

Guided to Peace

**Midweek Lent 3
March 6, 2024**

*For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.
Colossians 1:19-20*

AS WE GATHER

In this special service for Week 3 of Lent, we are drawn to Calvary to receive peace. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of peace in our hearts, souls and minds through Christ, who brought peace between us and God by the cross.

Opening Hymn

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

LSB 440 vss 1,6



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Invocation and Call to Worship

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P We live a world where peace can be hard to find. We are surrounded by strife and quarrels. We are often filled with worry and fear. Jesus tells us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid" (John 14:27).

C **Jesus our Savior, when we are troubled and worried by the strife around us, grant us your peace.**

P The world's peace depends on the absence of war and strife and trouble. The peace that Jesus brings to us is not like the world's peace. The peace of Jesus depends only on Jesus. The world's peace can be lost, but the peace that Jesus brings to us is ours forever.

C **Jesus our Savior, even in times of trouble or fear, grant us your peace.**

P By God's grace, through faith in Jesus, we have peace even in the midst of trouble. Through faith in Jesus, we have peace with God through the forgiveness of our sins. It is peace that Jesus won for us through his death on the cross and his triumphant resurrection. It is peace that we can share with others as we tell them of Jesus' love.

C **Jesus our Savior, grant us your peace.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, you have called us to peace, but so often we choose strife and anger. We do not seek to follow your will and walk in love. Instead, we listen to the temptations of the world around us, and we are often the cause of strife. We live according to our own selfish desires. Have mercy on us, and forgive us. Lead us each day to follow our Savior.**

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to suffer and die for our sins to bring us peace with God and with one another. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C **Almighty God, set the cross of Jesus before us to guide us in the way of peace.**

Prayer of the Day

Jesus, Lord and Savior, through the blood of your cross, you have brought us forgiveness for our sins and peace with God. When the circumstances of life and the dangers and concerns of the world around us threaten the peace that we have, help us to remember your promise, that you will be with us always, to the end of the age (see Matthew 28:20). Make us bold witnesses for you so that, in the power of the Holy Spirit, others will come to know the peace that you alone can bring. Set your cross before us to guide us in the way of peace. Amen.

Hymn "Not What These Hands Have Done" LSB 567 vss 1,3,5



1 Not what these hands have done Can save this guilt - y soul;
3 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin;
5 Thy grace a - lone, O God, To me can par - don speak;



Not what this toil - ing flesh has borne Can make my spir - it whole.
Thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, Can give me peace with - in.
Thy pow'r a - lone, O Son of God, Can this sore bond-age break.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Gospel Reading,

Luke 23:44-46

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

Sermon Hymn

At The Cross (Love Ran Red) Vs 1, chorus, Vs 2, Chorus



1. There's a place where mer - cy reigns and nev - er dies,
2. There's a place where sin and shame are pow - er - less,



there's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide;
where my heart has peace with God and for - give - ness;



Where all the love I've ev - er found comes like a flood, comes flow - ing down.
Where all the love I've ev - er found comes like a flood, comes flow - ing down.



At the cross, at the cross, I sur - ren - der my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in



awe of You. Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white. I owe all to You, I owe



all to You, Je - sus.

Sermon

Guided to Peace

Pastor Scott Henze

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. T Amen.

Offering

Prayers

P Lord Jesus, you suffered and died for our sins, and by your wounds, we have received healing from our sins and we have peace with God. During this Lenten season, as we follow your path to the cross, set your cross always before us to guide us in the way of peace. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

C Hear our prayer, and grant us peace.

P Lord Jesus, the cross that you carried to Golgotha was not known as an instrument of peace, but as a terrible instrument of death. Yet through your sacrifice, the cross has become for us a sign of love and peace. Through the blood you shed on the cross, God has reconciled all things to himself, making peace through the blood of your cross. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

C Hear our prayer, and grant us peace.

