FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

The fourth of the First Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live.

We celebrate Christ's presence in the Sacrament of the Table each week at Peace. Christ, our Host, meets us in this meal of grace and offers himself, fully embodied, in the bread and wine. He invites all to come and meet him in this Holy Meal.

In keeping with a new tradition inaugurated by the Society of Women Organists in 2021, today's service features compositions by women composers.

Today's Pass the Hat, chosen by our Youth, is Lutheran World Relief School Kits.

+ GATHERING +

P – Presider C – Congregation A – Assisting Minister L - Lector ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal ACS – All Creation Sings

PRELUDE

Sicilienne

Maria Theresia von Paradis

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS At the font.

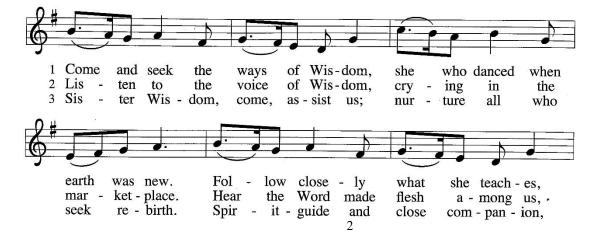
During the season of Lent the Font is placed near the entrance to the nave, reminding us that in baptism we enter into fellowship with Christ, and the church.

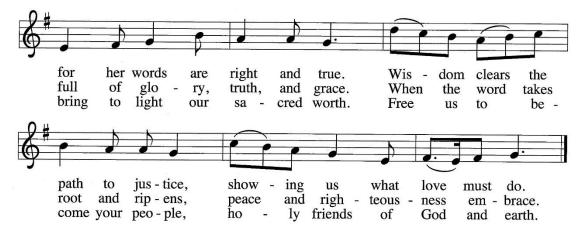
- P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law in our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.
- C Amen.
- P Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. Silence is kept for reflection.
- P Holy God,
- C we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.
 We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.
 We speak in ways that silence others.
 We are silent when we should speak up.
 We keep score in our hearts.
 We let hurts grow into hatred.
 For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.
 Amen.
- P Dearly Beloved—here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us. Hearing our lament, God breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.
- C Thanks be to God!

GATHERING HYMN

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

ACS #971 Text: Ruth Duck, Music: Donna Kasbohm





GREETING

- P The grace, love and peace of the Triune + God be with you.
- C And also with you.









PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

PASS THE HAT

Lutheran World Relief-School Kits

Peace Youth

Kathleen Keyes

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22 read responsively ¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

²Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim

that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

³gathering them in from the lands;

from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

¹⁷Some were fools and took rebellious paths;

through their sins they were afflicted.

¹⁸They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

¹⁹Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD

and you delivered them from their distress.

²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

²¹Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.

²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved--⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

L The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.



LENTEN ACCLAMATION *Please rise in body or spirit to receive the gospel.*

- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴ "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ "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.

¹⁷ "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. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHOIR ANTHEM

HYMN OF THE DAY

God So Loved the World

David H. Williams

Shannon Williams

Pastor Erik Kindem

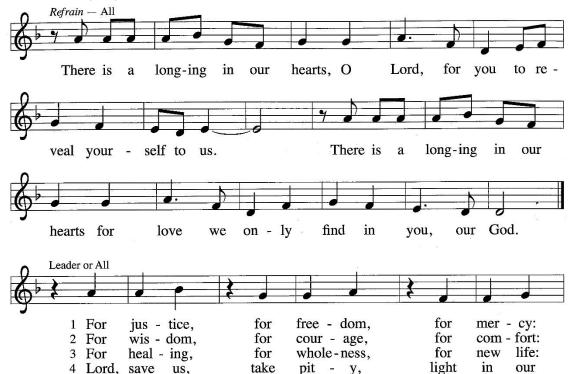
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

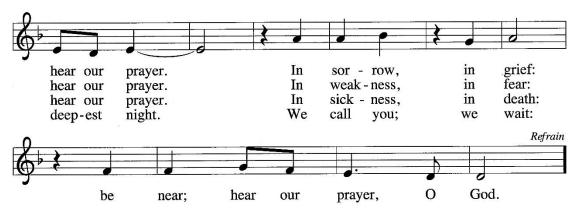
There is a Longing in Our Hearts

SERMON

ACS #1078

Text and Music: Anne Quigley





PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Paul Bliss

- A Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. *Petitions are offered, ending with the response:*
 - A Hear us, O God.
 - C Your mercy is great.

