

Peace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Ricky Adams

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Mission Statement

To help all people know, believe and follow Jesus Christ

Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church!

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long-time member, we welcome you to worship this morning! If you are visiting, we look forward to meeting you and hope you will join us again, soon. **We would appreciate your signing our guestbook before you leave.**



Some Helpful Information

Please Feel Free To Sit At Anytime During The Worship Service: During the worship services at Peace Lutheran there are many times when the people stand. Sometimes the standing can be quite lengthy. We do not want to place any undue burden on anyone worshipping with us. Therefore, please feel free to sit whenever you desire. Thank you and Christ's blessings.

Restrooms – A restroom is located to the right just as you leave the sanctuary and enter the entrance hall. Restrooms for men and women are also located at the top of the stairs in the Parish Hall. Go into the lounge, turn right and continue up the stairs.

Fellowship and Refreshments – Immediately following worship, coffee and other refreshments and treats are served in Luther Lounge (the lounge just off the entrance hall). Come relax with us and enjoy the company as we will certainly enjoy your company.

Please join us again next week!

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2020

Introduction

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving. Thank you for worshipping at Peace Lutheran Church today!

Prayer Before Worship - Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. Amen. - Joanne Carlson Brown, Ministry Matters Website

Pre-Service Music (A time of reflection.)

Ringling Of The Bell

Welcome

Call to Worship (inspired by Genesis 22: 1-14; Micah 6:8; Deuteronomy 6:5. Please stand)

Pastor: What does the Lord require of us?

People: **To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

Pastor: What does God command of us?

People: **To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

Pastor: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

People: **But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.**

Pastor: Let us worship the God who believes in us, and trusts in us, and abides with us.

People: **Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way.** ~ written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH. She blogs at <http://sermonizing.wordpress.com/>

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Entrance Hymn - Dearest Jesus, at Your Word (LBW #248. Please remain standing)

- 1 Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.
- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks the night,
filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.
- 3 Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.
- 4 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most:
your blest gospel's consolation,
while we here on earth await you,
till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Psalm For The Day – Psalm 15 (Please remain standing)

Pastor: O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

People: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;

Pastor: who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

People: in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

Pastor: who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

(We share the peace of the Lord)

Response – As The Deer (WP #9. Please remain seated)

1. As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longs after You
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship You

Refrain

You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship You

2. You're my friend and You're my brother
Even though you are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything *Refrain*

Text and Music: Martin Nystrom. Text and music © 1984 Maranatha Praise, Inc. admin. The Copyright Company. Used by permission CCLI #209714

First Reading - Micah 6:1-8 (Please remain seated)

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” ⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world’s standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you

were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Gospel - Matthew 4:23 - 5:12 (Please remain seated)

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. ²⁴ So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. ²⁵ And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan. ¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Theme Song - Jesus Sat With His Disciples (LSB #932. Please remain seated)



1 Je - sus sat with His dis - ci - ples On a
2 "Bless-ed are the meek and hum - ble, All the
3 "Bless-ed are God's sons and daugh - ters, Mak - ing

moun - tain - side one day; As the crowds of peo-ple
earth to them is willed. Those who hun - ger to be
peace where there is strife. Bless - ed are the per-se -

gath - ered, He be - gan to teach and say:
ho - ly, They are bless'd and will be filled.
cut - ed, Who for righ - teous-ness lose life;

"Bless-ed are the poor in spir - it, Heav - en's
Yes, the mer - ci - ful are bless - ed, Mer - cy
Their re - ward is great in heav - en, In the

king - dom they will share. Bless-ed are the sad and
will to them be shown. And the pure in heart are
king - dom up a - bove— So be glad to share My

mourn - ing, Joy and com - fort will be theirs.
bless - ed, They have eyes for God a - lone.
suf - f'ring And re - joice to know My love."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955. Tune: Marty Haugen b. 1950. Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Stark; admin Concordia Publishing House. Tune © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission CCLI #209714

Message

Baptismal Culture
The Good News Of A New Kingdom
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Response - Restore in Us, O God (Tune: LBW #89. Please remain seated)

- 1 Restore in us, O God,
 the splendor of your love;
 renew your image in our hearts,
 and all our sins remove.
- 2 O Spirit, wake in us
 the wonder of your power;
 from fruitless fear unfurl our lives
 like springtime bud and flower.
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share
 the fullness of your joy;
 baptize us in the risen life
 that death cannot destroy.
- 4 Three personed God, fulfill
 the promise of your grace,
 that we, when all our searching ends,
 may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944. © 1989 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI #209714

Sharing The Gifts Of God (Please be seated as the offerings are received)

Confession Of Faith - Apostles Creed (Please stand and confess together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Prayer Of The Church (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. - A brief silence. - God of liberation, you set your people free to serve others. Embolden your church, that we seek justice for the oppressed, share generously your lovingkindness, and live humbly together. Unite us as one people under the foolishness of the cross. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of the universe, your care is evident everywhere—from the foundations of the earth to the summit of the tallest mountains. Reconcile all of creation to itself and repair the environmental destruction caused by human carelessness and greed. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of the nations, you desire peace and justice among all people. Deliver us from systems of fear that seek to divide us. Guide our local and national leaders. May their decisions empower and serve the needs of the poor and the disenfranchised. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of the oppressed, you raise up the lowly and comfort those in despair. We lift up to you all who are victims of exploitation, discrimination, and greed. We pray for those who are suffering in any way this day. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of love, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to earth in the form of a baby, whose presentation in the temple we celebrate today. Fill our own house of worship with your presence, that all who enter may encounter Christ. Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Additional prayers:

Pastor: Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: God of life, we give you thanks for all those who have died in the faith. Thank you for the examples of our ancestors and the saints who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (We pray together. Please remain standing)

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 Prayer For Peace (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Let us pray. . .O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,

People: give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benediction (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit Bless each of you.

