

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

1 Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.
3 Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.
4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.
5 See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.
6 Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
7 let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

1 At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?' 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4 Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?' 5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' 6 Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7 So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" 8 He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Old Testament

Joshua 5:9-12

The Psalm

Psalm 32

The New Testament

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Peace Lutheran Church

Journey to the Cross: God and Suffering

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent



For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8-9

Peace Lutheran Church

The Church that Welcomes and Serves

2106 South Cushman Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405, www.peacelutherantacoma.org

(253) 383-1317 Church Office, (253) 383-0702 Peace Community Center

Welcome to worship at Peace! Please see the Peace Lutheran Church website www.peacelutherantacoma.org or Facebook page (Facebook Peace Lutheran Tacoma) or YouTube channel (contact church office for link) for online worship videos.

+ *We worship in person at 8:30 & 11 am and live stream 11 am on our Facebook page.*

+ *We worship in the summer at 10 am, also live streamed on our Facebook page.*

+ *Children and worship: We offer a Children's Worship Time during 11 am worship (10 am worship in summer). Pew Pal activity bags are hanging near the entrance for children to use in worship. Childcare (Nursery) is provided in the basement for children 4 and under. A cry room is just outside the worship space. Please bring your own toys.*

+ *Holy Communion is open to all who desire God's gifts of grace and love. Bread and wine/grape juice are distributed at the time of Communion, or pick up prepackaged Communion elements at the Welcome Table, or, if you are worshiping remotely, prepare bread and wine/grape juice for yourself. A gluten-free option is available.*

If you desire Baptism, please talk with Pastor John.

+ *Decisions about when a child should receive Communion belong to the family. Communion preparation materials are available for parents to provide instruction at home, and Pastor John is happy to help families with this.*

+ *Transportation: Need a ride to worship? Call the church and press 120 to leave a message on the van line.*

+ *If you would like to make an offering to the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church, please give in person Sundays in the Offering Box, or send your financial contribution to Peace Lutheran Church (address above), donate through the Giving link on the church website, or call the church office 253-383-1317 to set up electronic giving.*

+ *If you have questions or concerns or prayer requests or a desire for pastoral care please contact Pastor John (pastorjohn@peacetacoma.org, 253-383-1317 ext. 101).*

THE GATHERING

Welcome

Opening Songs

"Come By Here" Text: traditional; Music: KUM BA YAH, traditional *

Burgundy Book Hymn 43

"We've Got the Power" Text & music: Laverne Tripp & Family © 1987, Laverne Tripp Ministries: Arr. Obiora T.M. & Uzo E.P. *

We've got the power in the name of Jesus, we've got the power,
In the name of the Lord, though Satan rages, we will not be defeated,
We've got the power in the name of the Lord.

"I Will Go On" Bill & Gloria Gaither, Gaither Vocal Band; Welcome Back Home 1997 *

I repent for moments I have spent, recalling all the pain and failures of my past.
I repent for dwelling on the things beyond my pow'r to change,
The chains that held me fast.

Refrain: I will go on, my past I leave behind me, I gladly take his mercy and his love.

He is joy and he is peace, he is strength and sweet release,

I know He is and I am His, I will go on.

I give up the bitterness and hate and blaming men and fate for all my discontent.

The guilt and pain I empty from my cup

So God can fill it up with peace and sweet content.

Confession and Forgiveness

Burgundy Book pg. 25 Order C

Sharing God's Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **People: And also with you.**

Prayer

11 am Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Ada Detweiler

The Apostles' Creed

Burgundy Book p. 35

All: Welcome to the Lord's family and the mission we share! Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and sharing the good news of Jesus with all the world!

THE WORD

(See back of bulletin for readings)

The Old Testament

Isaiah 55:1-9

Gospel Song "Our God Reigns"

Burgundy Book Hymn 99

Text: Leonard E. Smith; Music: OUR GOD REIGNS, Leonard E. Smith © 1974, 1978 Leonard E. Smith/New Jerusalem Music *

Refrain: Our God reigns, our God reigns, our God reigns, our God reigns.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

Gospel Song "Our God Reigns"

11 am Children's Worship Time (Children are invited to the basement classroom.)

Sermon

Pastor John

Song of the Day "Lead Me, Guide Me"

Burgundy Book Hymn 70

Text: Doris M. Akers, b. 1922; Music: Doris M. Akers, b. 1922; arr. Richard Smallwood © 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Unichappell Music, Inc. *

Sharing About Life and Ministry, Celebrations and Concerns of the Community

The Prayers of the People of God (After each petition, "God, hear our prayer.")

Prayer Response: "Breathe On Me"

Clint Brown Copyrights 1996 Curb Dayspring Music; Catalogs Curb Dayspring Music; Administrators CURB | Word Music Publishing *

Breathe on me, breathe on me, Holy Ghost power breathe on me.

Yesterday's gone and today I'm in need. Holy Ghost power breathe on me.

Rain on me, rain on me, Holy Ghost shower rain on me.

Yesterday's gone and today I'm in need. Holy Ghost shower, rain on me.

11 am Gospel Choir

THE MEAL

The Words of Institution / The Lord's Prayer / The Meal Is Shared

(All who desire God's gifts of grace and love are invited to share in the meal of Holy Communion. The red glasses are wine; the white glasses are grape juice. Individual prayer for comfort, strength, and encouragement is offered in the prayer corner during Communion and following the worship service.)

Communion Music "Come to Jesus" Text and music: traditional *

Burgundy Book Hymn 156

The Communion Blessing

THE SENDING

The Benediction

Sending Song "Everywhere" Dewitt Jones & Kim Jones Four Jones Publishing *

Everywhere, everywhere, let your glory break out everywhere. (2x)

In my home, in my home, let your glory break out in my home. (2x)

In this world, in this world, let your glory break out in this world. (2x)

The Dismissal Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **People: Thanks be to God!**

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