

# Welcome to St. Peter Lutheran Church

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent, March 1, 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](mailto:stpeter@netins.net)

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

Email: [grunklee0@gmail.com](mailto: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:

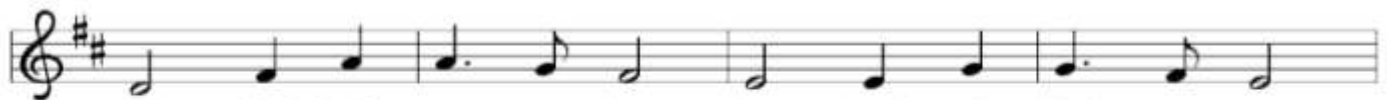
Gracious God,

**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 #759 "My Faith Looks up to Thee"**

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's  
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!  
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
 trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887  
 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

**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

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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 12:1-4a

*God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4a</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

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

**PSALM:** Psalm 121

*I lift up my eyes to the hills; my help comes from the LORD. (Ps. 121:1, 2)*

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup> **My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup> the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup> **the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

**SECOND READING:** Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

*In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.*

<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

<sup>16</sup> For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

**Gospel Acclamation** (Please Stand)

**Gospel:** John 3:1-17

*A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

The Holy Gospel according to John the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person."

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God

without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “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.

<sup>17</sup> “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.”

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

## Children’s Sermon

### Sermon

### Hymn of the Day ELW #442 “All Who Believe and Are Baptized”

#### All Who Believe and Are Baptized



1 All who be-lieve and are bap-tized, shall see the Lord's sal-  
 2 With one ac-cord, O God, we pray, grant us your Ho-ly  
 va-tion; Spir-it; bap-tized in-to the death of Christ, they are a  
 help us in our in-fir-mi-ty through Je-sus'  
 new cre-a-tion; through Christ's re-demp-tion they will stand a-  
 blood and mer-it; grant us to grow in grace each day by  
 mong the glo-ri-ous heav'n-ly band of ev-'ry tribe and na-tion.  
 ho-ly bap-tism, that we may e-ter-nal life in-her-it.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt.  
 Music: ES IST DAS HEIL, *Ettlich christlich Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1524

(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.)*

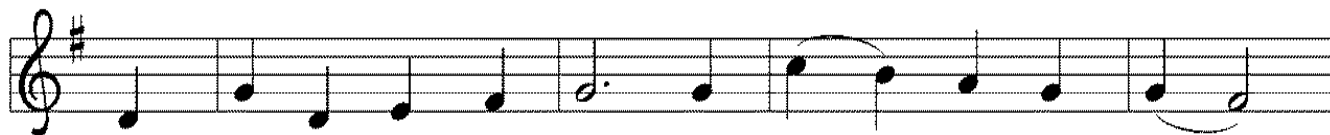
**Please remember in your prayers:** Jim Turner, Christine Foell, Jo Thomas, DiAnne & Dave Severin, Lorna Thompson, Wendell & Dawn Thomas, Audrey Harder, Kathleen Hansen, Larry Kruckenberg, Janet and Kevin Hoftiezer, Joan Petersen, Lon Peterson, Wendy Jorgensen, Renee Dahlen and all who are homebound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

**"Please turn and greet your neighbor."**

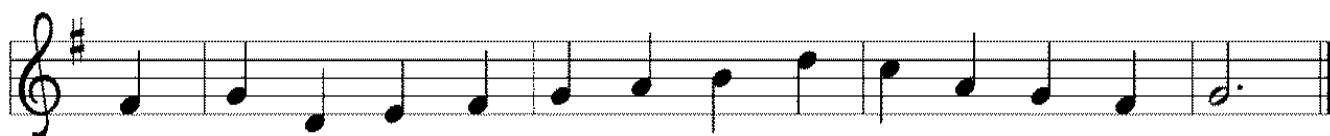
### **Offering**

**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.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught;  
**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.**

### 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.

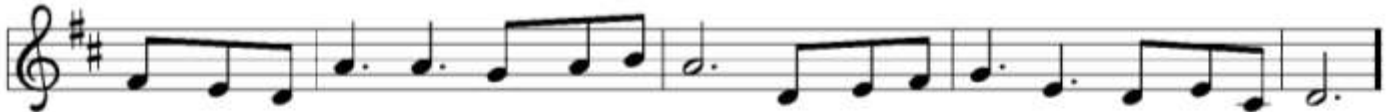
**Amen.**

## Sending Hymn ELW #638 "Blessed Assurance"

### Blessed Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

#### *Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

Church Streaming & Podcast License, size C (200-499), #CSPL071564 expiration date 6/30/2026

Church Copyright License, Size C (200-499), #11231032 expiration date 6/30/2026

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### USHERS FOR MARCH

Jay Thompson & Families

### GREETERS FOR MARCH

Shane & Nancy Heft

### COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR MARCH

Jay & Carla Thompson

## **ACOLYTES FOR MARCH**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Lane & Benton**

### **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 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.

**Women of Faith meet** the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at 1:30 for bible study, business meeting, coffee and fellowship. We are currently studying the book of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians' "Wisdom for Living".

The Quilters meet every Tuesday at 9:00. All members are welcome to come and help with this important Mission Project.

**Upcoming Events:**

**March:**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> - WOF's** monthly meeting at 1:30 in the Parish Hall. All women are invited to attend.

Bev Peters has the lesson, and Nancy Corporon is hostess.

**March 4, 11, 18, 25<sup>th</sup>** - WOF will serve Lenten Soup Suppers prior to Lenten Services. The suppers are free-will offering and everyone is welcome.

**March 16<sup>th</sup>** - WOF have bingo at the Rockwell Care Center. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Louise Patterson.

***Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who respects the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30***

**Fish fry's are being held** at the Sacred Heart Parish Center from 5 -7 pm on Friday nights February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup> and March 27<sup>th</sup>. 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, March 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation
Tuesday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00 am Quilter's 1:30 pm St Peter Circle 6:30 pm Bible Study
Wednesday, March 4 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm Fellowship Games 5:30 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Wednesday Service
Sunday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service with Communion 10:00 am Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation