



**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 14, 2021**

Peace Thru Christ

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal

Organist: Mrs. Sarah Ude

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Pre-service Preparation: Psalm 46

THE ORDER OF SERVICE • Lutheran Hymnal, p. 5

Opening Hymn:..... 544 (3-4)

Before Sermon:..... 411 v. 1-5 (3-4)

Offering Hymn:..... 441:1-2

After Prayers: 457

Closing Hymn:..... 342:1-3, 5

SCRIPTURE READING:

I John 3:18-24

The apostle of love speaks to us of love. The love of God has been poured into our hearts. Such love will express itself in our lives. Our lives, however, are far from perfect. Our own lack of growth in sanctification---fruits of faith---might cause us to doubt our faith and love. But God comes to the rescue. In His Word He assures us that Christ has delivered us from all sin. Through a Spirit worked faith in Christ, we are God's children. This blessed assurance encourages us then in our life of sanctification.

My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. 20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. 22 And whatever we ask

we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. 23 And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. 24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

John 15:9-17

We abide in Jesus through His love. His love which led Him to give His life for us moves us to love one another. We have been chosen to be His friends, to bear fruit, to live with Him forever. What a glorious calling we have received.

“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. 11 “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. 17 These things I command you, that you love one another.

THE SERMON:

John 15:1-8

Jesus declares to

ALL of His Faithful, I AM THE TRUE VINE!

Abide in Me and I will abide in you!

I: The Necessity of Abiding in the True Vine.

II: The Fatal Consequences of Dying on the Vine.

III: The Blessed Privilege of Remaining in the Vine.

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He [a]takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you[b] will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.



PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU!

We are glad you are here this morning worshiping your Savior with us. This morning we are hearing from the VINE, Jesus Christ as we are led to remain and grow in Him and in His Word. There is no other way we can enter into heaven but by remaining in Jesus---faith in His perfect life, sacrificial death and resurrection. We will then bring forth fruits of faith in loving service to Him. If you have any questions about what we here at Peace Thru Christ Lutheran teach, please speak with Pastor Bernthal. We invite you to come again and please sign our guest register before you leave.

This Week:

Today: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School: The Good Samaritan
Bible Class: Vignette 7—Join and Sing to the Lord:
Congregational Worship 10:00 a.m. Family Worship

Tuesday 7:00 Hannah's Helping Hands by Zoom

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Lent V: Pastor Sauers

Next Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

SERVICE TO OUR LORD: Cleaners this week: A. Gerbitz, J & C B. Schaefer • Counters: Ruth Bernthal & Rachel Meyer

OFFERINGS 3/7 & 10 for Unified Budget: \$3,325.00
Benevolence: \$35 • ILC Student Aid Fund: \$35

ATTENDANCE: Facebook 18 / YouTube views 1/ Church 42
Bible Class: 14 S.S. 3 • Lent IV: Facebook 16/ YouTube views 0/ Church 19

HANNAH'S HELPING HANDS: The Ladies will be meeting on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom.

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

EVANGELISM MEETING: The next Evangelism meeting will be held Sunday, March 28 @ 11:15 a.m.

NEEDED: One person to help count offerings after church one Sunday every month. Please see pastor if you would like to help serve in this way.

REMEMBRANCE LILIES: We would like to decorate the altar with lilies on Easter Sunday in celebration of Jesus' resurrection and also in memory of loved ones who have died in the Lord, and who will surely rise again in glory at Christ's return. If you would like to provide a lily in memory of a loved one(s), let Pastor know, and he will include the name of your loved one(s) in the Easter bulletin.

CLC NEWS:

- Matthew Kranz, Immanuel, Mankato, MN has been called to be the second full-time teacher at Immanuel Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL.
- Immanuel, Mankato, MN has called Eric Libby to the Assistant Principal/Counselor position and Kevin Schrader to the High School Math and Science position.
- Jessica Krueger has accepted the call by Faith, Markesan, WI to be upper grade teacher. Jessica is a member of Faith who is presently teaching in the public school.

YOUTH CAMP: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC is excited to announce that we will be having our summer camp, Christ's Explorers Camp. This camp is open to students entering grades 3-9! This year, we will be holding our camp in Pigeon Forge, TN, from August 12-15. (Transportation will be provided to/from our church campus) Pastor Chad Seybt will lead our worship and Bible studies with the theme, "Fix your eyes on Christ." We have 6 (3 male, 3 female) junior counselor spots available for students entering grade 10 or higher. The applications

will be due on Sunday, April 4. The camp will cost \$75, and this will include all lodging, meals, and activities. This camp will be limited to the first 50 campers, so be ready to register when registration opens on May 1! If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact Sara Kloke (runsforfun@aol.com) or Karen Howell (kdhowell32@gmail.com). Pastor David Pfeiffer

YOUTH CAMP:

Camp Jim in Pillager, MN is currently a "go" for June 13-19, 2021. Because of spacing restrictions in Minnesota, attendance at this point is limited to those entering 9th through 12th grade in the Fall of 2021. Should restrictions be lifted, the camp directors will be ready to open registration to those entering 6th-8th grade as well. Initial registration date for Grades 9-12 will be on Palm Sunday, March 28, at 3:00 p.m. Central. Because of COVID uncertainties, no registration fee will be due at that time. Cost to be paid at a later date will be \$180 per camper. Watch for a registration reminder and web address in the coming weeks.

LENTEN SEASON:

This past Wednesday we heard about Caiaphas who hypocritically accused Jesus of blasphemy when He stood trial before him. This Wednesday Pastor Sauers will be preaching on the Soldiers (Hands of Brutality). All services are at 7:00 p.m. Our Lenten theme this year is: "Hands of the Passion."

March 17:

Hands of Brutality (Soldiers) Pastor Sauers
Matthew 27:27-31

March 24:

Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate) Pastor David Ude
Matthew 27:15-26

HOLY WEEK:

We continue our theme "Hands of the Passion" through our Holy Weeks services.

March 28th: Palm Sunday---Hands of Praise
(Disciples and Crowds) Mark 11:1-11

April 1st: Maundy Thursday—Hands of Humility
(Jesus) John 13:1- 5,12-17

April 2nd: Good Friday---Nail-Pierced Hands
(Jesus) Luke 23:32-34

April 4th: Easter Sunday---Life-Giving Hands
(Jesus)John 20:19-23

NO EASTER SUNRISE/BRUNCH:

The Church Council felt that there was not enough room in our fellowship hall with social distancing to have an Easter brunch. With nothing scheduled between the sunrise service and the second service therefore the brunch and the preceding Easter sunrise service is cancelled for this year. We look forward to 2022 when we can worship the Lord as we have in the past. He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!!

HELP NEEDED: Prof. Paul Naumann's daughter, Claire, will be graduating from UW-EC this spring with a degree in social work. She has been accepted to UW-Madison for their one-year masters program in social work. She hopes to move to Madison soon after graduation in late May or early June. She doesn't have many ideas at this point on where to live. She is wondering if there is someone in our congregation who was looking for a roommate, or knew of someone who was. Claire's contact info is claire54321@gmail.com, 253-227-7612.