

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 Gaunt 308-627-7238.

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. If you are a fellow LCMS member, please let Pastor Gaunt know beforehand!

All Guests should 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.

Prayers of the Church

Hospice, Surgery, or Hospitalization + Larry Hammond + Ronda Johnson + Josh Schroetlin **Expecting** + Katie Blackwell + Sarah Allen (complications) + Kelli Chandler + Amanda Zeisler **Health Issues** + Henry & Charlie Ham (Infants) + Kay Krueger + Harold Blazer + Margret Herbert + Randy Russell **Cancer** + Nickie Shellberg + Morgan Hanson + Kara Nissen + Judy Meier + Maria Gomez + Kent Cohagan + Barbara Classan + Andy Jacques + Marilyn Houston **Military** + Tyler Mars + Ross Peters + Gary Thompson

In His Service

Minister: Rev. Micah R. Gaunt
 Organist: Dr. Phil Hesterman Cantor: Mr. David Witt A/V: Mr. Tim Yurk
 Altar Guild: Feb. Ruth A., Ethel S. Mar. Jeanne B., Marge O.
 Ushers: Feb. Roger Buck, Mike Nissen Mar. Ron Fullerton
 Elders: 2/23 Roger B. 308-390-3484 3/01 Dustin R. 402-984-5725
 Bus Drivers: 2/23 Mike N. 402-469-4838 3/01 Gary O. 402-469-9797

Gifts of Time and Treasure

Last Week's Attendance 106
 Last Week's Offering \$ 4,738.50
 Weekly Need \$ 3,475.00

For more Financial Information see monthly newsletter.

A complete accounting of all financials are provided at each Quarterly Voters' Meeting.

Contact our Treasurer, Jerry Blazer jblazer@fmne.com

Office Hours: 9a-12p-1p-4p Monday-Friday

2020 Theme: All In-Being Present in an Age of Distraction

Faith Alone

The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see (Luke 18:31-43). Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again, but they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, for he calls Him "Son of David." Indeed, Jesus is the Lord's anointed, the keeper of sheep (1 Sam. 16:1-13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us (1 Cor. 13:1-13). Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Is. 35:3-7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.

Pre-Lent

We do not enter into the holy season of Lent and Easter lightly. Therefore, for three Sundays the church prepares herself in what are sometimes referred to as the "Gesima Sundays." These are the Sundays roughly 70, 60, and 50 days before Easter. The first liturgical change that you'll notice is that we abstain from singing "Alleluia" until the time that we sing it again on that joyful Easter morning. Let us begin praying now that we would be present in body, mind, and heart in our Lenten journey with Jesus.

From the Catechism:

The Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean? **We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.**

Take Home Questions: Listen for the word "mercy" during the service. What are we asking God when we ask for mercy? In what parts of the Divine Service do we ask for God's mercy?

Readings for Next Sunday: 1 Samuel 17:40-51, Hebrews 4:14-16, Matthew 4: 1-11

The Lord's Week

Sunday, February 23rd	9:00am	Divine Service
	10:30am	Sunday School & Mr. Timothy Leech Heartland Sunday
	6:00-8pm	Pre-Lent Game Night-bring treats to share
Monday, February 24th	4:30pm	Board-Education
Wednesday, February 26th	5:30pm	L.W. M.L. Fellowship Meal
	6:00pm	Choir & Midweek Classes
	6:45pm	Imposition of Ashes
	7:00pm	Lent Worship
Friday & Saturday 28 & 29	8pm-8am	Youth Lock-In
Sunday, March 1	9:00am	Divine Service
	10:30am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	4:00pm	Youth Group

Prelude & Ringing of Bells

Hymn #545

Confession & Absolution p. 184

Service of the Word

Introit *insert*

Gloria Patri

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation and Collect

First Reading

Gradual

Epistle Reading

Tract

Holy Gospel

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day #849

Sermon

Offertory & Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament p.194

Preface & Proper Preface

Sanctus & Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei

Distribution & Hymns #631 #797 #685 #861

Dismissal & Nunc Dimittis

Thanksgiving & Collect

Salutation & Benedicamus

Benediction

Hymn #538

Postlude

Announcements

P: *Go In Peace*

C: **Thanks Be To God!**

News and Notes of Interest

Please use new Narthex to enter and exit the Sanctuary!

Volunteerism: During the month of February we are thinking about how we steward God's gifts in service to others. While, we serve our neighbor all year round, the Board of Stewardship is inviting you to think and pray more intentionally about how we serve others in love.

Heartland Sunday: Please join us today during the bible class hour to hear Mr. Timothy Leech talk about what's going on at Heartland Lutheran High School.

Pre-Lent Game Night! Join us tonight from 6pm - 8pm in the Parish Hall to enjoy games and fellowship. We will have a pitch tournament for those interested. Otherwise, bring your favorite board game/deck of cards and a snack to share. All ages are invited.

High School Youth! Join us February 28-29, 8pm-8am for the Winter 2020 Youth Lock-in at Zion Lutheran Church, Hastings. Ingathering for Wellspring Pregnancy Center. For more information contact Pastor Micah Gaunt at 308.627.7238 or revgaunt@gmail.com or Pastor Paul Warneke at 402.519.8924 or pasterwarneke@hotmail.com

ASH WEDNESDAY April 26th starting with
5:30pm Fellowship Meal – served by L.W.M.L.
6:00pm Choir & Midweek Classes
6:45pm Imposition of Ashes 7:00pm Lent Worship

PORTALS of PRAYER & HIGHER THINGS DEVOTIONS available in the Narthex, copies February 26-April 11, 2020. Study Notes for the Christian Layperson in bulletin.

LUTHERAN WITNESS renewals and new orders for the 2020 subscription year are now being accepted. The Lutheran Witness envelope can be added in the offering plate make checks to Peace Lutheran Church. Thanks for supporting LW!

RED and BLUE, the Heartland Lutheran High School annual banquet and auction, is Saturday, March 28 at Riverside Country Club in Grand Island. Doors open at 4:30 pm, with silent auction and dinner at 6 pm. This year's theme *Fire and Ice*. Tickets and sponsorships may be purchased through the school office Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Call 308-385-3900 or principal@heartlandlutheran.org.

MORE TOPICS, MORE GUESTS, MORE JESUS...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Book of 1 Thessalonians, "Love" in the New Testament, The Season of Lent, Jesus Feeds Five Thousand and more. You can listen live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 2/25 Andrea Fullerton
2/27 Coley Lacy 2/28 Sue Fintel, Amanda Zeisler
BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES: 2/24 Bertha Alvidrez,
Ernesto Alvidrez 2/27 Kobyn Morgan 2/28 Shannon Blakley,
Diana Troudt, Maxine Weseman
WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: 2/25 Jeremy & Megan Shuler

LIFEQUOTE "I am extremely thankful for the many doctors and nurses who stand firm in their opposition to assisted suicide and euthanasia, although they are finding themselves being pressured to change their position. Please pray they remain firm in their For Life stance. May we also pray that ... they boldly ... maintain the ethical standards their professions were created to provide to society and that the Gospel clearly proclaims." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

STEWARDSHIP QUOTES:

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself
in the service of others.

Remember that the happiest people are not those
getting more, but those giving more.

Quinquagesima

February 23rd
9:00am



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Pastor Gaunt Contact Information
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Wednesdays in Lent

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,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Service at 7pm

Supper served from 5:30 – 6:30pm

WORSHIP

2/26 Ash Wed.

READINGS

Matthew 6: 5-21

*The Lord's Prayer:
The Battle Cry of Faith*

MEALS

L.W.M.L

3/4 Lent 1

John 17: 6-19

Hallowed Be Thy Name

Elders

3/11 Lent 2

Luke 11: 5-13

Thy Kingdom Come

Youth

3/18 Lent 3

John 6: 40

*Thy Will Be Done on Earth
as It Is in Heaven*

Alvidrez &
Education

3/25 Lent 4

Matthew 6: 31-33

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

Council

4/01 Lent 5

Matthew 6:14-15

*Forgive Us Our Trespasses As We
Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us*

Open

Quinquagesima

23 February 2020 Anno Domini

INTROIT (Ps. 31:1, 5, 9, 16; antiphon: Ps. 31:2b-3)



*Be a rock of ref- / uge for me, **
a strong fortress to / save me!