P Lord Jesus, the world around us is rarely at peace, and when it is, that worldly peace can be a fragile thing. We must deal with conflicts and quarrels, troubled times among our own friends and family members and the threat and reality of war among nations. Yet you have promised that when we bring our fears and worries to you in prayer, you will guard our hearts and minds with your peace. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

C Hear our prayer, and grant us your peace.

P Lord Jesus, we pray for people who are suffering through illness, grief and other difficult circumstances. Grant to them the peace that you alone can give. Comfort them through the promises of your Word, and give us opportunities to serve them and to share your love with them. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

C **Hear our prayer, and grant us your peace.**

P Lord Jesus, right now each day, we have forgiveness and peace through faith in your name. We look forward to the day when we will live in your presence, where we will enjoy peace forever. Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace,

C **Hear our prayer, and grant us your peace.**

P Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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 Blessing

(Colossians 1:17-20; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)

P Jesus is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

C **For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.**

P Now, may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

LSB 427 vss 1,2,4

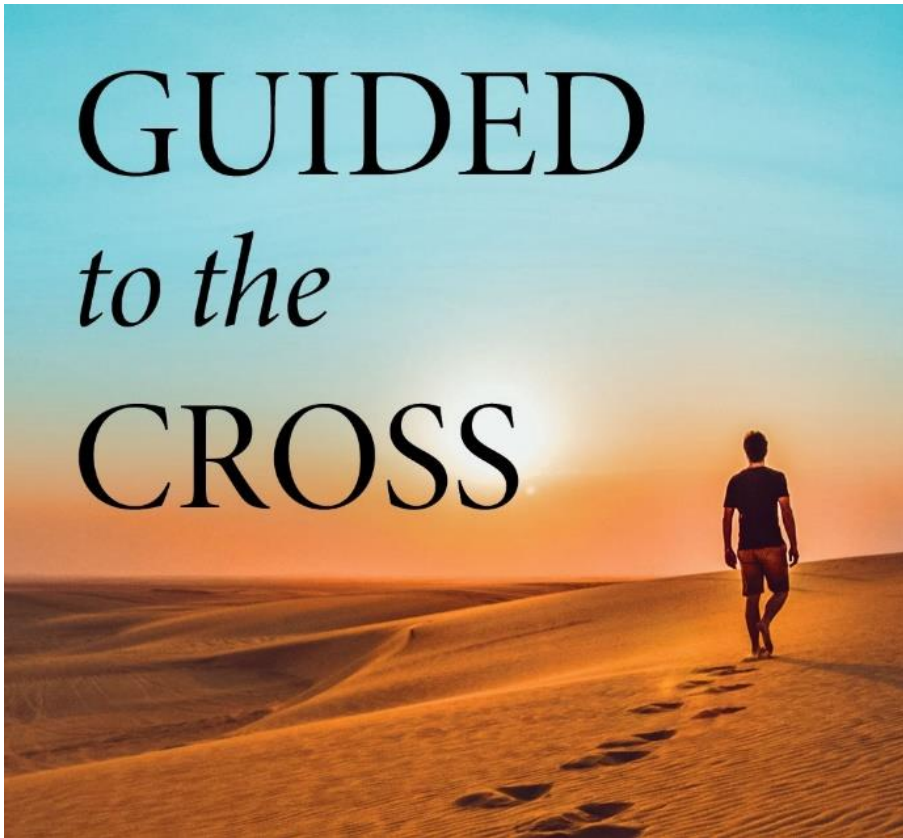
1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.



Midweek Lenten Worship



Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 PM

Midweek Lent 4

March 13

Guided to Trust

Midweek Lent 5

March 20

Guided to Perseverance

CHILDREN'S EASTER CELEBRATION AND EGG HUNT!



Our annual EGG HUNT is one of our best community outreach events of the year. Please help this effort by donating pre-stuffed eggs. No chocolate please. Bring to the church office by Sunday, March 17.

Thank you!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties. Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving