



Tidings of Peace

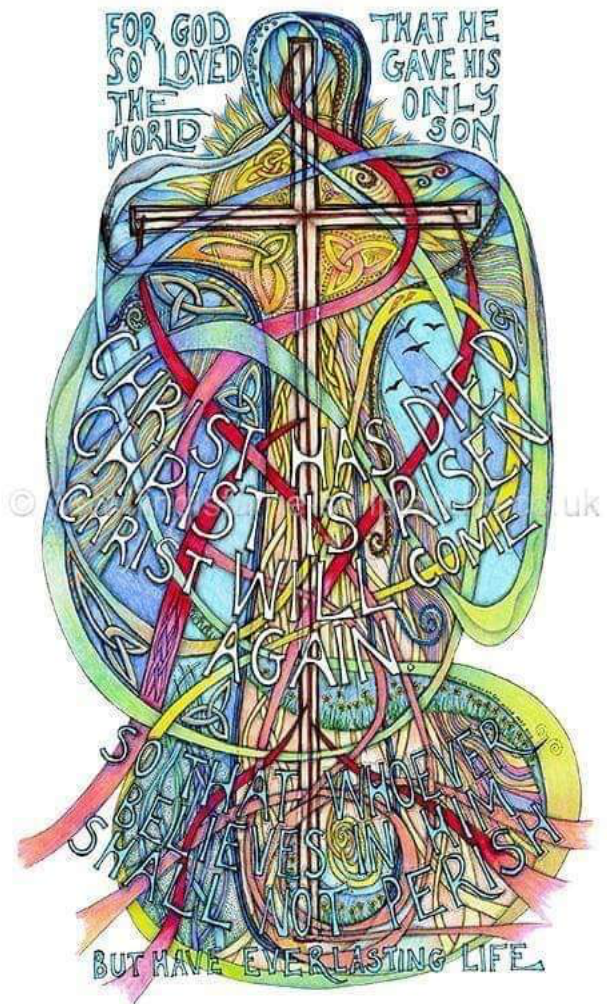
come grow with us

From the Pastor's Desk...

March 2024

Lent – traditionally a time for reflection and searching, a time to live in the darkness, a time for fasting, prayer, and the walk – today I encourage all of us to step away from tradition and to embrace the light as we travel along an unknown path. For that is what **our journey** is about – the unknown, guided by the Holy Spirit, side by side our Savior and Lord, loved by God, our Father, our Creator.

Palm Sunday – the waving of palms, the shouts of Hosanna, cloaks on the ground, and a donkey – the lowest of creatures. At this gate, no trumpet sounding, no guard to accompany him – the air filled with excitement, curiosity, disdain, and hate. On the other side of town, another gate – complete will pomp and circumstance, for the “king” has arrived. To which gate are we drawn to? We tend to relish in what we don’t have, and shy away from the reality of our lives. This day it is not about the dreams, the what-ifs, the splendor prevailing in the wind. It is about calling it out, naming what it actually is, and seeing what is right in front of us. It’s a day to wave our palms and shout our Hosannas, for this is **our calling**, as we watch from the sidelines.



Holy Week – three days of remembrance, for without this it makes little sense. It’s a time that provides for a multitude of horizons, each waiting in the near distance for you, for me. It’s about a meal, a gathering of like minds as we partake of the food for our souls, watching and listening as we grow into the light. It’s about the journey along the rocky earth, acknowledging our pain and our suffering until we come to its climatic ending. It’s about a cross, the opportunity for you and for me to lay down our burdens and sorrows at its feet, to hear his words, “*Father, forgive them for they know not what they have done.*” It’s about the heavens opening up, preparing for what is to come, and understanding the meaning behind the words, “*It is done!*” It is dark now, but let us cast aside tradition, and remind ourselves that we aren’t finished yet, for **our story** continues.

Easter – the morning dawns, the sun rises in the sky, the birds chirp, and the rock has been moved. We will follow those who go, we will feel their pain and fear, and together we can sense the anxiousness and awe that fills our very existence. Like the tomb, we are empty but there is hope, there is promise, there is grace and mercy and peace. He is here, the light is here...in and with us. This is a day for praise and alleluias; this is a day for a reminder, a glimpse of what tomorrow is and forever will be. “*For God so loves us that he gave his only Son so we would know the truth.*” And the truth is Christ Jesus; the truth is in the time spent outside of tradition, as we embrace our Light. We walk together, you and me, as we live into who we are and who we are called to be. Each day brings feelings of renewal and joy, glimpses of hope and promise, a sense of love and peace for we are not alone. The light walks among us; and it is **our faith** that allows us to focus on our tomorrows, to walk towards the horizons that await. So let us do just that!

