

Third Sunday in Lent *Oculi*

4 March 2018 Anno Domini

INTROIT (*Ps. 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25:15-16*)

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

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

*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 distresses.*

Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.

*Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
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 gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

GRADUAL (*Ps. 9:19, 3*)

*Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail;
let the nations be judged before you!*

*When my enemies turn back,
they stumble and perish before your presence.*

Old Testament: Exodus 8:16-24

¹⁶Then 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.'" ¹⁷And 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. ¹⁸The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. ¹⁹Then 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. ²⁰Then 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. ²¹Or 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. ²²But 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. ²³Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall happen.'"²⁴ 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.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:1-9

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For 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. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

Holy Gospel: Luke 11:14-28

¹⁴Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore, they will be your judges. ²⁰But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²²but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. ²⁴"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.' ²⁵And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶Then 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." ²⁷As 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!" ²⁸But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Wednesdays in Lent



<i>Ash Wed</i>	<i>2/14</i>	<i>Supper by Brenda C.</i> <i>- imposition of Ashes starts at 6:45pm</i>
<i>Lent 1</i>	<i>2/21</i>	<i>Supper by Elders</i>
<i>Lent 2</i>	<i>2/28</i>	<i>Supper by Senior Youth</i>
<i>Lent 3</i>	<i>3/7</i>	<i>Supper by L.W.M.L.</i>
<i>Lent 4</i>	<i>3/14</i>	<i>Supper by Council & Boards</i>
<i>Lent 5</i>	<i>3/21</i>	<i>Supper by Senior Youth Group</i>

Supper served from 5:30 – 6:30pm

Family Night Classes & Choir 6:00pm-6:50pm

Lent Service 7:00pm



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

OCULI

Study Notes for the Christian Layperson

by: Rev. Travis Loeslie

Collect of the Day:

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. Amen.

Introit:

Psalm 25:1-2, 17-18, 20 (antiphon:
Psalm 25:15-16) — *My eyes (oculi) are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.*

Psalm:

Psalm 136:1-16 (antiphon: v. 26) — *His steadfast love endures forever*

Old Testament Reading:

Exodus 8:16-24 — *The finger of God sends plagues on Egypt*

Gradual:

Psalm 9:19, 3 — *Arise, O LORD, Let not man prevail; Let the nations be judged before you! When my enemies turn back, They stumble and perish before your presence.*

Epistle:

Ephesians 5:1-9 — *Walk in love*

Tract:

Psalm 123:1-3a — *To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till he has mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us.*



Luke 11:14–28 ESV

Author and Date:

St. Luke penned this Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit ca. AD 55-60.

¹⁴ Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶ while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸ And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²² but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

- This Gospel highlights the battle between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan. These two kingdoms have been in mortal combat from the time of the fall of Satan.
- The Gospel begins with Jesus performing an exorcism. He "casts out" a demon out from a mute man. This Gospel challenges the reigning scientific, naturalistic worldview. Jesus believed in demons and the devil, so His Church and Christians today do well to think in terms of the Biblical worldview.
- "Beelzebul" – literally means "lord of the house." It is a name for Satan. The people were saying that Jesus cast out demons by the power of the prince of demons. This was a deep insult to Jesus.
- "The finger of God" (v. 20) is the Holy Spirit. Just as God worked through Moses to afflict wicked Pharaoh and Egypt with the ten plagues, so also Jesus casts out (exorcises) the demons by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The devil is "the strong man." His kingdom has been all but secure. But in the coming of Jesus Christ, the Stronger One, God has launched an offensive against the devil's kingdom. Like Samson of old, Christ is strong to stand in the places of the evil one and topple his kingdom. This Christ appeared to lose in His death. But His heel was only bruised (Genesis 3:15) After His death, Jesus even descended into hell to taunt the devil with His victory over him (1 Peter 3:19). Christ rose victorious for us. The Seed of the Woman crushed the Satan's head once and for all (Genesis 3:15). Now the strong one is weak. Satan is like a defeated general on the retreat. His hosts shield themselves from reality in the fox holes. Jesus Christ is our salvation and champion in the mortal combat between the kingdoms of God and the devil.

²⁴ "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.' ²⁵ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶ 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."

