

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 9, 2025 ✠ 8:00 AND 10:15 AM**

## A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- \* Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- \* The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- \* We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- \* If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!



OPENDOOR POLICIES  
A Lent Series

## Lent 3 The True Meaning of Life



People search and search to find meaning and purpose in their lives. Researchers scour the planet and the cosmos for answers to the big questions of the universe. People meditate and retreat from their busy lives to try to see the bigger picture. People study and learn in their quest for enlightenment.

Our God has an open door policy on the big questions of life. While he does not tell us everything, He does tell us everything we need to know. He invites us in and reveals to us the true meaning of life: faith in Jesus. That is God's one great thought and one great plan for all of humanity: to bring us to himself through the completed work of Christ. God is patiently, persistently pleading with all of us to find true life, true meaning, true purpose in Jesus.

## Sharing of the Peace

Sharing of Peace is an ancient Christian custom, originally referred to as the Kiss of Peace. Paul wrote to the Romans and the Corinthians and the Thessalonians: "Greet one another with a holy kiss." (Rom 16:16, 1 Cor 16:20, 2 Cor 13:12, 1 Thess 5:26). There are constant references in the following centuries to Christians sharing a holy kiss during worship, either after the Lord's Prayer or just before communing together as a sign of unity in the presence of Jesus, as Ephesians 4:3 calls us to: "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Eventually the kiss became a handshake with the words, "peace be with you", in most of the Western Christian churches. We'll follow this lovely ancient custom and say, "peace be with you" to those seated around us and perhaps offer a handshake during Lent as a symbol of our reconciliation to each other in the peace of Jesus and as an expression of our love for one another.

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

 The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD type**. 

## HYMN Rock of Ages

Text: Augustus M. Toplady  
Tune: Sarah R. Lambrecht



1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, — Let me  
2. Not the la - bors of my hands — Can ful -  
3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, — Sim - ply  
4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, — When mine



hide my - self in thee; — Let the wa - ter and the blood —  
fill thy law's de - mands. — Could my zeal no res - pite know, —  
to thy cross I cling; — Na - ked, come to thee for dress, —  
eye - lids close in death, — When I soar to worlds un-known, —



— From thy riv - en side which flowed — Be of  
— Could my tears for - ev - er flow, — All for  
— Help - less, look to thee for grace. — Foul, I  
— See thee on thy judg - ment throne, — Rock of



sin the dou - ble cure: — Cleanse me from its guilt and — pow'r.  
sin could not a - tone; — Thou must save and thou a - lone.  
to the foun - tain fly — Wash me, Sav - ior, or I — die!  
A - ges, cleft for me, — Let me hide my - self in — thee!

PLEASE STAND.

## INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Matthew 28:19*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

*1 John 1:8-9*

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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 mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*2 Timothy 4:22*

Let us pray.

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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Be seated.

## FIRST READING

## Exodus 3:1-15

*As He calls Moses to serve, the Lord reveals his presence to Moses as flames within a bush, fire that warms and gives light, yet does not consume. The Lord sends Moses with this promise: "I will be with you."*

**N**ow Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites,

Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.' "

God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' "This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# PSALM 42



1. As a deer pants for the streams of wa - ter, so my  
 day the Lord shows that he loves me, ev - 'ry  
 rests in Je - sus' prom - ise to me, that he



soul will pant for you, O Lord. As your child through faith, you are my  
 night he's al - ways by my side. With - out fail, he hov - ers right a -  
 holds me firm - ly in his hand, so I live my life as Christ lives -



Fa - ther! I will al - ways long for you, O Lord! My soul  
 bove me. In his arms I run, I rest, I hide! So this  
 through me; on his Word I proud - ly take my stand! He re -



thirsts for God my liv - ing Sav - ior! My heart wants to drink and have its  
 song I sing with raw e - mo - tion is a prayer that ris - es from my  
 news my heart with law and gos - pel, soothes my doubts in spir - it - ual ex -



fill! My faith needs to be re - freshed and sa - vor your com -  
 soul. For my heart, se - cured in his de - vo - tion, is for -  
 tremes, gives me strength a - gainst all that is hos - tile, calls me



pas - sion, your will. As a deer pants for the streams of  
 ev - er made whole. Ev - 'ry day the Lord shows that he  
 down to the streams. As a deer pants for the streams of



wa - ter, so my soul will pant for you, O Lord.  
 loves me, ev - 'ry night he's al - ways by my side.  
 wa - ter, so my soul will pant for you, O Lord.