Sisters and brothers in Christ, God has called us to ministry, to our walk together, as we journey through the unknown, proclaiming the light of Christ Jesus. As we look outside of tradition in these days and weeks to come, let us walk confidently and boldly in the Light of Jesus – knowing in spite of it all, in spite of ourselves, we are forgiven, we are blessed, and we are loved.

God’s Blessings and Peace

Pastor Neil

Pastor’s Office Hours

Tuesday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm & Wednesday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Men's Breakfast



We will meet at the **Eaton Place** for breakfast and fellowship on... **Thursday, March 14th at 8:30am**. Hope to see you there!

Men's Night Out

This is something most of us enjoy – so let's get together again on **Wednesday, March 26th at 6:00pm**. Let's meet up at the **Acapulco** again. It's a great time to catch up with one another and share some stories and laughs. Hope to see you there!



Ladies Luncheon

Wednesday, March 20th
11:30 am at Evelyn Bay

Bible Study – today and tomorrow

Adult Study:

"A Study of Martin Luther" continues on **Sunday mornings beginning March 10th from 11:00am – 12:00 noon** in the big classroom. Pastor will also offer it on Zoom for those who wish to attend and cannot be present.

Confirmation:

We meet on **Sunday, March 10th from 6:00pm – 7:30pm**.

Of course, Pastor Neil will provide your dessert. See you then.



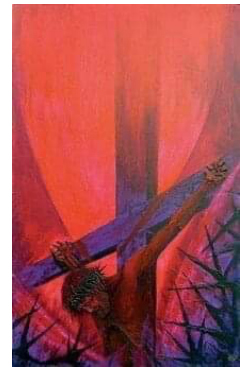
Maundy Thursday Worship



Please join us for Maundy Thursday worship service at **Peace Lutheran Church, March 28th** beginning at **7:00p.m.** Pastor Neil will be leading our service and there will be communion. Our joint choir from area churches will be singing. Our sisters and brothers from St. Mary's Catholic, First Congregational UCC, and St. John's Episcopal Church will also join us. Hope to see many of you there!

Good Friday Worship

Please join us for worship on **Good Friday, March 29th** beginning at **7:30pm.** Our ecumenical service will be held at **St. Mary's Catholic Church.** We hope you can come and experience this meaningful worship service. **PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE.**



Easter Vigil worship



Please join us for Easter Vigil service on **Saturday, March 30th** beginning at **6:00pm.** Our ecumenical service will be held here at **Peace Lutheran church.**

Easter Worship

**He Is Risen. He is Risen, indeed.
Alleluia!**

Come to our Easter worship service on **Sunday, March 30th** beginning at **9:30am.** There will be instrumental music and accompaniment along with our choir. It is a day to rejoice for He Is Risen. Alleluia!



Lansing Symphony information

Some of you have asked for information on the Lansing Symphony – the orchestra Bryan performs with. Here is some information I received for you to consider as a “night out” for some musical enjoyment.

The next concert Bryan is performing in is a Beethoven Concerto on the March 23rd.
<https://www.lansingsymphony.org/events/masterworks-04-beethoven-violin-concerto>

All of the information can be found on the LSO website and the links listed above.

Pregnancy Center



The Pregnancy Center is need of clothes (pants and tops) sizes 18 months to 24 months and sleepers. Please bring items to church during the month of March.



Thank You

Many thanks to everyone for the thoughts and prayers, the cards and well wishes, and the great meals you provided during my recovery from surgery. We feel blessed by you and all that you do and have done in our ministry together. I will be returning on March 10th to lead us in worship, and in giving thanks to God for his many blessings.

God Bless You All!

Pastor Neil and Sandy





We would like to offer our sincere appreciation for all the prayers, cards, messages of support, and meals delivered to our home, by you, our church family. A special thank you to Pastor Neil for the calls and prayers as we deal with our health issues. One of our best decisions when we relocated to Charlotte was to join Peace Lutheran Church. May God bless each of you.

Tom and Sharron Pridgeon

The West Fund

The West Fund has moved in another direction. Because of lack of communication the West Fund is no longer tithing monthly to the Community Benevolence Fund at the Assembly of God church. The West Fund is now dedicated solely to the members of our congregation with periodically tithing to ministries the church supports. Whenever possible Scrip cards will be purchased to present to members who may need some help. Members are reluctant to ask for help. If you know or think a member is in financial stress please let Pastor Neil or a member of the West Fund Team (Karen Jorgensen, Bobby Peterman, Char Ehlers) know of your concerns.

Since the fund has moved in a new direction funds or scrip cards were delivered to two members mailbox also Scrip gas cards were purchased for the office for walk in emergencies. Pastor Neil applied for a \$1000 grant which the West Fund has received. There are also members that periodically donate to the fund. After donating \$450 in Scrip cards or cash and with the \$1000 grant the West Fund presently has \$1167.04.

