

Welcome to St. Peter Lutheran Church

The 1st Sunday of Lent, Sunday February 22, 2026

In-Person Worship: St Peter at 9:00 am

Facebook Live, 9:00 a.m. at “St Peter Lutheran Church”

You Tube (Live) at “St Peters Lutheran Church Rockwell, IA”

Church Office: 641-822-3101 Email: stpeter@netins.net

Lay Minister Jason Grunklee: 641-990-9328 (call or text)

Email: grunklee0@gmail.com

CALL TO WORSHIP (Please Stand)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
 God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
 Through faith, the free gift of God,
 you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
 In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
 The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
 dwells in you,
 pours God's love into your hearts,
 and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #325 "I want Jesus to Walk with Me"

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER. African American spiritual

Greeting (ELW p. 213)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

The Canticle of Praise

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM: Psalm 32

Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (Ps. 32:10)

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as through the one

man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation (Please Stand)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 4th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms

of the world and their glory,⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’ ”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** (Please be seated)

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW #613 “Thy Holy Wings”

Thy Holy Wings

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast,
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

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(Please Stand)

Apostles’ Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers:

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation. (*Response to the petition.* "Hear us, O God. **Your Mercy is great.**

"Lord, Listen to" Your Children Praying" ELW #752

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord send your spirit to this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

(Leader will lead you in prayer, then sing again.)

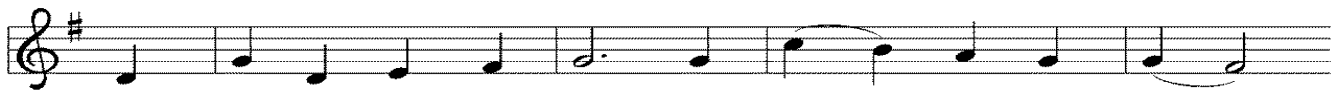
Please remember in your prayers: Jim Turner, Christine Foell, Jo Thomas, DiAnne & Dave Severin, Lorna Thompson, Wendell & Dawn Thomas, Audrey Harder, Kathleen Hansen, Larry Kruckenberg, Janet and Kevin Hoftiezer, Joan Petersen, Lon Peterson, Wendy Jorgensen, Renee Dahlen, Diane Stearns and all who are homebound or hospitalized.

"Please turn and greet your neighbor."

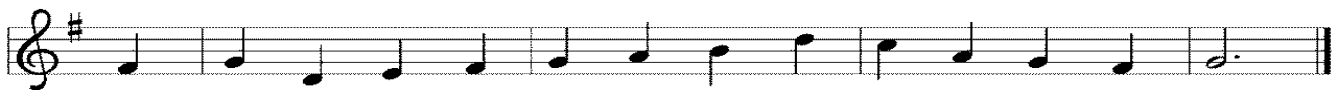
Offering

The Offertory: (Please Stand) #686 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

We Give Thee but Thine Own



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Holy Communion

Words of Institution: “In the night in which he was betrayed...”

The Lord's Prayer: “Our Father, who art in heaven...”

Communion Distribution (Please be seated)

Prayer after Communion (Please stand)

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✝ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn ELW #808 “Lord Jesus You Shall Be my Song”

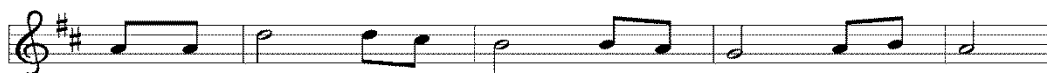
Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

- 2 *Jésus, je voudrais te louer sur ma route;
 Jésus, je voudrais que ma voix soit l'écho de ta joie,
 et que chante la terre et que chante le ciel;
 Jésus, je voudrais te louer sur ma route.*
- 3 *Jésus, je voudrais te servir sur ma route,
 Jésus, je voudrais partager les souffrances de ta croix,
 car tu livres pour moi et ton corps et ton sang;
 Jésus, je voudrais te servir sur ma route.*
- 4 *Jésus, je voudrais tout au long de ma route,
 entendre tes pas résonner dans la nuit près de moi,
 jusqu'à l'aube du jour où ton peuple sauvé,
 Jésus, chantera ton retour sur ma route.*

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931
 Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community
 Text and music © 1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus
 Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

USHERS FOR MARCH

Jay Thompson & Families

GREETERS FOR MARCH

Shane & Nancy Heft

COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR MARCH

Jay & Carla Thompson

ACOLYTES FOR MARCH

22nd Lane & Benton

With deepest sympathy and prayers to the Arends Family with the passing of their loved one Mona Arends.

Sunday School News

Lenten Mission Project 2026

Over the past 10 years, the Sunday School has completed 10 Lenten Mission Projects. The funds that we have raised have been used to provide vaccines, clean water, irrigation, bought cows, pigs, chicks, and honeybees, among other things. This year, a few of the 3rd-6th graders decided to raise funds to put towards fish farms and supporting someone through a semester of Seminary School. This fishbowl will be in the back of the church if you would like to contribute to our project. We will be collecting funds from now till Easter Sunday and hope to collect \$3000 to put towards the project. We would like to thank you for your past support and hope for another successful Lenten Mission Project. In the words of Helen Keller "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp

Spring Blast is scheduled for Saturday, April 11 from 9:30-4

- Leave St. Peter at 8 am on Saturday, return around 5 pm
- It is a great way to explore Riverside and get the fun of summer camp packed into a day!
- Need to be a current 2-6 grader to attend
- \$45 per camper (lunch and snack are included), Missions will pay \$25.00
- Check out the Riverside Website for more details and to register

<https://riversidelbc.org/spring-blast> (you might even recognize a Sunday School teacher)

• Pam Litterer will need to know by April 5 if your child will be attending to ensure we have enough drivers.

Summer Camps are also open to those in grades 3-graduated high school seniors. Check out the website for cost and dates. <https://riversidelbc.org>

No Sunday School on the following dates

- Sunday March 8

Upcoming April Dates to keep in mind

- Sunday School Kids will sing during the 9 am Church Service on Easter Sunday (April 5, 2026)
- On Sunday, April 12, the second graders will receive their Bibles during the 9 am church service

During the season of Lent the Women of Faith will once again will be serving delicious soup suppers prior to some of the Lenten Services. Please check the

handbook to see if you are included on one of the committees. You will also receive a letter with information about the supper. Soup suppers will be served on February 25, March 4, March 11, March 18, and March 25. If you have questions or would like to help with any of these please call Lana Schaefer 641-425-7615. Thank you in advance for all those working and those attending. The suppers will be served at 5:30 followed by our Lenten Service at 7:00.

Fish fry's are being held at the Sacred Heart Parish Center from 5 -7 pm on Friday nights February 20th and February 27th, March 13th and March 27th. Menu is fish, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner roll, dessert and drink. All for a free will donation! Hosted by the Knight of Columbus with help from the Ladies Guild.

Calendar for the Week

Sunday, February 22 nd	9:00 am Worship Service with Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation 10:00 am Coffee
Tuesday, February 24 th	9:00 Quilter's 6:30 pm Bible Study
Saturday, February 28 th	Men's Breakfast 7:30 am
Sunday, March 1 st	9:00 am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation 10:00 am Coffee