastormoldstad@gmail.com](mailto:pastormoldstad@gmail.com) any questions.

### VOLUNTEER FOR PRE-K OPEN HOUSE Mar 28 | 6:00pm

We are looking for individuals to bring bars or cookies, or help with games and crafts. If you are willing to help, contact Joslyn at 507-385-7752 or [joslynmoldstad@gmail.com](mailto:joslynmoldstad@gmail.com)

### PIANIST TO ACCOMPANY M/W/F PM PRESCHOOLERS

Contact Joslyn Moldstad.

## MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES CONTINUE

Services are offered every Wednesday in March. This year's theme is *Psalms of the Passion*. All groups are scheduled to serve a midweek meal before the services at 5pm. Questions? Email Rachel at [rmoldstad@gmail.com](mailto:rmoldstad@gmail.com) — Group 3 (3/8), Group 4 (3/15), Group 5 (3/22), and Group 6 (3/29).

## PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE – 3/28

Join us for our open house on Tuesday March 28 from 6 to 8pm. Contact Joslyn at [joslynmoldstad@gmail.com](mailto:joslynmoldstad@gmail.com) or call 507-385-7752

## LYA 2023 AT BLC – 7/27-30

Register at [els.org/lya](http://els.org/lya). Open to confirmed students (grades 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>); \$250 per youth. Peace covers half the cost for members.

## JESUS' LAMBS AT PEACE PRE-K

2-, 3- or 5-day sessions Ages 3-5  
Director: Joslyn Moldstad 507-385-7752  
[peacemankato.com/preschool](http://peacemankato.com/preschool)

## CONTACT US

Office: 507-385-1386 Pastors:  
Matt Moldstad & Ben Wiechmann  
[office@peacemankato.com](mailto:office@peacemankato.com)