A big thank you to all who support this ministry.
Submitted by Char Ehlers





Thursdays March 7, 14, 21 @ Peace
5:45 pm Soup Supper
6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer

Palm Sunday Worship Service: Sunday, March 24, 9:30 am @Peace

Maundy Thursday: Thursday, March 28, 7:00 pm @ Peace

Good Friday Service: Friday, March 29, 7:30 pm @ St. Mary's Catholic Church

Easter Vigil: Saturday, March 30, 6:00 pm Easter Vigil @ Peace

Easter Sunday Worship Service: Sunday, March 31, 9:30 am @ Peace

Please note that the **midweek services are going to be on Thursdays** this year instead of the usual Wednesday night. Look for signup sheets to volunteer to bring soup and/or bread for Thursday nights.

Craft making/idea sessions for the November Cookie Walk & Craft Event!

When: March 19th at 11:30am
Where: Gathering Space at Peace
Please bring a permanent marker & dish to pass!
See Susie Moore with any questions!

It's time for a lot of PEACE...

It is time... for PEACE! As the new year begins, may we all come together in our prayer lives – as we pray for so many things in our lives -the good and the not so good. But let us add another prayer to our time with God – and ask him to bless our world with peace – throughout the world, in our country, in our state and communities, in our families and among our friends.

It is time for PEACE! It is time to put our differences aside and learn to live in harmony with one another; it's time to name society's injustices for what they are; it's time to relabel our political party affiliations, and agree that we are first and foremost, Americans.

It is time for PEACE! It is time for goodwill among all people; it is time for making God a priority in our lives and spend a part of our every day in his presence.

It is time... for PEACE! Let this be the focus of our prayer lives – and our time together.



Livestock instead of Lilies



This year, as in the past, at Peace Lutheran church instead of purchasing Lilies, for Easter we are asking for donations to be used to purchase chicks, honeybees, pigs, or goats or a share of a cow. These animals will be given to needy families throughout the world. In return for your donations your name will be listed in the Easter bulletin that you have made a donation that was “Given in memory of: or Given in Honor of” or “To the Glory of God.” Also, a Lilly card will be placed on our Easter cross. **Each card will be \$10.00 each. Checks are to be made out to Peace Lutheran Church** and indicate on the memo line of the check, *Livestock instead of Lilies*.

Your gifts to God's Global Barnyard also provide education, training and resources to support people receiving chicks, honeybees, pigs, goats, or a share of a cow.

Forms will be out on March 3rd in the church bulletin. **Please return the forms by Sunday March 25th** and indicate on your check or envelope, Livestock for Lilies project. For more information you can contact Dian Leckrone

Thank you, the Worship team

Easter Vigil 2024

March 30, 2024



This is the night! This is our Passover with Christ from darkness to light, from bondage to freedom, from death to life.

On **Saturday, March 30, 2024**, we will be observing the great Vigil of Easter and everyone is welcome. **Beginning at 6:00pm** with the lighting of the new fire and a candlelight procession be prepared for a most interesting and meaningful retelling of “our story” as Christians through dramatic readings, and songs.

The Easter Vigil is to the Christian church year, what Sunday is to the week. After we hear the stories of God’s faithfulness to God’s people throughout Biblical history, we will affirm our baptism and our own part of God’s amazing salvation story. The service ends with hearing the wonderful words of Jesus Christ’s resurrection and the celebration of Holy Communion. All are welcome at the table of the Lord. Please join us for this very meaningful experience. The service will be followed by a celebratory reception!

The Worship and Music team would like to invite you to not only attend this service, but to participate by telling, reading or acting out one of the stories. Here are the readings that the team has selected for this year. They are also listed in the ELW on page 269.

- 1) Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a – the story of Creation
- 2) Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 – the story of Deliverance at the Red Sea
- 3) Isaiah 55: 1-11 – the story that Salvation is freely offered to all
- 4) Ezekiel 37:1-14 – the story of the Valley of Dry Bones
- 5) Zephaniah 3:14-20 – the story of the gathering of God’s people
- 6) Jonah 2:2-9 – the story of the deliverance of Jonah
- 7) Isaiah 61:1-4, 9-11 – the story of being clothed in the garments of salvation

In the past folks have used many different and creative ways of telling these stories. **If you would like to participate, please talk to one of the members of the Worship team or Pastor Neil.** We have resources available to help in your planning.

We will finish the planning for this service at our next worship team meeting on February 13th at 10 am. You are most welcome to attend and help in the planning of this event. Personally, this is my favorite service of the year. It is so uplifting! Please join us!