When all petitions have been offered:

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

+ MEAL +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

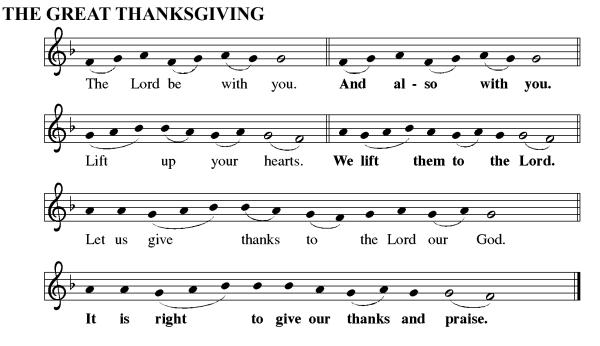
Your monetary gifts can help to support this ministry, as well as the ongoing ministry of our congregation and synod, and ELCA ministries around the world. You can give a regular or special offering today by connecting to our secure <u>Tithely Giving Page</u>. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!





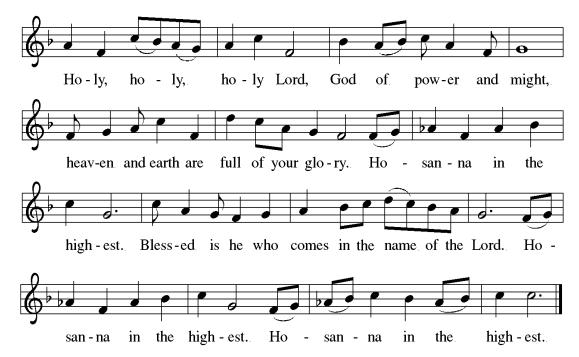
OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray.
- C Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered, that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food, but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.



P J It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

- C Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
- C This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

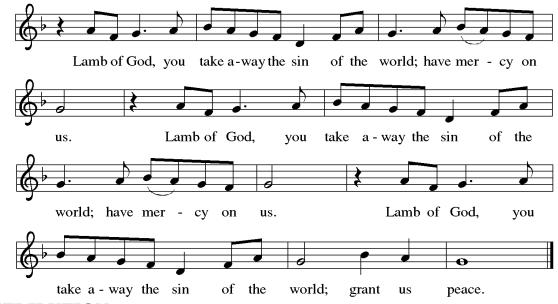
LORD'S PRAYER Traditional

 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Bread for the journey! A feast for hungry hearts!
- **C** Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD

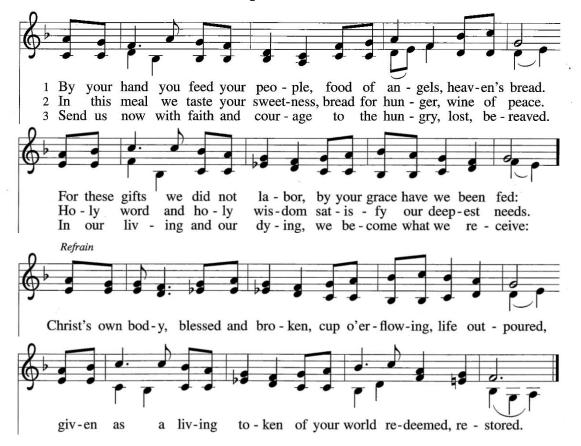


DISTRIBUTION

We commune at the rail with individual cups. Extend your hands to receive bread. A gluten free wafer is also available. Both wine (dark) and grape juice (light) are available in the ceramic cups. Place your empty cup in the box at the end of the front pew on your way back. Children are welcome to receive when their parents believe they are ready, with the support of the pastor. Any who prefer a blessing may cross their hands over their chest as they come forward.

COMMUNION HYMN By Your Hand You Feed Your People

Text: Susan Briehl, Music: Marty Haugen



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
- C Amen.

+ SENDING +

BLESSING

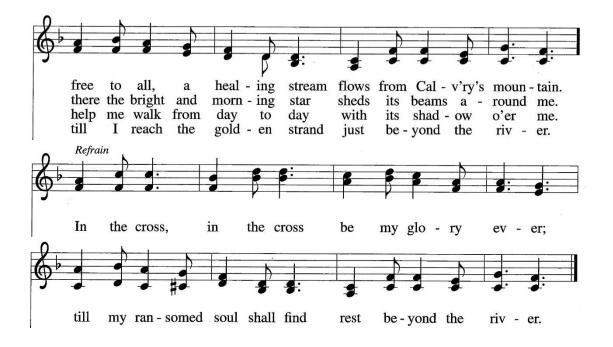
- P Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.
- C Amen.

SENDING HYMN



ELW #335 Text: Fanny Crosby, Music: William Doane





- P Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

What Wondrous Love Is This

arr. Sylvia Oines

In consideration for those who wish to remain for the postlude, those who depart are invited to do so quietly.