*For you are my rock and my | fortress;**
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

*In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be / put to shame; **
in your righteousness de- / liver me!

*Into your hand I commit my | spirit; **
you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.

*Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | in distress; **
my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body | also.

*Make your face shine on your | servant; **
save me in your | steadfast love!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL (Ps. 77:14-15)

*You are the God who works / wonders; **
you have made known your might among the / peoples.

*You with your arm redeemed your / people, **
the children of Jacob and / Joseph.

TRACT (Ps. 100:1-3)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, / all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with / singing!

Know that the Lord, / he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his / pasture.

Old Testament: Isaiah 35:3-7

³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully

known. ¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Holy Gospel: Luke 18:31-43

³¹Taking the twelve, [Jesus] said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³²For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise." ³⁴But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. ³⁵As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight." ⁴¹And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well." ⁴²And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

- When we pray the Kyrie during the Divine Service or privately we can think of Jesus asking us this same question: “What do you want Me to do for you?” We don’t pray the Kyrie idly, with nothing in particular in mind, but we trust that the same Lord who stopped this entire procession so that He could inquire of a blind beggar stops before us poor beggars and inclines his ear to us as well.

He said, “Lord, let me recover my sight.”

- “Lord” – The relation of a begging subject to a merciful and almighty King.
 - “Let me recover my sight” – Perhaps more literally, “Let me see again.” We pray the same thing going into Lent. “Let me see again. Jesus, let me see again your cross and passion, your precious death and burial (Luke 22:47–23:56). Let me see again your blood of the new covenant, shed for me for the forgiveness of sins (Luke 22:20; Matthew 26:26-28). Let me see again your love that is patient and kind (1 Corinthians 13). Let me see again how you give up your body (Luke 22:19).”
- ⁴² And Jesus said to him, “Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.”
- Literally, “See again, your faith has saved you.” What’s important here isn’t that his faith made him physically see again. It won’t be long and his eyes will sleep the sleep of death. What’s important is that his faith saved him, that his eyes will open again on the Last Day and behold the same Lord who stands before him when his eyes open in this account. It is this faith that we desire: saving faith that sees Jesus.
- ⁴³ And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.
- “Followed him” – He continued in the procession that led to Jerusalem, that led to the cross, that led to the death of Christ.
 - “Glorifying God” is what beggars do: “This one here, he did this for me.” This is the briefest definition of what it means to glorify or praise God: simply recount what he has done.

Summary: As with the last two weeks, this last Sunday in the pre-Lent season teaches us to despair of ourselves and rely on the grace of Jesus. We are beggars before a merciful King. The Alleluias are about to disappear, but the Kyrie never does. Jesus’ ears remain constantly open to our cries. We receive our wages according to his desire to give, we receive the Word according to his reckless love, and we cry to him as beggars who have nothing, but expect to gain all good things from his nail-pierced hand.



www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish



QUINQUAGESIMA

50 days before Easter

Study Notes for the Christian Layperson

by: Rev. Andrew Richard

Collect of the Day:

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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 31:1, 5, 9, 16 (antiphon: v. 2b-3) – *An extended Kyrie*

Psalm:

146 (antiphon: v. 2) – *“The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.”*

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 35:3-7 – *Jesus fulfills this prophecy in today’s Gospel reading*

Gradual:

Psalm 77:14-15 – *God works wonders, the foremost being redemption*

Epistle:

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 – *The love of Christ never fails and never ends*

Tract:

Psalm 100:1-3 – *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

LUKE 18:31-43 ESV

Author and Date:

Written by St. Luke who compiled eyewitness testimony of the ministry of Jesus, likely writing between AD 58-60 while he kept company with St. Paul during Paul's imprisonment in Caesarea. Luke 18:31-43 has parallels in Matthew 20:17-19, 29-34 and Mark 10:32-34, 46-52. Between the two parts of today's account, Matthew and Mark both include the request of James and John to sit at Jesus' right and left in his kingdom. Jesus replies, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). The healing of the blind man illustrates Jesus' service to mankind as he prepares to serve in an even greater way by offering his life as our ransom.