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

*God revealed his presence among the nation of Israel. Instead of his presence leading to repentant faith, the people of Israel, with a sense of false security, set their hearts on evil*

**F**or I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them

did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## 2 Peter 3:9

He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**Glory be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

## Luke 13:1-9

*A life with no problems can lead to false security. We are tempted to think those experiencing hardship are the ones who need to repent. Because He loves us, Jesus reminds us that we all need to repent, regardless of life's circumstances.*

**N**ow there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to You, O Christ!**

Be seated

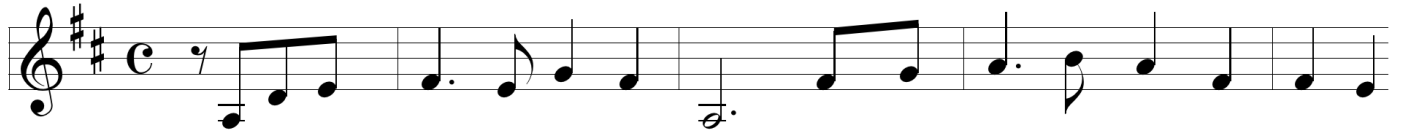
**10:15 AM SERVICE - THE HOLY BAPTISM OF DOMINIC DE LA CRUZ**

**HYMN OF THE DAY 712 Delay Not, Delay Not**

**SERMON** Luke 13:1-9 Turn, believe, live, bear fruit

**CREED: WE ALL BELIEVE**

*The congregation sings this creedal hymn.*



1. We all be - lieve in one true God, Who cre - at - ed earth and heav - en,  
2. We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, His own Son, our Lord, pos - sess - ing  
3. We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who, sweet hope and com - fort giv - ing



The Fa - ther, who to us in love Has the right of chil - dren giv - en.  
An e - qual God-head, throne and might, Source of ev - 'ry grace and bless - ing,  
Now with the Fa - ther and the Son In e - ter - nal light is liv - ing,



He in soul and bod - y feeds us; All we need his hand pro - vides us.  
Born of Mar - y, vir - gin moth - er, By the pow - er of the Spir - it,  
Who the Church, his own cre - a - tion, Keeps in u - ni - ty of spir - it;



He through snares and per - ils leads us, Watch - ing that no harm be - tides us.  
Made true man, our eld - er broth - er, That the lost might life in - her - it,  
Here for - give - ness and sal - va - tion Dai - ly come through Je - sus' mer - it.



He cares for us by day and night; All things are gov - erned by his might.  
Was cru - ci - fied by sin - ful men And raised by God to life a - gain.  
All flesh shall rise, and we shall be In bliss with God e - ter - nal - ly.



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy. For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are unemployed or underemployed let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For an awareness of how blessed we are and for a willingness to share with those lacking basic necessities of life let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

*We pray for...*

*Harry (Nancy Brandt's brother-in-law with serious health struggles), Frankie (Robyn's young friend with cancer), Tim (Paul and Emma Porter's brother-in-law with cancer), Chaunc (Krystal's son), JoElla (recovering from radiation treatment), Craig (chronic back issues), Janice and Julia (cancer diagnosis), Paul (Pam Farrel's nephew with serious health issues), Angie (Mert and Francine's daughter with health issues), Mona (health issues) and Crissy (cancer), Bob Bruce (heart trouble) Patty (Kim Vail's mother), Tom Smith (recovering from surgery), John Farrell, Felix, Orion, Lindsey*

Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

## OFFERING



*Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.*

*There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.*

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

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## THE SACRAMENT

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*Stand*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is good and right so to do.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

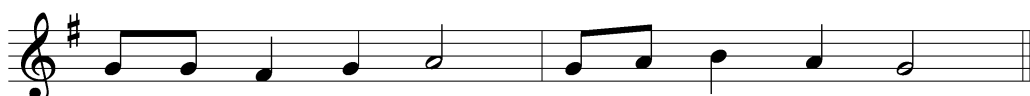
Tune: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM



1 Round God's throne on high      blaz-ing an-gels cry,      sing-ing,  
2 Blest be Da-vid's Son!      In God's name he comes,      grace and



"Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord, we praise you for your glo-ry,  
par-don to pro-vide us. Sing, "Ho-san-na in the high-est!"



shin-ing bright-ly forth,      fill-ing heav'n and earth."  
Je-sus, hear our plea:      come and set us free!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through the all-sufficient sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with repentant joy as he comes to us in his holy supper. **Amen.**

**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.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my  $\text{✠}$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE OF OUR LORD JESUS

(for more information on this practice we observe this Lent, see the inside cover of this bulletin)

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Extend to each other the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ as a sign of forgiveness and unity. "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God." (1 John 4:7)

The congregation extends the peace of Christ by turning to each other, shaking hands, and saying:

**Peace be with you.**

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Tune: GOTTLOB, ES GEHT NUNMEHR ZU ENDE



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a  
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled



cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you  
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will



took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.  
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

*Be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS** *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!**

**HYMN 561 Before the Throne of God Above**

**HYMN 528 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate**

*After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:*

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Your ✝ sins are forgiven.

**Amen.**

*Stand*

**PRAYER**

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

**His mercy endures forever.**

*Psalm 118:1*

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.**

*1 Corinthians 11:26*

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

**CLOSING HYMN 833 I Run to Christ**



*Thank you to Amy Sehloff and for using her gifts to serve us and our Savior with music this morning!*

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