People: Amen

Dismissal (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song – God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven

(LBW #281. Please remain standing)

- 1 God, who made the earth and heaven,
darkness and light:
you the day for work have given,
for rest the night.
May your angel guards defend us,
slumber sweet your mercy send us,
holy dreams and hopes attend us
all through the night.
- 2 And when morn again shall call us
to run life's way,
may we still, whate'er befall us,
your will obey.
From the pow'r of evil hide us,
in the narrow pathway guide us,
never be your smile denied us
all through the day.
- 3 Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,
and, when we die,
may we in your mighty keeping
all peaceful lie.
When the last dread call shall wake us,
then, O Lord, do not forsake us,
but to reign in glory take us
with you on high.

- 4 Holy Father, throned in heaven,
all-holy Son,
Holy Spirit, freely given,
blest Three in One:
grant us grace, we now implore you,
till we lay our crowns before you
and in worthier strains adore you
while ages run.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, st. 1, alt.; William Mercer, 1811-1873, sts. 2, 4, alt.; Richard Whately, 1787-1863, st. 3, alt.

Announcement

Recessional

Serving The Lord With Gladness

Pastor:	Pastor Ricky Adams
Pianist:	Janet Reese
Coffee:	Cynthia Smith
Counter:	Vicki McGowan
Lay Reader:	Rick Kenney

Activities This Week:

Sunday – February 2	9:30 am	Service of the Word
Monday – February 3	6-8 p.m.	AA Meeting (PH)
Tuesday – February 4	9:30am -12: 30 pm	Stage Door (PH)
Wednesday – February 5	2:45-6:15 pm 6:00 pm	Patricia Miner (S) Stage Door (PH)
Friday – February 7	9:30 am – 11:00 am	German Story Time (N)
Saturday – February 8	8:30-9:30am 9:30a-12:30pm 2-9 pm	Pilates (PH) Stage Door (PH) Paddle G. G. Event (PH)
Sunday – February 9	9:30 am	Service of the Word And Sacrament

Information About Peace Lutheran Church - If you desire to know more about Peace Lutheran Church such as teachings; affiliations, membership or other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Adams.

Office Phone – (415) 388-2065

Home Phone – (415) 388-7190

Email – pastor@plcmarin.org

Flowers – Flowers today are given to the glory of God.

Birthdays – Blessings to those who celebrated or will celebrate birthdays:

Wednesday – John Mosher

March 1 Informal Congregational Meeting – On March 1, Rev. Michael Lang, president of our California-Nevada-Hawaii District, will preach and lead a discussion concerning future options for Peace Lutheran Church. Please set aside the time to join the discussion. Christ's Peace.

Ash Wednesday, February 26 – On Wednesday, February we will observe Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent with a special service of the Word and Sacrament. Before the service we will have a soup supper. Please join us. Christ's Peace.

New Directory – We are putting together a new directory for Peace Lutheran Church. Please review the entrance for your name, make any changes and check your name so we know you reviewed it. Christ's Peace.

Servers – Every Sunday there are several people that help serve during the worship service and coffee hour. Peace Lutheran needs your help. We need people to prepare Coffee hour and serve during that time. We need Ushers. We need lay readers who read the second lesson during worship. Please consider these needs and sign up to serve in the way you choose. Thank you.

Flowers – If you would like to donate flowers for worship in memory of a person or observing a personal event, please contact pastor via email at pastor@plcmarin.org

Sunday Bulletins - for Peace Lutheran church are available online for use during the worship service. The link is <http://bulletin.plcmarin.org>

Like us on Facebook at Peace Lutheran Church Mill Valley or [@peacelutheranmill](https://www.facebook.com/peacelutheranmill). Pastor Adams post a weekly blog on Facebook and Peace Lutheran's website at www.plcmarin.org

Weekly Devotional Helps

February 2 – February 8, 2020

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Prayer For The Sick

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings Through The Week

Monday – February 3

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 1:1-18
Philemon 1-25

Tuesday – February 4

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 2:1-16
Janes 5:1-6

Wednesday – February 5

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22
Luke 6:17-26

Thursday – February 6

Psalm 112:1-10
Deuteronomy 4:1-14
1 John 5:1-5

Friday – February 7

Psalm 112:1-10
Isaiah 29:1-12
James 3:13-18

Saturday – February 8

Psalm 112:1-10
Isaiah 29:13-16
Mark 7:1-8

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 112:1-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-16
Matthew 5:13-20

Commemorations

February 14 - Martyr St. Valentine: What is known is that Valentine ended life confessing Christ to the last, dying a martyr's death in Rome under Emperor Claudius II around AD 270. The very day that Valentine was to face his martyrdom, he is said to have brought consolation to the daughter of his jailer by writing to her a small note of encouragement. Hence, the custom of St. Valentine's day notes arose, which has spread far and wide. From the relative obscurity of his life, we may learn a valuable lesson: God remembers what people forget. Baptized into Christ, marked with the holy cross as the Lord's own, fed with the body and blood of the Savior, Valentine lived and served, loved and died a witness to the invincible love of God in Christ Jesus. — Quoted from Weedon, William. Celebrating the Saints . Concordia Publishing House. Kindle Edition. ©2016