Barb Myckowiak

Worship and Music Team member



When buying ink from Staples for you or your family please consider using Peace's phone number when checking out. Your purchase of ink can apply to Peace's Rewards program. The office uses the rewards dollars for supplies for our church.



Did you know that we recycle pull tabs here at Peace?

Pull tabs are taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Lansing

They turn these tabs in to cash to help support the House. The House provides care, comfort, and a free place to stay for families to heal together while their child receives medical treatment.

This is a simple way to help support the House, just pull those tabs off the cans and **place them in the container at church** and Dar will see that they get over to Ronald McDonald House.

Gathering Duties

Serving area should be set up prior to the end of service. You will begin serving immediately following service at approximately 10:30 am.

Here is what to do...

Serving

- Provide a snack of your choice for about 40-50 people. Please also provide a juice or cold drink. The property team has asked for clear juice as red juice will permanently stain the carpet.
- Prepare the coffee (2-3 pots of regular and 1 pot of decaf). All supplies to make coffee are provided.
- Set up the serving table. Set out coffee cups, cold drinks, creamer, sugar, sweeteners, stirrers, and tea. Tea drinkers will heat their water in the microwave. You will also need plates and napkins. Real plates, cups, and napkins are provided. You will need to bring paper plates if you choose to do so.

Clean Up

- Clean up the serving area after everyone has finished.
- Load the dishwasher, add soap, and start it.
- Please wash any dirty dishes that do not fit in the dishwasher
- Rinse out the coffee pots, dispose of the used coffee grounds, and unplug the coffee pot and warmer.
- Run the garbage disposal,
- Please also take any leftover food home.

Thank you for volunteering!

If you are a previous volunteer and see someone new serving, please take a moment to help them find the things they need.

Worship Ministry March 2024

Date	Sunday 3/3	Sunday 3/10	Sunday 3/17	Sunday 3/24 Palm Sunday	Sunday 3/31 Easter Sunday
Acolyte	Payton Jobson	Corbin Lincoln	Logan Levi	Kendall Jobson	Carson Clark
Altar Guild	Louise Bradley	Louise Bradley	Louise Bradley	Louise Bradley	Louise Bradley
Audio/ Visual	Scott Lumbert G. Edgerton	Scott Lumbert G. Edgerton	Scott Lumbert G. Edgerton	Scott Lumbert G. Edgerton	Scott Lumbert G. Edgerton
Choir Director/ Musician	Bryan Guarnuccio	Bryan Guarnuccio	Bryan Guarnuccio	Bryan Guarnuccio	Bryan Guarnuccio
Fellowship	Bev DeFord and Beverly Leffler	Worship Team	Dave and Phyllis Augenstein	Volunteer Needed	Easter Breakfast
Flowers	Tom and Sharron Pridgeon	Dian Leckrone	Volunteer Needed	Beverly Leffler	Volunteer Needed
Lector	John Thiel	John Thiel	John Thiel	John Thiel	John Thiel
Pastor		Pastor Neil Brady	Pastor Neil Brady	Pastor Neil Brady	Pastor Neil Brady
Ushers	Jim and Louise Bradley	Jim and Louise Bradley	Jim and Louise Bradley	Jim and Louise Bradley	Jim and Louise Bradley
Worship Assistant	Matt Lincoln	Barb Myckowiak	Barb Myckowiak	Barb Myckowiak	Barb Myckowaik

Church Calendar – March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Gathering	4	5 7:00 pm CAT Team Meeting	6 11:30 am Caring Team Meeting 6:00 pm AA Meeting	7 8:30 am Men's Breakfast 5:45 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 Isaac's Baptism 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Gathering 10:45-Noon Sunday School 11:00-Noon Adult Bible Study 6:00-7:30 pm Confirmation Class	11	12 10:00 Worship and Music Team Meeting 1:30 pm Growing In Faith Team Meeting 7:00 pm Council Meeting	13 6:00 pm AA Meeting	14 5:45 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Gathering 11:00-Noon Adult Bible Study	18	19	20 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon at Evelyn Bay 6:00 pm AA Meeting	21 5:45 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Gathering 10:45-Noon Sunday School 11:00-Noon Adult Bible Study	25 Articles Due for the April Tidings	26 6:00 pm Men's Night Out	27 6:00 pm AA Meeting	28 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service @ Peace	29 7:30 pm Good Friday Worship Service @ St. Mary's Catholic Church	30 6:00 pm Easter Vigil @ Peace
31 Easter Sunday NOISY BUCKET OFFERING 8:00 am Easter Breakfast 9:30 am Worship Service						

Please feel free to submit articles or pictures for the Tidings to the editor, Kristin Shannon
gore.kristin88@gmail.com

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*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and love your
neighbor as yourself.*



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