- An "unclean spirit" is unclean because it is evil. It has no rest. This is unique divine insight into the restless life of a defeated, wicked spirit under the reign of Christ.
 - The spirit tries to return to a place where it was before. When it returns, it brings seven other spirits worse than itself. The last state of that person is worse. There is no joy in going back to a former, sinful way of living. It is not safe, or neutral to leave the Church and the Holy Spirit's protection. Demons haunt those who were once believers. There is no comfort in apostasy.
- ²⁷ 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!" ²⁸ But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"
- Jesus chides against devotion to Mary, His mother. He promises blessing to all who hear and keep His Word. It is not one's blood or connections, but adherence to His Word that makes one a disciple of Jesus Christ. Christians cling to Christ and His Word by treasuring its contents with joy. In that Word is the Gospel, which declares the sinner righteous before God. Christ Jesus has shed His blood to conquer the devil and all the forces which undermine His Word. He promises to protect the baptized from these evil forces of the devil's kingdom. He is faithful. He will keep His promises for you.

News and Notes of Interest

Please use our new Narthex to enter and exit the Sanctuary!

NOTE our new email address for the Church Office:
peacelutheranhastings@gmail.com

After the early service, join us from 9:15am-9:30am for Coffee & Goodies in the new Fellowship Hall! Stick around for Sunday School and Adult Bible Class! We are currently studying the Old Testament book of Leviticus in our Adult study.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Lessons for PreK-8th Grade from 9:30-10:15am in Education Wing.

FAMILY NIGHT DURING LENT Take a much needed break during the middle of your week and sit at the feet of Jesus. Come join your church family in fellowship, education and worship! Special Meal at 5:30pm, Classes, Choir at 6:00pm (PreK-8th) and Lent Service at 7:00pm. Sr. Youth meet after Service until 8:30pm.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 3/04 Scott Hansel 3/05 Zach Witt 3/08 Erin Erb (nee Blakley) Blaine Ruppert 3/09 Maria Martinez, Tabitha Tullis, Justin Thurin

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES: 3/04 Mary Black, Amanda Zeisler 3/06 Kayla Reutzler 3/09 Cassandra Stack

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: 3/07 Mike & Diane Gundlach

HIGHER THINGS DEVOTIONALS & PORTALS OF PRAYER available in the Narthex Feb. 14-Mar. 31, 2018. Please check in this weeks bulletin for Bulletin Study Notes for the Christian Layperson.

FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT at Storm Hockey on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 3:05 p.m. This is for the entire congregation, families, and friends. Submit completed form with payment to the Church Office or Lisa Novak by Tuesday, March 6th, 2018.

Heartland Lutheran Fundraiser: Haven't purchased your Heartland Lutheran Red and Blue Auction Tickets yet? It's not too late! The deadline for ticket purchase and meal choice is March 13th for the March 17th event at Riverside Country Club. You may purchase online and find more information heartlandlutheran.maestroweb.com or you may call the school office at 308-385-3900.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS for Peace Food Pantry & Hastings Food Pantry, ends Saturday, March 31st.

LIFEQUOTE "When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to 'deliver us from evil.' We ask Him to protect us against the callous evil of abortion, the taking of a human life. We are harnessed with the burden of belonging to a nation that practices this barbaric procedure and calls it a 'right.' May God have mercy on us." *Chaplain (Lt. Colonel) Steven Hokana, Assistant Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) (LCMS) - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR THE CONFESIONAL LUTHERAN... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. This week's subjects include: Nihilism, Eastern Orthodoxy, God Creates Adam & Eve, 1 Samuel and more. You can listen live or at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP Lent 3

Ephesians 5:1-2 - "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us." Our sanctification flows from the justification which we have received in Christ. His love for us transforms us into His image. This is why the Bible talks so much about giving - because we are to imitate God in His generosity.

Third Sunday in Lent
Oculi

March 4th
8:00 & 10:30am



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Welcome to Peace!

We are glad that you are here as we gather around the Word and Sacraments of our Lord Jesus Christ! If you have not already done so, we ask that you sign the Guest Book at the entrance to the church. Contact information can be written in the Fellowship Book located in the aisle side of each pew. If you do not have a church home and are interested in becoming a member here at Peace, please contact Pastor Mackay 402-831-1084.

The Lord's Supper is a Gift. . . and as with all our Lord's gifts, we desire to give and receive them as He intends. The Lord's Supper is for our benefit, but it can be received unworthily. *"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 11:27). Therefore, in faithfulness to our Lord, and in love for you, Peace follows the practice of closed communion.