³¹ **And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished.**

- Verses 31-34 detail the "going out" of the master of the house two weeks ago and the sower last week. This is what Jesus came out to do.
- This is the third time Jesus has foretold His death, the first time in Luke 9:21-22, the second in Luke 9:43-45. This third one is the most detailed.
- The prophecy from Isaiah 35, "written about the Son of Man," will begin to be fulfilled on the way with the healing of the blind man (35:5). The remainder of that prophecy will be fulfilled at the cross where the "haunt of jackals" (35:7) on Golgotha is transformed into the restoration of paradise to mankind.

³² **For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³ And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise."**

- Jesus details with incredible detail and accuracy what is going to happen to Him.

³⁴ **But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.**

- The disciples were blind to what Jesus was saying (to pick up the language from the next section of the text). They would certainly see everything happen to Jesus, but they wouldn't understand it rightly until Luke 24:45 when Jesus appears to His disciples on the day of His resurrection: "Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures."

³⁵ **As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging.**

- Jericho is about 15 miles east-northeast of Jerusalem. This is the procession that will turn into Jesus' procession into Jerusalem in Luke 19:28ff.
- We can see parallels between the disciples and the blind beggar. They don't see for themselves, but have to ask things of others. We should also see ourselves in the blind beggar. We have nothing before Jesus. Our great sin is failing to realize this.

We become confident of ourselves, like a blind man who thinks he has 20/20 vision, like a beggar who thinks he's a millionaire. The final step as we approach Lent is seeing ourselves for what we are: blind beggars who need to see Jesus.

³⁶ **And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷ They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."**

- The people announce Jesus as heralds going before the King.

³⁸ **And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"**

- The beggar erupts with begging, praying the Kyrie very loudly.
- "In the ancient world, the king would sometimes visit a village or city. Anticipating his coming, villagers would line the road waiting for him to appear, and as he entered the city they would cry, 'Lord, have mercy!' Amid their shouts, one could also hear petitions from the crowd for gifts that reflected the king's mercy, such as food, protection, lower taxes, and always and most important, peace. Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem is an excellent example of this. In the Eastern Church, Christians adopted the practice of petitioning for gifts with cries of mercy as the clergy entered the church during the procession to the altar at the beginning of the service. This secular practice was adopted for their King — the King of the Universe — for He was coming to them in His Word to bring the gifts of His presence." (Arthur Just, *Heaven on Earth*, 189)

³⁹ **And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"**

- This is what the devil tries to do. He tries to make you silent before Jesus: "He doesn't care, he doesn't want to hear it, he doesn't want to be bothered by you." And this is because prayer is detrimental to the devil's schemes, as it says in the Large Catechism, "What do you think has accomplished such great results in the past, parrying the counsels and plots of our enemies and checking their murderous and seditious designs by which the devil expected to crush us, and the gospel as well, except that the prayers of a few godly people intervened like an iron wall on our side?... Now they may confidently laugh and make their snide comments. But by prayer alone we shall be a match both for them and for the devil, if only were persevere and do not become weary" (III.31).
- The opposition to the blind beggar's prayer doesn't silence him, but makes him cry out louder still. This is what faith does: it clings to what it knows of Jesus and ignores everything else. "With the inward eyes of his heart this blind man saw inside of Christ more than all the Jews did with their outward eyes" (Johann Spangenberg, *The Christian Year of Grace*, 102).

⁴⁰ **And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"**

- "Jesus stopped" — Literally "Jesus stood." This is significant because Jesus just told His disciples He has an urgent date with death and yet takes the time to pause for our lowly human needs. This gives us confidence that our Lord is never too busy or preoccupied to hear our petitions and begging.