

P: Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

C: *Have mercy on us, O God.*

P: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C: *Have mercy on us, O God.*

P: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us. Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. AMEN

Imposition of Ashes Meditate on Psalm 90, Red Book Psalm Section
Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

THE MEAL

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

The Meal Is Shared (*All who desire God's gifts of grace and love in Christ are invited to share in the meal of Holy Communion.*)

Communion Song "Create In Me" Burgundy Book pg. 55

The Communion Blessing

Closing Prayer

THE SENDING

The Benediction

The Sending Song "I Can Hear My Savior Calling" Burgundy Book Hymn 146

© Text: E. W. Blandy; Music: Norris, John S. Norris, 1844-1907 *

I can hear my Savior calling (3x), "Take thy cross and follow, follow me."

Refrain: Where he leads me I will follow (3x)

I'll go with him, with him, all the way.

I'll go with him through the garden (3x)

I'll go with him, with him, all the way. Refrain...

I'll go with him through the judgment (3x)

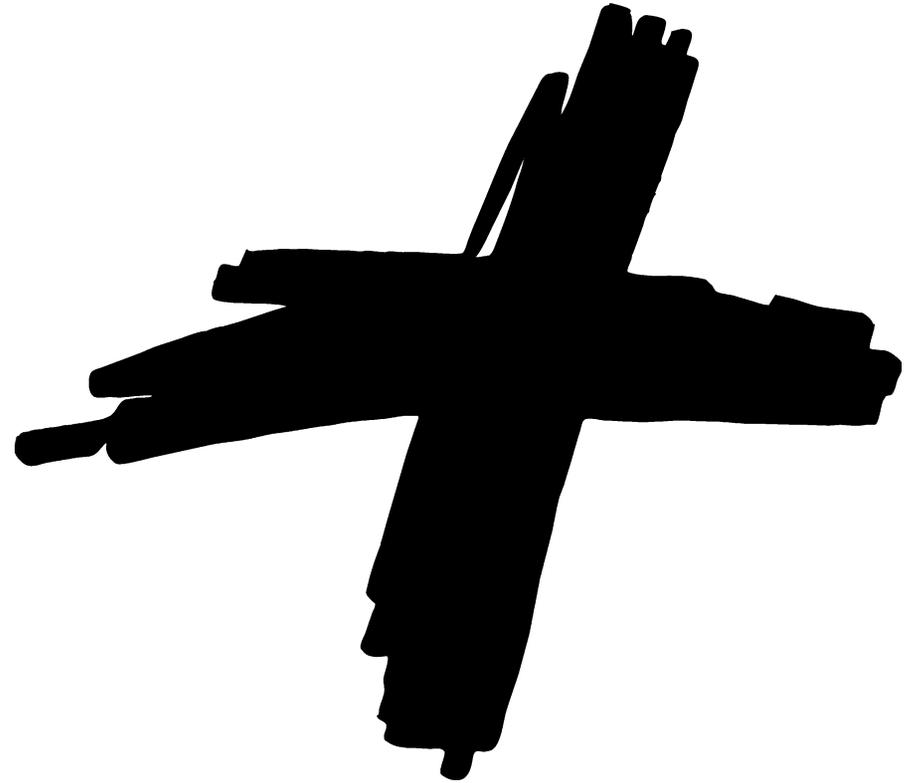
I'll go with him, with him, all the way. Refrain...

He will give me grace and glory (3x)

He'll go with me, with me, all the way. Refrain...

The Dismissal

ASH WEDNESDAY



*Remember you are dust, and to dust
you shall return.*

Peace Lutheran Church

The Church that Welcomes and Serves

John Stroeh, Pastor

2106 South Cushman Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405

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

www.peacelutherantacoma.org Facebook: Peace Lutheran Tacoma

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 am (Live Stream at 11 am)

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 18, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Welcome to worship at Peace! Ash Wednesday is a day of prayer and repentance that begins the forty-day season of Lent leading to the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. During Lent we are invited to practice traditional Lenten disciplines of fasting, prayer, and works of love. Today we receive the sign of ashes as a mark of repentance and a reminder of our mortality. By honestly facing our need for forgiveness and healing, we turn toward God's mercy and grace. With the cross on our forehead, we journey through Lent, longing for the baptismal waters of Easter, our spiritual rebirth.

THE GATHERING

Welcome

Psalms 51:1-12

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God,

People: *According to your steadfast love;*

Leader: According to your abundant mercy

People: *Blot out my transgressions.*

Leader: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

People: *And cleanse me from my sin.*

Leader: For I know my transgressions,

People: *And my sin is ever before me.*

Leader: Against you, you alone, have I sinned,

People: *And done what is evil in your sight,*

Leader: So that you are justified in your sentence

People: *And blameless when you pass judgment.*

Leader: Indeed, I was born guilty,

People: *A sinner when my mother conceived me.*

Leader: You desire truth in the inward being;

People: *Therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.*

Leader: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

People: *Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

Leader: Let me hear joy and gladness;

People: *Let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.*

Leader: Hide your face from my sins,

People: *And blot out all my iniquities.*

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: *And put a new and right spirit within me.*

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence,

People: *And do not take your Holy Spirit from me.*

Together: Restore to me the joy of your salvation

And sustain in me a willing spirit.

Opening Prayer (read together): Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Help us follow your call to give up what distracts us from a closer relationship with you and to take on prayer and acts of kindness. Strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

The Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Sermon

Pastor John

Hymn of the Day "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

Burgundy Book Hymn 66

Text: African American spiritual; Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. J. Jefferson Cleveland, 1937-1986 and Verolga Nix, B. 1933; Arr. © 1981 Abingdon Press, admin. The Copyright Company *

Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin (Stand or kneel; P = Pastor, **C** = Congregation)

P: Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another, and before the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy in our lives, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C: Have mercy on us, O God.