+ + +

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pastor Erik Kindem's email:
Peace Lutheran web page:
Kathleen Keyes Office Admin.
Church Office hours:
Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director
Jon Lackey, Minister of Music
Find us on facebook at People of Peace Lutheran

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Erik Kindem

Pastor Minister of Music Liturgical Assistant Acolyte Lector Children's Sermon Greeters Ushers Altar Care

Jon Lackey Paul Bliss Wyatt Gray Kathleen Keyes Shannon Williams Randy Hernandez, Corinne Otakie Larry & Janet Cruse Liz & Randy Hernandez

Communion Assistants	Liz & Randy Hernandez
Coffee Server	Helen Hundley
Production Techs	Alan Jarvimaki, Alex Wren
Counters	Randy Hernandez, Kathleen Keyes
Nursery Attendant	Heidi Coy

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

At the Congregational Meeting on February 4, we embraced a plan for funding our mission in 2024. That plans anticipates offering income averaging \$26,477 monthly. The disruption caused by the rupture of our heating system in January forced us to forego in-person offerings for three Sundays in January. Please consider an extra gift to help bring our giving total in line with expectations. Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the larger community, and internationally through the ELCA!

Offering Income received March 2024

3/03/24\$ 2,380.00Electronic\$ 701.72Total\$ 3,081.72

THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

This year, our Creation Care Action Plan included a focus on combating plastics pollution by reducing how much we individually use. To help us all do that, we invite you to accept our *Replacing Plastics For Lent Challenge*. Every week, we'll share an activity to help your household use fewer plastics and seek more sustainable alternatives. Please join us!

Stock your pantry without plastics — When you have the choice of buying sauces or vegetables and such at the store in a plastic jar or a can, opt for the can. Bring your own containers to buy bulk coffee, beans, rice, lentils, and even spices! Just have the container measured and marked for weight by the cashier before you fill it.

Pray for Creation: We pray that the relationship God establishes with every part of creation will shape the way we live with all our kin.

REVISIONING AT PEACE SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

Please Sign Up! The Re:Visioning Team would love to invite you into a conversation with your fellow community members at Peace Lutheran Church! We are hoping to create a vision and plan for what the next 10+ years will look like for our congregation. <u>Your thoughts and ideas are welcome, encouraged, and needed!</u> Please choose a date and time that will work for your household...we are expecting these meetings to last about 60-75 minutes. A huge thank you to the wonderful folks who are willing to host! Please note: The meetings on March 10 and March 17 after church at Peace will have childcare available in the nursery.



Sign Up Link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4EAAAA2EA5FC1-48238442-revisioning.

PASS THE HAT: LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

The March Pass the Hat was chosen by the youth. They decided they would like to focus on education, so have chosen Lutheran World Relief School Kits as their recipient and as a project. Their plan is to use the money that comes in from Pass the Hat to buy the supplies needed for the school kits in bulk, and then pack the kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief who will distribute them to kids all over the world who need school supplies.

OFFERING OF LETTERS TODAY, MARCH 10

This Sunday during coffee hour after worship, we will participate in the nation-wide letter-writing campaign, Offering of Letters, sponsored by Bread for the World, a national Christian advocacy organization whose goal is to end hunger in this country and abroad. Materials and information will be provided.

LENTEN WEDNESDAY MEAL AND WORSHIP

On Wednesdays during Lent we host a soup/bread meal @ 6pm followed by 30 minute evening prayer @ 7pm. This year we're exploring the Psalms of lament seeking a better understanding of the role of lament within the Hebrew tradition and how we can use it constructively today.

SOUP SUPPER OPPORTUNITY Many hands make light work! You are invited to assist with soup suppers by offering to set tables, make a soup, bring bread/crackers, or clean up. Sign up in narthex.

LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK ~ MARCH 24-31

The Following Services will take place during Holy Week—mark your calendars:

March 24, PALM/PASSION SUNDAY March 28, MAUNDY THURSDAY @ 7pm March 29 GOOD FRIDAY @ 7pm March 30 EASTER VIGIL @ 7pm

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION – MARCH 31st

Easter at Peace begins with <u>Breakfast</u> from 9:00am - 10:00am served by our young people, followed by <u>Children's activities</u> at 9:45am. <u>Worship</u> begins @ 10:30am, with special music provided by the Peace Ringers and the Peace Choir.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: <u>Sick/Recovering</u>: Cay Bell; Jan Burt; Rick & Charlene Coulson; Marsha Davis; Joe Flint; Deena Fuller; William Gerhardt; Donna Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Verna Hernandez; Maria Iriarte; Jeff & Dolly; Ken Keyes; Dee Levy; Evelyn Martinez; Pete McIntyre; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Susan Munn; Eleanor Ness; Clifford & Minda Olson; Penelope Grace; Michelle Pierce; Jill Remsey; Joey Roberts; Rosemary; JoAnne Spangler; Pat Spangler; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Karin & Wade VanSant; Pam Webber; Roger Wingfield; Patti Wunder; Audrey Zemke.

Homebound: Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Marjorie Johnson; Jan Madsen

We express our Christian sympathy to Mary Jacob and her family on the death of her mother, Irma Runge on 3/4/24.

<u>PROTOCOL FOR PRAYER LIST</u> We will keep people on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise specified or unless you contact the Peace office to extend the time.

RECONCILING IN CHRIST AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, in a world that can be filled with alienation and



brokenness. In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society.

As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual

orientations and gender identities into the life and mission of our congregation.

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