All Guests must visit with our pastor before coming to the Altar to receive the Lord's Supper. If you do not have opportunity to visit with our Pastor prior to the service, he is more than willing to visit with you during the week.

The Divine Service utilizes beautiful Liturgies and Hymns that the Christian Church has passed down for generations, all the while retelling the story of salvation and enacting the work of Christ among us. This bulletin contains an outline to assist you in locating the various parts of the service within our Hymnal. The inserts have the Scriptures & Propers for the Day, as well as Notes about this particular Sunday or Festival of the church year. May God strengthen you today with His Word and Sacrament!

Prayers of the Church

Florida School Shooting Expecting + Erin Erb Hospice Recovering, Surgery, Hospitalization + Janice Callan + Tonda Wolfe + Carol Metzger + Mark Dieken + Bill Novak + Mary Black + Alan Fredricks + Jan Utecht + Carcy Sramek + LeRoy Thom Health Issues + June Rose + Jeannette Barker + Randy Russell + Olivia + Jace Moore + Thomas Gatz + Carol Krause + Jesse Beran + Jo Metzger Cancer + Phyllis Heath + Andy Jacques + Taylor Cochrane + Ed Elshof + Marilyn Houston Military + Gary Thompson + Ross Peters

In His Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Marcus J. Mackay

Organist: Dr. Phil Hesterman Cantor: Mr. David Witt A/V: Tim Yurk

Acolytes: 03/04 8am James Ellis 10:30am Allie Janssen

03/11 8am Merrick Russell 10:30am Annalicia Potter

Altar Guild: Mar. Jeanne Buck, Julie Klatt Apr. Dianne Botsch, Tonda Wolfe

Ushers: 8am Wes C., Josh & Merrick R. 10:30am Walt L., Ernesto A.

Elders: 3/04 Dale. G. 308-641-6658 3/11 Roger B. 308-390-3484

Bus Drivers: 3/04 Gary O. 402-469-9797 3/11 Gary O. 402-469-9797

Gifts of Time and Treasure

Last Week's Attendance 179 Weekly Year to Date Attendance 161

January Budget Income \$ 16,461.00 January Budget Expense \$ - 21,709.00

The Lord's Week

Sunday, March 4th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:15am	Sunday School & Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service
Monday, March 5th	6:00pm	Men's Steak Night
Wednesday, March 7th	5:30pm	Meal-L.W.M.L.
	6:00pm	Classes & Choir
	7:00pm	Lenten Worship
	7:30pm	Senior Youth
Sunday, March 11th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:15am	Sunday School & Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service
	3:00pm	Storm Hockey Faith & Family

Church Office hours are 9:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday. The office may be closed on occasion due to holidays and errands. Our Secretary is Mrs. Jeri Dush, Church Office 402-462-9023 or peacelutheranhastings@gmail.com

Return from Exile . . . Coming This Wednesday at 7pm

How do you escape from a bad situation? Where do you turn when you are surrounded by brutality, slavery and death? We often desire to flee; we want to find refuge. We need to begin a journey that will set us free, but the result of our efforts is nothing more than going in circles. We seek freedom, but we receive greater slavery. We journey toward light and end up in deeper darkness. How do we escape? It is God who leads us on the journey out of this slavery to sin and death, and where does He take us? To water—to the banks of the Red Sea, to the Jordan River, or . . . to the baptismal font. There we are set free. The bondage of sin and death, the claws of Satan no longer hold us, for we have passed through the water. These are the waters of death for our enemies, but they are the waters of life for us. The enemy of our old Adam is drowned in these waters, but the new Adam comes up to new life. We have been rescued from the enemy by the waters, and we have been made the children of God.



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting One

During Lent, all responses are spoken

Prelude & Ringing of Bells

Hymn #697

Confession & Absolution p.151

Introit *insert*

Kyrie

Service of the Word

Salutation & Collect p.156

Old Testament Reading

Gradual

Epistle Reading

Lent Verse p.157

Gospel Reading

Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Day #659

Sermon Ex. 8:19; Lk. 11:20

"The Finger of the Word"

Prayer of the Church

Offering & Offertory p.159

Service of the Sacrament

Preface & Proper Preface p.160

Sanctus & Prayer

Lord's Prayer

The Words of our Lord

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei

Distribution & Hymns

#639 #594 #806

Nunc Dimittis & Collect

Benediction

Hymn #663

Postlude